



# More Arrays; Chars

ITP 165 – Fall 2015  
Week 4, Lecture 2

# Array Initialization



- Initializing the array this way has a lot of repetition with several lines that just begin with `names[index]`:

```
const int NUM_STUDENTS = 5;  
std::string names[NUM_STUDENTS];  
names[0] = "James";  
names[1] = "Mary";  
names[2] = "John";  
names[3] = "Patricia";  
names[4] = "Robert";
```

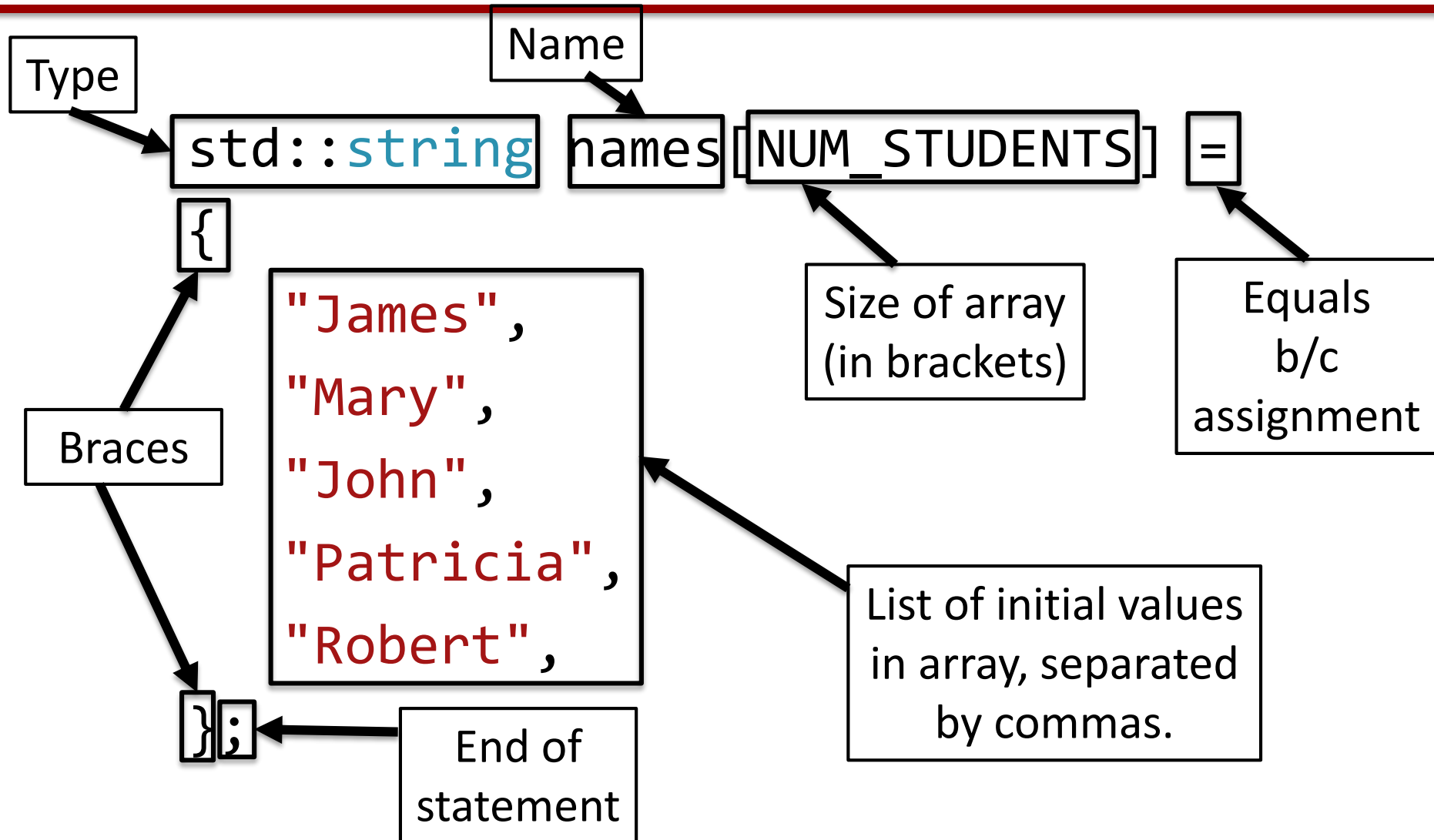
# Array Initialization, Cont'd



- The previous code could be rewritten using a shortcut:

```
const int NUM_STUDENTS = 5;
std::string names[NUM_STUDENTS] =
{
    "James",
    "Mary",
    "John",
    "Patricia",
    "Robert",
};
```

