

**CS1010**

<http://www.comp.nus.edu.sg/~cs1010/>

*Programming Methodology*

## UNIT 16

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# Characters and Strings



**NUS**  
National University  
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School of  
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# Unit 16: Characters and Strings

## Objectives:

- Declare and manipulate data of `char` data type
- Learn fundamental operations on strings
- Write string processing programs

## Reference:

- Chapter 8: Strings

# Unit 16: Characters and Strings (1/2)

## 1. Motivation

## 2. Characters

2.1 ASCII Table

2.2 Demo #1: Using Characters

2.3 Demo #2: Character I/O

2.4 Demo #3: Character Functions

2.5 Exercise 1

2.6 Common Error

## 3. Strings

3.1 Basics

3.2 String I/O

3.3 Demo #4: String I/O

3.4 Demo #5: Remove Vowels

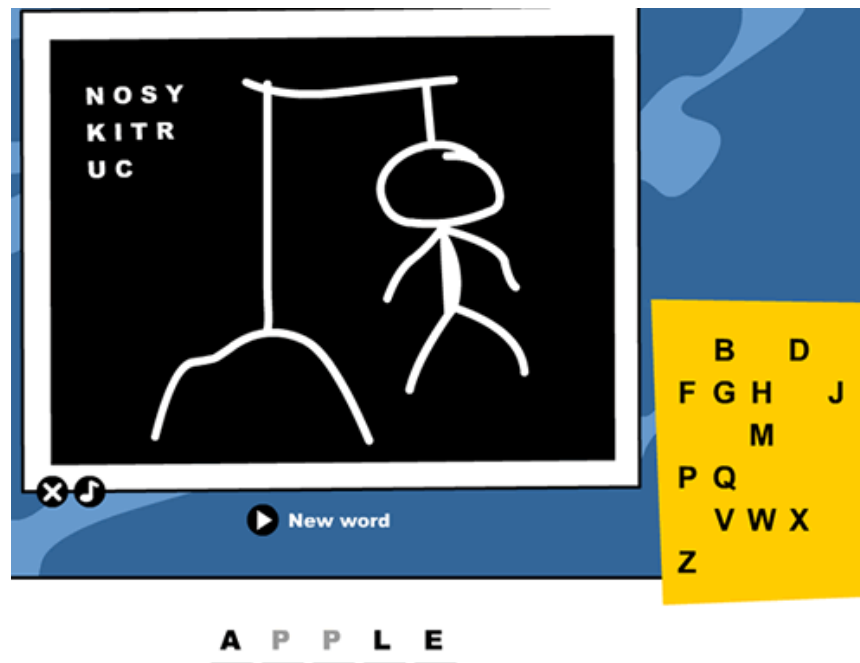
3.5 Demo #6: Character Array without terminating '\0'

# Unit 16: Characters and Strings (2/2)

4. String Functions
5. Pointer to String
6. Array of Strings
7. Demo #7: Using String Functions
8. Strings and Pointers
9. String Function – strtok( )
10. Extra topics

# 1. Motivation

- Why study characters and strings?
- **Hangman** game – Player tries to guess a word by filling in the blanks. Each incorrect guess brings the player closer to being “hanged”
- Let's play! <http://www.hangman.no/>



## 2. Characters

- In C, single **characters** are represented using the data type **char**
- **Character constants** are written as symbols enclosed in single quotes
  - Examples: '**g**', '**8**', '**\***', ' ', '**\n**', '**\0**'
  - Recall: Practice S02P03 - NRIC Check Code
- Characters are stored in one byte, and are encoded as numbers using the **ASCII** scheme
- *ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange)*, is one of the document coding schemes widely used today
- *Unicode* is another commonly used standard for multi-language texts

## 2.1 Characters: ASCII Table

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	nul	soh	stx	etx	eot	enq	ack	bel	bs	ht
10	lf	vt	ff	cr	so	si	dle	dcl	dc2	dc3
20	cd4	nak	syn	etb	can	em	sub	esc	fs	gs
30	rs	us	sp	!	"	#	\$	%	&	'
40	(	)	*	+	,	-	.	/	0	1
50	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	:	;
60	<	=	>	?	@	A	B	C	D	E
70	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
80	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y
90	Z	[	\	]	^	_	`	a	b	c
100	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
110	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w
120	x	y	z	{	}		~	del		

For example,  
character 'O' is  
79 (row value  
70 + col value 9  
= 79).

