Program Summary

The Corner Grocer program is a simple C++ console application that helps track and analyze how often grocery items are purchased. It reads item names from a text file and then gives users the ability to search for specific items, view a list of all item frequencies, or see a histogram chart that shows how frequently each item appears.

How It Works

When the program starts, it loads data from the input file (CS210\_Project\_Three\_Input\_File.txt). It processes the file by converting all item names to lowercase and removing any punctuation to ensure everything is counted consistently. All items and their frequencies are stored in a map.

From there, the user can interact with the program using a simple menu:

Option 1 lets the user search for a specific item and see how many times it was purchased.

Option 2 displays a list of all items along with their purchase counts.

Option 3 shows a histogram using asterisks to visualize each item's frequency.

Option 4 exits the program.

To make the program user-friendly, I added input validation to make sure users can’t break it by typing in something unexpected. If the user enters a non-numeric value or a number outside of the menu range, the program catches the error and prompts them to try again.