# Declaring an Array, w/ Initialization



# Array Initialization Examples, w/ Comments



- Just in case it's unclear which elements are being assigned in the array...

```
const int NUM_STUDENTS = 5;
std::string names[NUM_STUDENTS] =
{
    "James", // Sets index 0 to "James"
    "Mary",  // Sets index 1 to "Mary"
    "John",  // Sets index 2 to "John"
    "Patricia", // Sets index 3 to "Patricia"
    "Robert", // Sets index 4 to "Robert"
};
```

# Size Mismatch



- What happens if I say there are 5 elements, but I actually assign 6?

```
const int NUM_STUDENTS = 5;
std::string names[NUM_STUDENTS] =
{
    "James",
    "Mary",
    "John",
    "Patricia",
    "Robert",
    "Raymond", // Error: "too many initializers"
};
```



## Size Mismatch, Cont'd

- If I have too few, it won't complain...

```
const int NUM_STUDENTS = 5;
std::string names[NUM_STUDENTS] =
{
    "James",
    "Mary",
    "John",
    "Patricia",
    // I should really have 5 initial values...
};
```

- However...the value at names[4] would be uninitialized

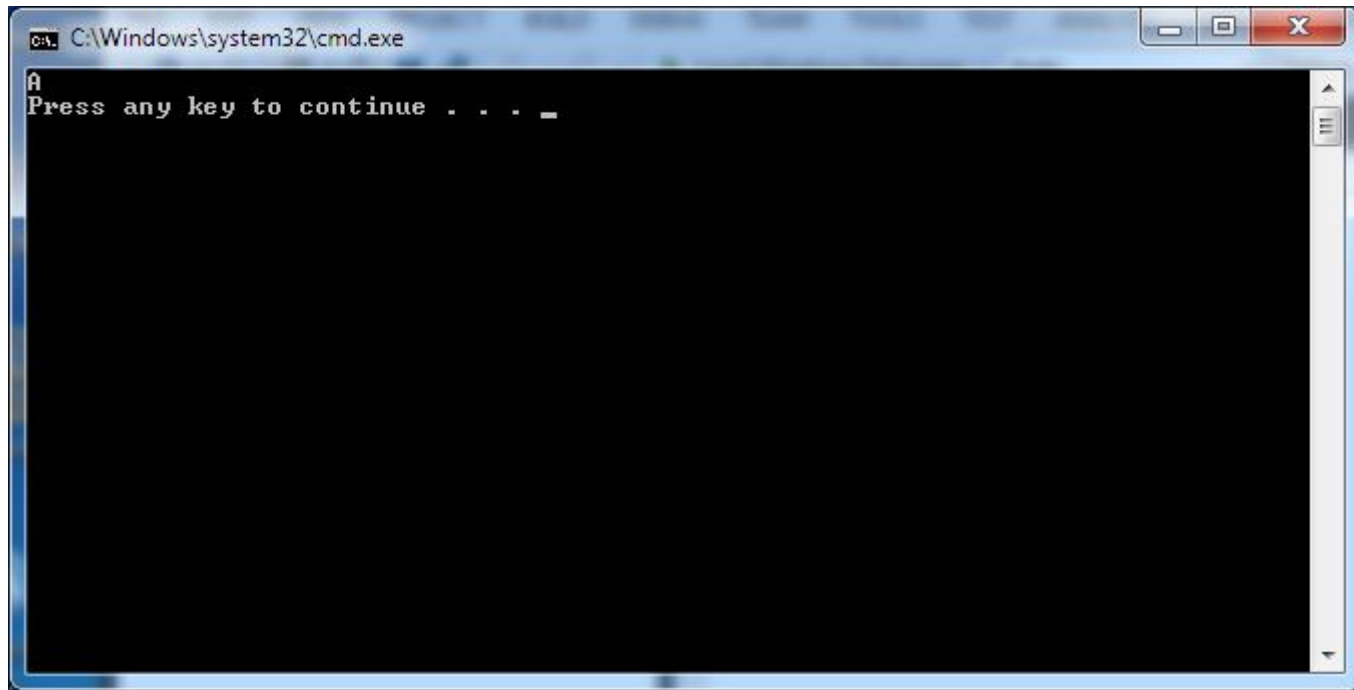
# The char type



- The `char` type is a whole number type that ranges from -128 to 127
- However, the `char` type has another special use!
- What happens if I run this code?  
`char test = 65;`  
`std::cout << test << std::endl;`



# Char Code in Action



- ?!?!?!?!?