## 2.2 Demo #1: Using Characters (1/2)

```
// Unit16_CharacterDemo1.c
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main(void) {
```

Declaring and initialising  
char variables.

```
    char grade = 'A', newgrade, ch;
```

```
    int value;
```

Using %c

```
    printf("grade = %c\n", grade);
```

```
    newgrade = grade + 2;
```

```
    printf("newgrade = %c\n", newgrade);
```

```
    printf("newgrade = %d\n", newgrade);
```

```
    value = 65;
```

```
    printf("value = %d\n", value);
```

```
    printf("value = %c\n", value);
```

Relationship between  
character and integer.

Unit16\_CharacterDemo1.c

grade = A  
newgrade = C  
newgrade = 67

value = 65  
value = A

## 2.2 Demo #1: Using Characters (2/2)

Comparing characters.

```
if ('A' < 'c')  
    printf("'A' is less than 'c'\n");  
else  
    printf("'A' is not less than 'c'\n");  
  
for (ch = 'p'; ch <= 't'; ch++)  
    printf("ch = %c\n", ch);  
  
return 0;  
}
```

Using character variable  
as a loop variable.

'A' is less than 'c'

ch = p  
ch = q  
ch = r  
ch = s  
ch = t

ASCII value of 'A'  
is 65. ASCII  
value of 'c' is 99.

## 2.3 Demo #2: Character I/O

- Besides `scanf()` and `printf()`, we can also use `getchar()` and `putchar()`. Note how they are used below:

Unit16\_CharacterDemo2.c

```
// Unit16_CharacterDemo2.c
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
int main(void) {
    char ch;
```

Read a character  
from stdin.

```
    printf("Enter a character: ");
    ch = getchar();
```

Enter a character: **W**  
Character entered is **W**

```
    printf("The character entered is ");
    putchar(ch);
    putchar('\n');
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

Print a character  
to stdout.

## 2.4 Demo #3: Character Functions

- Must include `<ctype.h>` to use these functions.

Unit16\_CharacterDemo3.c

```
// Unit16_CharacterDemo3.c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>
int main(void) {
    char ch;

    printf("Enter a character: ");
    ch = getchar();
    if (isalpha(ch)) {
        if (isupper(ch)) {
            printf("'%c' is a uppercase-letter.\n", ch);
            printf("Converted to lowercase: %c\n", tolower(ch));
        }
        if (islower(ch)) {
            printf("'%c' is a lowercase-letter.\n", ch);
            printf("Converted to uppercase: %c\n", toupper(ch));
        }
    }
    if (isdigit(ch)) printf("'%c' is a digit character.\n", ch);
    if (isalnum(ch)) printf("'%c' is an alphanumeric character.\n", ch);
    if (isspace(ch)) printf("'%c' is a whitespace character.\n", ch);
    if (ispunct(ch)) printf("'%c' is a punctuation character.\n", ch);
    return 0;
}
```

Download this program and test it out.  
For a complete list of character functions,  
refer to the Internet (eg:  
[https://www.tutorialspoint.com/c\\_standard\\_library/ctype\\_h.htm](https://www.tutorialspoint.com/c_standard_library/ctype_h.htm) )

Note that  
`tolower(ch)` and  
`toupper(ch)` do  
NOT change `ch`!

## 2.5 Ex #1: Summing Digit Characters (1/4)

- Write a program `Unit16_SumDigits.c` to read characters on a line, and sum the digit characters, ignoring the non-digit ones and everything after the first white space.
- Use the appropriate functions introduced in Demos #2 and #3.
- Two sample runs:

