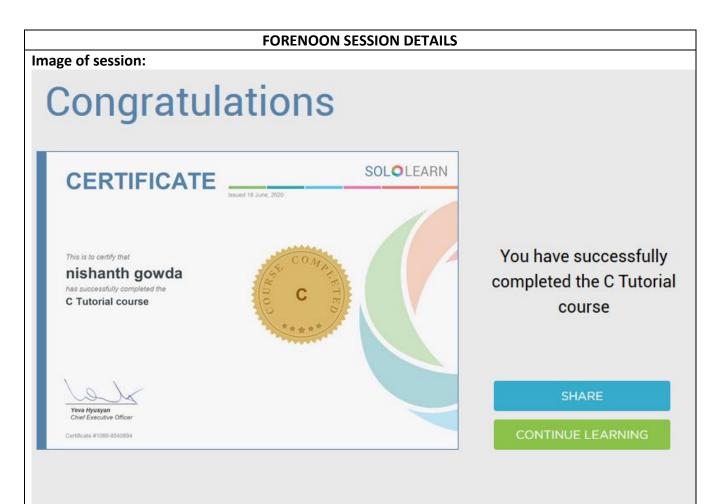
## **DAILY ASSESSMENT FORMAT**

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Course:	C programming	USN:	4al17ec063
Topic:	1.Files & Error Handling	Semester	6 <sup>th</sup> b
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## **Accessing Files**

An external file can be opened, read from, and written to in a C program. For these operations, C includes the **FILE** type for defining a file stream. The **file stream** keeps track of where reading and writing last occurred.

The **stdio.h** library includes file handling functions:

**FILE** Typedef for defining a file pointer.

**fopen(filename, mode)** Returns a FILE pointer to file *filename* which is opened using *mode*. If a file cannot be opened, NULL is returned.

Mode options are:

- r open for reading (file must exist)
- w open for writing (file need not exist)
- a open for append (file need not exist)
- r+ open for reading and writing from beginning
- w+ open for reading and writing, overwriting file
- a+ open for reading and writing, appending to file

**fclose(fp)** Closes file opened with FILE fp, returning 0 if close was successful. **EOF** (end of file) is returned if there is an error in closing.

The following program opens a file for writing and then closes it: #include <stdio.h>

```
int main() {
FILE *fptr;

fptr = fopen("myfile.txt", "w");
if (fptr == NULL) {
  printf("Error opening file.");
  return -1;
}
fclose(fptr);
return 0;
}
```

## Reading from a File

The **stdio.h** library also includes functions for reading from an open file. A file can be read one character at a time or an entire string can be read into a character **buffer**, which is typically a char array used for temporary storage.

**fgetc(fp)** Returns the next character from the file pointed to by *fp*. If the end of the file has been reached, then **EOF** is returned.

**fgets(buff, n, fp)** Reads n-1 characters from the file pointed to by *fp* and stores the string in buff. A NULL character '\0' is appended as the last character in *buff*. If fgets encounters a newline character or the end of file before n-1 characters is reached, then only the characters up to that point are stored in buff.

**fscanf(fp, conversion\_specifiers, vars)** Reads characters from the file pointed to by *fp* and assigns input to a list of variable pointers *vars* using *conversion\_specifiers*. As with scanf, fscanf stops reading a string when a space or newline is encountered.

The following program demonstrates reading from a file: #include <stdio.h>

```
int main() {
```

```
FILE *fptr;
int c, stock;
char buffer[200], item[10];
float price;

/* myfile.txt: Inventory\n100 Widget 0.29\nEnd of List */

fptr = fopen("myfile.txt", "r");

fgets(buffer, 20, fptr); /* read a line */
printf("%s\n", buffer);

fscanf(fptr, "%d%s%f", &stock, item, &price); /* read data */
printf("%d %s %4.2f\n", stock, item, price);

while ((c = getc(fptr)) != EOF) /* read the rest of the file */
printf("%c", c);

fclose(fptr);
return 0;
}
```

## **Binary File I/O**

Writing only characters and strings to a file can become tedious when you have an array or structure. To write entire blocks of memory to a file, there are the following binary functions:

Binary file mode options for the fopen() function are:

- rb open for reading (file must exist)
- wb open for writing (file need not exist)
- ab open for append (file need not exist)
- rb+ open for reading and writing from beginning
- wb+ open for reading and writing, overwriting file
- ab+ open for reading and writing, appending to file

**fwrite(ptr, item\_size, num\_items, fp)** Writes *num\_items* items of *item\_size* size from pointer *ptr* to the file pointed to by file pointer *fp*.

**fread(ptr, item\_size, num\_items, fp)** Reads *num\_items* items of *item\_size* size from the file pointed to by file pointer *fp* into memory pointed to by *ptr*.

**fclose(fp)** Closes file opened with file *fp*, returning 0 if close was successful. **EOF** is returned if there is an error in closing.

**feof(fp)** Returns 0 when the end of the file stream has been reached.