- **ASCII** – A standardized number code where every number corresponds to a specific letter
- It turns out that the number 65 is the code for an uppercase A!
- By default, if you cout a **char**, it will output the ASCII letter corresponding to the number
- This is why we call it a **char** – it stands for **character**!

# ASCII Table



Decimal	Hex	Char	Decimal	Hex	Char	Decimal	Hex	Char	Decimal	Hex	Char
0	0	[NULL]	32	20	[SPACE]	64	40	@	96	60	`
1	1	[START OF HEADING]	33	21	!	65	41	A	97	61	a
2	2	[START OF TEXT]	34	22	"	66	42	B	98	62	b
3	3	[END OF TEXT]	35	23	#	67	43	C	99	63	c
4	4	[END OF TRANSMISSION]	36	24	\$	68	44	D	100	64	d
5	5	[ENQUIRY]	37	25	%	69	45	E	101	65	e
6	6	[ACKNOWLEDGE]	38	26	&	70	46	F	102	66	f
7	7	[BELL]	39	27	'	71	47	G	103	67	g
8	8	[BACKSPACE]	40	28	(	72	48	H	104	68	h
9	9	[HORIZONTAL TAB]	41	29	)	73	49	I	105	69	i
10	A	[LINE FEED]	42	2A	*	74	4A	J	106	6A	j
11	B	[VERTICAL TAB]	43	2B	+	75	4B	K	107	6B	k
12	C	[FORM FEED]	44	2C	,	76	4C	L	108	6C	l
13	D	[CARRIAGE RETURN]	45	2D	-	77	4D	M	109	6D	m
14	E	[SHIFT OUT]	46	2E	.	78	4E	N	110	6E	n
15	F	[SHIFT IN]	47	2F	/	79	4F	O	111	6F	o
16	10	[DATA LINK ESCAPE]	48	30	0	80	50	P	112	70	p
17	11	[DEVICE CONTROL 1]	49	31	1	81	51	Q	113	71	q
18	12	[DEVICE CONTROL 2]	50	32	2	82	52	R	114	72	r
19	13	[DEVICE CONTROL 3]	51	33	3	83	53	S	115	73	s
20	14	[DEVICE CONTROL 4]	52	34	4	84	54	T	116	74	t
21	15	[NEGATIVE ACKNOWLEDGE]	53	35	5	85	55	U	117	75	u
22	16	[SYNCHRONOUS IDLE]	54	36	6	86	56	V	118	76	v
23	17	[ENG OF TRANS. BLOCK]	55	37	7	87	57	W	119	77	w
24	18	[CANCEL]	56	38	8	88	58	X	120	78	x
25	19	[END OF MEDIUM]	57	39	9	89	59	Y	121	79	y
26	1A	[SUBSTITUTE]	58	3A	:	90	5A	Z	122	7A	z
27	1B	[ESCAPE]	59	3B	;	91	5B	[	123	7B	{
28	1C	[FILE SEPARATOR]	60	3C	<	92	5C	\	124	7C	
29	1D	[GROUP SEPARATOR]	61	3D	=	93	5D	]	125	7D	}
30	1E	[RECORD SEPARATOR]	62	3E	>	94	5E	^	126	7E	~
31	1F	[UNIT SEPARATOR]	63	3F	?	95	5F	_	127	7F	[DEL]