```
Enter input: v7o/K3-968+?.2@+  
Sum = 35
```

```
Enter input: ^71()-2%:46" 9W35j  
Sum = 20
```

## 2.5 Ex #1: Summing Digit Characters (2/4)

- Refer to this web page:
- [https://www.tutorialspoint.com/c\\_standard\\_library/ctype\\_h.htm](https://www.tutorialspoint.com/c_standard_library/ctype_h.htm)
- What is the input function needed if we do not want to use `scanf()`? `getchar()`
- What are the character functions needed?  
`isdigit()`  
`isspace()`
- What header file to include besides `<stdio.h>`?  
`<ctype.h>`

## 2.5 Ex #1: Summing Digit Characters (3/4)

- How do we obtain an integer value from a digit character (let `ch` be the character variable)?
- i.e.: '0' → 0. '1' → 1, ..., '9' → 9

*Hint: ASCII value*

- ❑ What is the ASCII value of character '0'? 48
- ❑ What is the ASCII value of character '1'? 49
- ❑ ...
- ❑ What is the ASCII value of character '9'? 57

`ch - 48`

*or*

`ch - '0'`

## 2.5 Ex #1: Summing Digit Characters (4/4)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void) {
    char ch;
    int sum = 0;

    printf("Enter input: ");
    while (!isspace(ch = getchar()))
        if (isdigit(ch))
            sum += ch - '0';


    printf("Sum = %d\n", sum);

    return 0;
}
```


## 2.6 Characters: Common Error

- A character variable named **z** does not means it is equivalent to 'z' or it contains 'z'!


```
char A, B, C, D, E;  
  
if (marks >= 80)  
    return A;  
else if (marks >= 70)  
    return B;  
else if (marks >= 60)  
    return C;  
. . .
```



```
if (marks >= 80)  
    return 'A';  
else if (marks >= 70)  
    return 'B';  
else if (marks >= 60)  
    return 'C';  
. . .
```



```
char grade;  
if (marks >= 80)  
    grade = 'A';  
else if (marks >= 70)  
    grade = 'B';  
else if (marks >= 60)  
    grade = 'C';  
. . .  
return grade;
```



# Quick Quiz

1. Are 'A' and "A" the same thing?

No

2. Can you do this?

■ `char ch = 'at';`

No

3. Can `char` be used in a `switch` statement?  
How about a `string`?

`char` – yes  
`string` – no

### 3. Strings

- We have seen arrays of numeric values (types `int`, `float`, `double`)
- We have seen `string constants`
  - `printf("Average = %.2f", avg);`
  - `#define ERROR "*****Error -"`
- A **string** is an array of characters, terminated by a null character `\0` (which has ASCII value of zero)

c	s	1	0	1	0	\0
---	---	---	---	---	---	----

## 3.1 Strings: Basics

### ■ Declaration of an array of characters

- `char str[6];`

### ■ Assigning character to an element of an array of characters

- `str[0] = 'e';`
- `str[1] = 'g';`
- `str[2] = 'g';`
- `str[3] = '\0';`



Without '\0', it is just an array of character, not a string.

Do not need '\0' as it is automatically added.

### ■ Initializer for string

#### ■ Two ways:

- `char fruit_name[] = "apple";`
- `char fruit_name[] = {'a', 'p', 'p', 'l', 'e', '\0'};`

## 3.2 Strings: I/O (1/2)

- Read string from stdin

```
fgets(str, size, stdin) // reads size - 1 char,  
                        // or until newline  
scanf("%s", str); // reads until white space
```

- Print string to stdout

```
puts(str); // terminates with newline  
printf("%s\n", str);
```

Note: There is another function `gets(str)` to read a string interactively. However, due to security reason, we avoid it and use `fgets()` function instead.

## 3.2 Strings: I/O (2/2)

- `fgets()`
  - On interactive input, `fgets()` also reads in the newline character

User input: **eat**

e	a	t	\n	\0	?	?
---	---	---	----	----	---	---

- Hence, we may need to replace it with `'\0'` if necessary

```
fgets(str, size, stdin);  
len = strlen(str);  
if (str[len - 1] == '\n')  
    str[len - 1] = '\0';
```

## 3.3 Demo #4: String I/O

Unit16\_StringIO1.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#define LENGTH 10

int main(void) {
    char str[LENGTH];

    printf("Enter string (at most %d characters): ", LENGTH-1);
    scanf("%s", str);
    printf("str = %s\n", str);
    return 0;
}
```

Test out the programs with this input:  
**My book**

Output:  
**str = My**

```
#include <stdio.h>
#define LENGTH 10

int main(void) {
    char str[LENGTH];

    printf("Enter string (at most %d characters): ", LENGTH-1);
    fgets(str, LENGTH, stdin);
    printf("str = ");
    puts(str);
    return 0;
}
```

Output:  
**str = My book**

Unit16\_StringIO2.c

Note that puts(str) adds  
a newline automatically.

## 3.4 Demo #5: Remove Vowels (1/2)

- Write a program `Unit16_RemoveVowels.c` to remove all vowels in a given input string.
- Assume the input string has at most 100 characters.
- Sample run:

```
Enter a string: How HAVE you been, James?  
Changed string: Hw HV y bn, Jms?
```

### 3.4 Demo #5: Remove Vowels (2/2)

Unit16\_RemoveVowels.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <ctype.h>
int main(void) {
    int i, len, count = 0;
    char str[101], newstr[101];

    printf("Enter a string (at most 100 characters): ");
    fgets(str, 101, stdin); //what happens if you use scanf() here?
    len = strlen(str); // strlen() returns number of char in string
    if (str[len - 1] == '\n')
        str[len - 1] = '\0';
    len = strlen(str); // check length again

    for (i=0; i<len; i++) {
        switch (toupper(str[i])) {
            case 'A': case 'E':
            case 'I': case 'O': case 'U': break;
            default: newstr[count++] = str[i];
        }
    }
    newstr[count] = '\0';
    printf("New string: %s\n", newstr);
    return 0;
}
```

Need to include `<string.h>`  
to use string functions such  
as `strlen()`.

## 3.5 Demo #6: Character Array without terminating '\0'

- What is the output of this code?

Unit16\_without\_null\_char.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
```

```
int main(void) {
    char str[10];
```

```
    str[0] = 'a';
    str[1] = 'p';
    str[2] = 'p';
    str[3] = 'l';
    str[4] = 'e';
```

```
    printf("Length = %d\n", strlen(str));
    printf("str = %s\n", str);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

One possible output:

**Length = 8**  
**str = apple;ø<**

Compare the output if you add:

**str[5] = '\0';**

or, you have:

**char str[10] = "apple";**

printf() will print %s from the starting address of str until it encounters the '\0' character.



%s and string functions work only on “true” strings. Without the terminating null character '\0', string functions will not work properly.

## 4. String Functions (1/3)

- C provides a library of string functions
  - Must include `<string.h>`
  - Table 8.1 (pg 483)
  - [http://faculty.edcc.edu/paul.bladek/c\\_string\\_functions.htm](http://faculty.edcc.edu/paul.bladek/c_string_functions.htm)
  - <http://www.cs.cf.ac.uk/Dave/C/node19.html>
  - and other links you can find on the Internet
- **strcmp(s1, s2)**
  - Compare the ASCII values of the corresponding characters in strings s1 and s2.
  - Return
    - a negative integer if s1 is lexicographically less than s2, or
    - a positive integer if s1 is lexicographically greater than s2, or
    - 0 if s1 and s2 are equal.
- **strncmp(s1, s2, n)**
  - Compare first n characters of s1 and s2.

## 4. String Functions (2/3)

### ■ strcpy(s1, s2)

- Copy the string pointed to by s2 into array pointed to by s1.
- Function returns s1.
- Example:

```
char name[10];  
strcpy(name, "Matthew");
```

M	a	t	t	h	e	w	\0	?	?
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---

- The following assignment statement does not work:

```
name = "Matthew";
```

- What happens when string to be copied is too long?

```
strcpy(name, "A very long name");
```

A		v	e	r	y		l	o	n	g		n	a	m	e	\0
---	--	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	----

### ■ strncpy(s1, s2, n)

- Copy first n characters of string pointed to by s2 to s1.

## 4. String Functions (3/3)

- **strstr(s1, s2)**
  - Returns a pointer to the first instance of string s2 in s1
  - Returns a NULL pointer if s2 is not found in s1
- We will use the functions above in Demo #7
- Read up on the above functions
- Other functions (atoi, strcat, strchr, strtok, etc.)
  - We will explore these in your discussion session

