

Topic2(Program Structure)

C++ Syntax

Let's break up the following code to understand it better:

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    cout << "Hello World!";
    return 0;
}
```

Example Explained

Line 1 : `#include <iostream>` is a **header file library** that lets us work with input and output objects, such as `cout` (used in line 5). Header files add functionality to C++ programs.

Line 2 : `using namespace std` means that we can use names for objects and variables from the standard library.

Line 3 : A blank line. C++ ignores white space. But we use it to make the code more readable.

Line 4 : Another thing that always appear in a C++ program, is `int main()`. This is called a function. Any code inside its curly brackets `{ }` will be executed.

Line 5 : `cout` (pronounced “see-out”) is an **object** used together with the insertion operator (`<<`) to output/print text. In our example it will output “Hello World!”.

NOTE : Every C++ statement ends with a semicolon ; .

NOTE : The body of `int main()` could also been written as:

```
int main () { cout << " Hello World! "; return 0;}
```

Remember : The compiler ignores white spaces. However, multiple lines makes the code more readable.

Line 6 : `return 0` ends the main function.

Line 7 : Do not forget to add the closing curly bracket `}` to actually end the main function.

Omitting Namespace

You might see some C++ programs that runs without the standard namespace library. The `using namespace std` line can be omitted and replaced with the `std` keyword, followed by the `::` operator for some objects:

```
#include<iostream>

int main() {
    std::cout << "Hello World!";
    return 0;
}
```

C++ Output (Print Text)

The `cout` object, together with the `<<` operator, is used to output values/print text:

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    cout << " Hello World! ";
    return 0;
}
```

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
```

```
int main() {
    cout << "Hello World!";
    cout << "I am learning C++";
    return 0;
}
```

New Lines

To insert a new line, you can use the `\n` character:

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    cout << "Hello World! \n";
    cout << "I am learning C++";
    return 0;
}
```

Tip : Two `\n` characters after each other will create a blank line:

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    cout << "Hello World! \n\n";
    cout << "I am learning C++";
    return 0;
}
```

Another way to insert a new line, is with the `endl` manipulator:

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main() {
    cout << "Hello World!" << endl;
    cout << "I am learning C++";
    return 0;
}
```

Escape Sequence

Escape Sequence	Description
<code>\t</code>	Creates a horizontal tab
<code>\\</code>	Inserts a backslash character (\)
<code>\"</code>	Inserts a double quote character

C++ Comments

Comments can be used to explain C++ code, and to make it more readable. It can also be used to prevent execution when testing alternative code. Comments can be singled-lined or multi-lined.

Single-line Comments

Single-line comments start with two forward slashes (`//`).

Any text between `//` and the end of the line is ignored by the compiler (will not be executed).

```
// This is a Comment
cout << "Hello World!";
```

```
cout << "Hello World!"; // This is a comment
```

Multi-line Comments

Multi-line comments start with `/*` and end with `*/`

Any text between `/*` and `*/` will be ignored by the compiler:

```
/*  
This is a multi-line comment.  
It can span several lines  
*/  
cout << "Hello World!";
```