# You don't have to memorize the table!

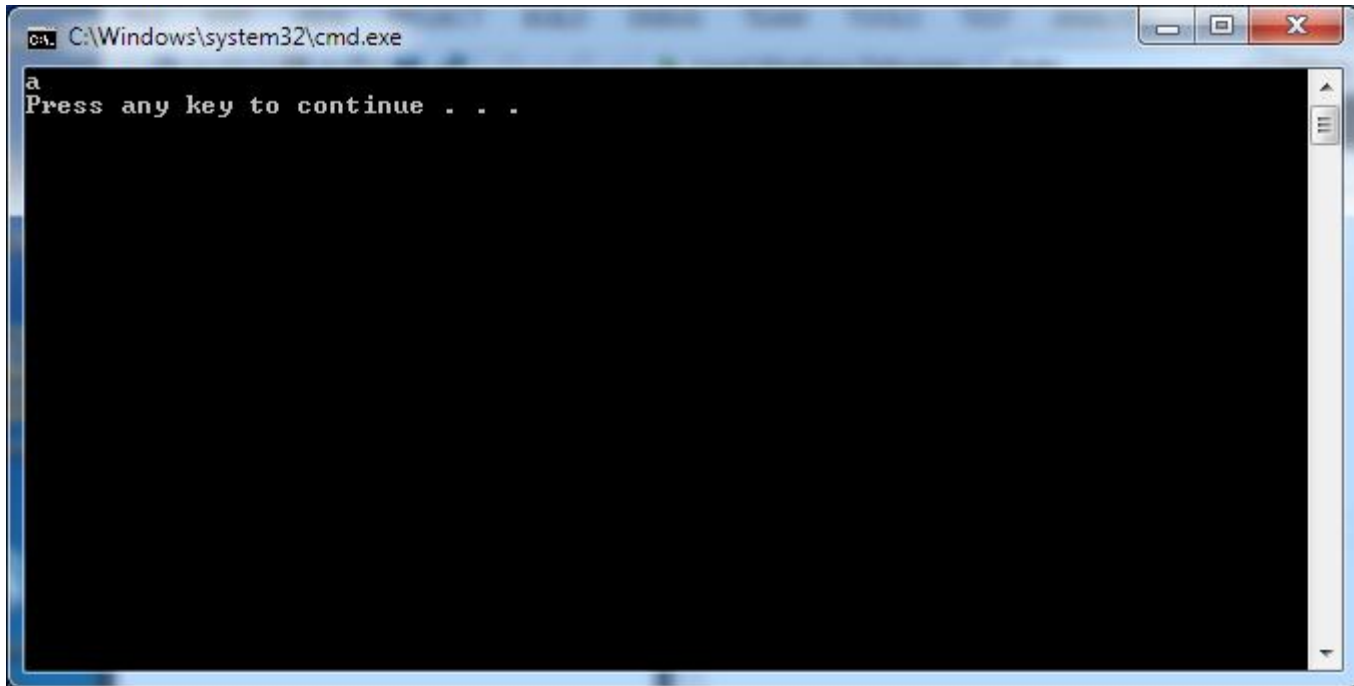


- Rather than having to remember that 65 corresponds to the letter A, we can use a shortcut...
- Single quotes around a letter signifies it is a character:  
`// This has the same result as the prior example`  
`char test = 'A';`  
`std::cout << test << std::endl;`
- Internally, C++ converts the 'A' into the appropriate number (65)

# Another Example



```
char test2 = 'A' + 32;  
std::cout << test2 << std::endl;
```



# Array of chars



- Just like with any other type, we can have an array of characters:

```
char word[6] =
```

```
{
```

```
    72,
```

```
    69,
```

```
    76,
```

```
    76,
```

```
    79,
```

```
    0
```

```
};
```

```
std::cout << word << std::endl;
```

# Array of chars, Cont'd



- Running the previous code yields:

A screenshot of a Windows command prompt window. The title bar shows the path "C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe". The window has a black background with white text. The text displayed is "HELLO" on the first line and "Press any key to continue . . . \_" on the second line. The cursor is positioned at the end of the second line. The window has standard Windows window controls (minimize, maximize, close) in the top right corner.

# Array of chars, cont'd



- We could rewrite the code as:

```
char word[6] =  
{  
    'H',  
    'E',  
    'L',  
    'L',  
    'O',  
    0  
};  
std::cout << word << std::endl;
```

- But why is the size of the array 6 instead of 5, and why is the value in the last index 0?