## 5. Pointer to String (1/2)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
int main(void) {
    char name[12] = "Chan Tan";
    char *namePtr = "Chan Tan";

    printf("name = %s\n", name);
    printf("namePtr = %s\n", namePtr);
    printf("Address of 1st array element for name = %p\n", name);
    printf("Address of 1st array element for namePtr = %p\n", namePtr);

    strcpy(name, "Lee Hsu");
    namePtr = "Lee Hsu";

    printf("name = %s\n", name);
    printf("namePtr = %s\n", namePtr);
    printf("Address of 1st array element for name = %p\n", name);
    printf("Address of 1st array element for namePtr = %p\n", namePtr);
}
```

`name` is a character array of 12 elements.

`namePtr` is a pointer to a character.

Both have strings assigned.

**Difference** is `name` sets aside space for 12 characters, but `namePtr` is a char pointer variable that is initialized to point to a string constant of 9 characters.

`name` updated using `strcpy()`.

`namePtr` assigned to another string using `=`.

Address of first array element for `name` remains constant, string assigned to `namePtr` changes on new assignment.

Unit16\_StringPointer.c

## 5. Pointer to String (2/2)

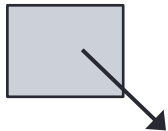
- Comparison

```
char name[12] = "Chan Tan";
```

name[0]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]	[6]	[7]	[8]	[9]	[10]	[11]
C	h	a	n		T	a	n	\0	\0	\0	\0

```
char *namePtr = "Chan Tan";
```

namePtr



C	h	a	n		T	a	n	\0
---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	----

## 6. Array of Strings

Unit16\_ArrayOfStrings.c

### ■ Declaration

```
char fruits[MAXNUM][STRSIZE];  
// where MAXNUM is the maximum number of names  
// and STRSIZE is the size of each name
```

### ■ Initialization

```
char fruits[][6] = {"apple", "mango", "pear"};
```

or

```
char fruits[3][6] = {"apple", "mango", "pear"};
```

### ■ Output

```
printf("fruits: %s %s\n", fruits[0], fruits[1]);  
printf("character: %c\n", fruits[2][1]);
```

```
fruits: apple mango  
character: e
```

## 7. Demo #7: Using String Functions

Unit16\_StringFunctions.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>
#define MAX_LEN 10
int main(void) {
    char s1[MAX_LEN + 1], s2[MAX_LEN + 1], *p;
    int len;

    printf("Enter string (at most %d characters) for s1: ", MAX_LEN);
    fgets(s1, MAX_LEN+1, stdin);
    len = strlen(s1);
    if (s1[len - 1] == '\n') s1[len - 1] = '\0';

    printf("Enter string (at most %d characters) for s2: ", MAX_LEN);
    fgets(s2, MAX_LEN+1, stdin);
    len = strlen(s2);
    if (s2[len - 1] == '\n') s2[len - 1] = '\0';

    printf("strcmp(s1,s2) = %d\n", strcmp(s1,s2));

    p = strstr(s1,s2);
    if (p != NULL) printf("strstr(s1,s2) returns %s\n", p);
    else printf("strstr(s1,s2) returns NULL\n");

    strcpy(s1,s2);
    printf("After strcpy(s1,s2), s1 = %s\n", s1);
    return 0;
}
```

## 8. Strings and Pointers (1/4)

- We discussed in [Unit #8 Section 4](#) that an array name is a pointer (that points to the first array element)
- Likewise, since a string is physically an array of characters, the name of a string is also a pointer (that points to the first character of the string)

Unit16\_String\_vs\_Pointer.c

```
char str[] = "apple";

printf("1st character: %c\n", str[0]);
printf("1st character: %c\n", *str);

printf("5th character: %c\n", str[4]);
printf("5th character: %c\n", *(str+4));
```

1st character: a  
1st character: a  
5th character: e  
5th character: e

## 8. Strings and Pointers (2/4)

- `Unit16_strlen.c` shows how we could compute the length of a string if we are not using `strlen()`
- See full program on CS1010 website

Unit16\_strlen.c

```
int mystrlen(char *p) {  
    int count = 0;  
  
    while (*p != '\0') {  
        count++;  
        p++;  
    }  
  
    return count;  
}
```

## 8. Strings and Pointers (3/4)

- Since ASCII value of null character `'\0'` is zero, the condition in the while loop is equivalent to `(*p != 0)` and that can be further simplified to just `(*p)` (see left box)
- We can combine `*p` with `p++` (see right box) (why?)

```
int mystrlen(char *p) {  
    int count = 0;  
  
    while (*p) {  
        count++;  
        p++;  
    }  
  
    return count;  
}
```

```
int mystrlen(char *p) {  
    int count = 0;  
  
    while (*p++) {  
        count++;  
    }  
  
    return count;  
}
```

Unit16\_strlen\_v2.c

## 8. Strings and Pointers (4/4)

- How to interpret the following?

