

Overall Structure

```
function convert(literal_string):
    if looksLikeChar(literal_string):
        handleChar(literal_string)
    else if looksLikeInt(literal_string):
        handleInt(literal_string)
    else if looksLikeFloat(literal_string):
        handleFloat(literal_string)
    else if looksLikeDouble(literal_string):
        handleDouble(literal_string)
    else if isPseudoLiteral(literal_string):
        handlePseudo(literal_string)
    else:
        print "Error: unrecognized literal"
```

1) looksLikeChar(...)

- **Test:**

- `literal.size() == 3`
- `literal[0] == '\\'` and `literal[2] == '\\'`
- The middle `literal[1]` is any printable ASCII **except** `'0'..'9'` if you want to avoid confusing `'5'` vs the integer 5.

- **Pitfalls:**

- `'a'` is fine, but `' '`, `'\t'`, etc. are non-displayable—decide if you reject them or print “Non displayable.”
- You'll still want to accept `'0'..'9'` and treat them as the character `'5'`, leaving the decision to “printable?” at conversion time.

2) looksLikeInt(...)

- **Test:**

- Optional leading `+` or `-`.
- Then `literal[i]` all digits.
- **Edge:** string `"0123"` is valid but sometimes considered octal—here, treat it as decimal.

- **Overflow Check:**

- After you identify it, use `std::strtol` or `std::stol` in a `try / catch` (or check `errno == ERANGE`) to detect out-of-range.
- Avoid manual digit-count tricks—those can misfire on leading zeros or very large magnitudes.

3) looksLikeFloat(...)

- **Test:**

- i. Ends in `'f'`.

ii. The substring without the final 'f' should match a “floating literal” pattern:

- Optional + / -
- Digits
- Optional: . and more digits
- Optional: exponent part (e+3 , E-2)

iii. Or it's one of the pseudo-literals: "nanf" , "+inff" , "-inff" .

- **Hint:**

- You can call `std::stof` on the substring and see if it consumes the **entire** string (via the second `size_t*` parameter).

4) looksLikeDouble(...)

- **Test:**

- Same as float, **without** the final 'f' .
- Or one of "nan" , "+inf" , "-inf" .

- **Tip:**

- `std::stod` behaves similarly to `std::stol` : you can catch exceptions or inspect how many characters it consumed.

5) Pseudo-literals

- Check them **first**, because "nanf" otherwise might look like a bad float string.
- Handle:

```
+inff → float(+∞)
-inff → float(-∞)
nanf  → float(NaN)
+inf  → double(+∞)
-inf  → double(-∞)
nan   → double(NaN)
```

Putting It Together

1. Check pseudos
2. Check `looksLikeChar`
3. Check `looksLikeInt`
4. Check `looksLikeFloat`
5. Check `looksLikeDouble`
6. Else → error

At each branch, once you detect the type, call the appropriate `std::` converter inside a `try / catch` , then re-cast and print the four forms.