# C-Style Strings and Null Terminators

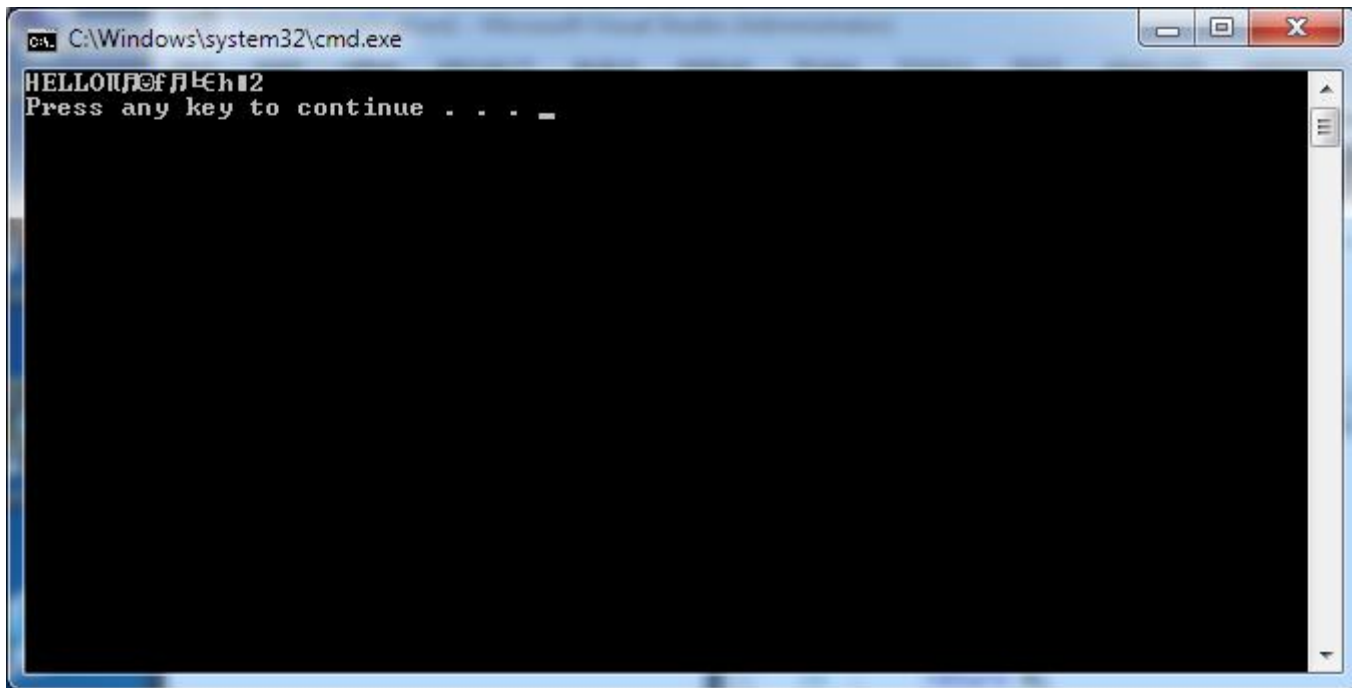


- An array of characters is also referred to as a *C-style string*
- A C-style string must end with a 0 after the last letter – the zero is the special ASCII code for the *null terminator*
- If you don't have the 0, anything that operates on the C-style string (including cout) won't end at the proper point
- The null terminator is what signifies that the C-style string is over!!!

# What happens if we omit the null terminator?



```
char word[5] = { 'H', 'E', 'L', 'L', 'O' };  
std::cout << word << std::endl;
```



## Or looking at it another way...



- Given the following C-style string:

```
char word[6] = { 'H', 'E', 'L', 'L', 'O', 0 };
```

- This code:

```
std::cout << word << std::endl;
```

- It is equivalent to:

```
int i = 0;
```

```
while (word[i] != 0)
```

```
{
```

```
    std::cout << word[i];
```

```
    i++;
```

```
}
```

```
std::cout << std::endl;
```

# Null Terminator



- Given the following C-style string:

```
char word[6] = { 'H', 'E', 'L', 'L', 'O', 0 };
```

Notice: the *null terminator* is not enclosed in single quotes ( ' ' )

In C++:

`0 == '0'` is *FALSE*

In reality, in C++:

`0 == '\\0'`

# C-style string Initialization



- So of course, writing out a C-style string like this is annoying:

```
char word[6] = { 'H', 'E', 'L', 'L', 'O', 0 };
```

- To fix this issue, we can initialize it like so:

```
char word[6] = "HELLO";
```

- This will automatically add the null terminator, so we don't have to worry about adding on a zero.

# C-style strings, cont'd



- What this means is that when you say:  
`std::cout << "Hello world!" << std::endl;`
- C++ is actually secretly using C-style strings!!!
- It's not using `std::string`

# Shortcuts upon shortcuts



- There's something slightly annoying about this initialization:

```
char word[6] = "HELLO";
```

- The problem is we have to remember that even though it's 5 letters, we need 6 spots in the array
- Because the last spot is the null terminator
- So another shortcut is to just omit the number of elements in the array:

```
char word[] = "HELLO";
```

- C++ will automatically figure out that it's 5 letters plus a null terminator, so the size should be 6.

# Another Example



- This will work just fine:

```
char stuff[] = "I'm sorry, I can't do that, Dave.";
std::cout << stuff << std::endl;
```

A screenshot of a Windows command prompt window. The title bar shows the path "C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe". The window has a black background with white text. The text displayed is "I'm sorry, I can't do that, Dave." followed by "Press any key to continue . . . \_" on the next line. The window has standard Windows window controls (minimize, maximize, close) in the top right corner.



# Lab Practical #6