**while (\*p++)**

Check whether **\*p** is 0  
(that is, whether **\*p** is the  
null character '\0')...

Then, increment **p** by 1  
(so that **p** points to the  
next character).  
Not increment **\*p** by 1!

**(\*p++)** is not the same as **(\*p)++**  
**(\*p)++** is to increment **\*p** (the  
character that **p** points to) by 1. (Hence, if  
**p** is pointing to character 'a', that character  
becomes 'b'.)

## 9. String function: `strtok()` (1/2)

- To break a string into a series of tokens using some specified delimiter(s).

```
char *strtok(char *str, const char *delim)
```

- Read the following site:
  - [http://www.tutorialspoint.com/c\\_standard\\_library/c\\_function\\_strtok.htm](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/c_standard_library/c_function_strtok.htm)
- The first time you call `strtok()` you pass it: (1) the string you want to tokenise, and (2) a delimiter string.
- For subsequent calls, you pass it: (1) NULL as the first parameter to tokenise the same string, and (2) a delimiter string.

## 9. String function: strtok() (2/2)

Unit16\_strtok.c

```
#include <string.h>
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void) {
    char str[80] = "This is - www.tutorialspoint.com - website";
    char s[2] = "-";
    char *token;

    /* get the first token */
    token = strtok(str, s);

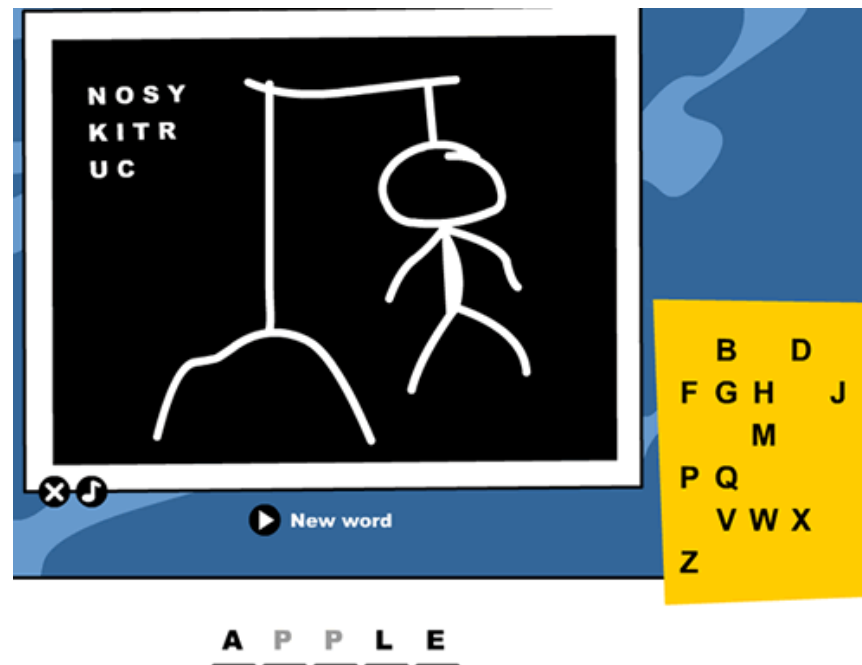
    /* walk through other tokens */
    while (token != NULL) {
        printf("%s\n", token);
        token = strtok(NULL, s);
    }
    return 0;
}
```

*Output:*

```
This is
www.tutorialspoint.com
website
```

# Example: Hangman Game

- <http://www.hangman.no/>



Let's play!

# Hangman Game version 1 (1/5)

- `Unit16_Hangman_v1.c`
  - Assume that a player is given 5 lives.
  - Each incorrect guess → reduce the number of lives.
  - Each correct guess → display the letter in the word.

# Hangman Game version 1 (2/5)

## ■ Sample run #1:

```
Number of lives: 5
Guess a letter in the word _ _ _ _ _
h
Number of lives: 4
Guess a letter in the word _ _ _ _ _
p
Number of lives: 4
Guess a letter in the word _ p p _ _
b
Number of lives: 3
Guess a letter in the word _ p p _ _
m
Number of lives: 2
Guess a letter in the word _ p p _ _
x
Number of lives: 1
Guess a letter in the word _ p p _ _
i
Sorry, you're hanged! The word is "apple".
```

## ■ Sample run #2:

```
Number of lives: 5
Guess a letter in the word _ _ _ _ _
p
Number of lives: 5
Guess a letter in the word _ p p _ _
e
Number of lives: 5
Guess a letter in the word _ p p _ e
o
Number of lives: 4
Guess a letter in the word _ p p _ e
a
Number of lives: 4
Guess a letter in the word a p p _ e
l
Congratulations! The word is "apple".
```

# Hangman Game version 1 (3/5)

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <string.h>

int has_letter(char [], char);

int main(void) {
    char input;
    char word[] = "apple";
    char temp[] = "_____";
    int i, count = 0;
    int num_lives = 5;
    int length = strlen(word);
```

Unit16\_Hangman\_v1.c

# Hangman Game version 1 (4/5)

Unit16\_Hangman\_v1.c

```
do {
    printf("Number of lives: %d\n", num_lives);
    printf("Guess a letter in the word ");
    puts(temp);
    scanf(" %c", &input);

    if (has_letter(word, input)) {
        for (i=0; i<length; i++)
            if ((input == word[i]) && (temp[i] == '_')) {
                temp[i] = input;
                count++;
            }
    }
    else num_lives--;
} while ((num_lives != 0) && (count != length));

if (num_lives == 0)
    printf("Sorry, you're hanged! The word is \"%s\"\n", word);
else
    printf("Congratulations! The word is \"%s\"\n", word);
return 0;
}
```

# Hangman Game version 1 (5/5)

Unit16\_Hangman\_v1.c

```
// Check whether word contains ch
int has_letter(char word[], char ch) {
    int j;
    int length = strlen(word);

    for (j=0; j<length; j++) {
        if (ch == word[j])
            return 1;
    }

    return 0;    // ch does not occur in word
}
```

Note: It is better to call `strlen(word)` just once and save the length in a variable, instead of calling `strlen(word)` multiple times as a condition in the 'for' loop.

# 10. Extra topics

- 2 additional topics that are not in the syllabus:
  - Array of Pointers to Strings
  - Command-line arguments

# 1. Array of Pointers to Strings (1/2)

## ■ Declaration

```
char *fruits[3];
```

## ■ Assignment

```
fruits[0] = "apple";  
fruits[1] = "banana";  
fruits[2] = "cherry";
```

```
pear  
banana  
cherry
```

## ■ Declare and initialize

```
char *fruits[] = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"};  
fruits[0] = "pear";           // new assignment
```

## ■ Output

```
for (i=0; i<3; i++)  
    printf("%s\n", fruits[i]);
```

# 1. Array of Pointers to Strings (2/2)

Unit16\_ArrayOfPointersToStrings.c

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main(void) {
    char *fruits[] = {"apple", "banana", "cherry"};
    int i;

    fruits[0] = "pear";
    for (i=0; i<3; i++) {
        printf("%s\n", fruits[i]);
    }

    return 0;
}
```

## 2. Command-line Arguments (1/2)

- So far, our main function header looks like this:

```
int main(void)
```

- We can pass arguments to a program when we run it:

```
a.out water "ice cream" 34+7
```

- Add two parameters in the main function header:

```
int main(int argc, char *argv[])
```

- Parameter `argc` stands for “argument count”
- Parameter `argv` stands for “argument vector”. It is an array of pointers to strings.
- `argv[0]` is the name of the executable file (sometimes also called the command)
- You can name them anything, but the names `argc` and `argv` are commonly used.

## 2. Command-line Arguments (2/2)

Unit16\_CommandLineArgs.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int count;

    printf ("This program was called with \"%s\"\n", argv[0]);
    if (argc > 1)
        for (count = 1; count < argc; count++)
            printf("argv[%d] = %s\n", count, argv[count]);
    else
        printf("The command had no argument.\n");

    return 0;
}
```

```
gcc Unit16_CommandLineArgs.c
```

```
a.out water "ice cream" 34+7
```

This program was called with "a.out"

```
argv[1] = water
```

```
argv[2] = ice cream
```

```
argv[3] = 34+7
```

# Summary

- In this unit, you have learned about
  - **Characters**
    - Declaring and using characters
    - Characters I/O
    - Character functions
  - **Strings**
    - Declaring and initialising strings
    - String I/O
    - String functions
    - Array of strings

End of File