Functions in C

Outline

Introduction to Functions in C

- A function is a *reusable* block of code that performs a specific task
- Functions help organize programs into smaller and manageable sections
- The `main` function is the entry point of every C program

Why Use Functions

- To avoid repeating the same code
- To make programs easier to understand and maintain
- To divide a large problem into smaller parts
- To allow reusability of code

Advantages of Using Functions

- Reduces code duplication
- Enhances readability
- Helps debugging and testing individual parts easily
- Supports modular program design

Syntax of a Function

```
return_type function_name(parameter_list) {
    // body of the function
    return the_return_value;  // optional
}
```

- Function declaration tells the compiler about the function
- Function definition contains the actual code
- Function call transfers control to the function

Example: Function with No Parameters

```c
void greet() {
    printf("Hello, World!");
}
```

Example: Function with One Parameter

```c
void printNumber(int n) {
    printf("The number is %d", n);
}
```

Example: Function with Multiple Parameters

```
int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
}
```

Calling Functions

```
greet();              // no parameter
printNumber(5);       // one parameter
sum = add(4, 6);      // multiple parameters
```

Return Type and Return Value

```
int square(int n) {
    return n * n;
}
```

- The return type defines the type of value a function returns
- The return statement sends a value back to the calling code

Types of Functions

- Library functions - predefined in header files like “printf()”, “scanf()”, “sqrt()”
- User-defined functions - created by the programmer

Recursive Functions

- A recursive function calls itself
- Must have a base case to stop recursion

```
int factorial(int n){
    if(n == 0){
        return 1;
    } else{
        return n * factorial(n - 1);
    }
}
```

Example: Function with No Parameters and No Return Value

```c
#include <stdio.h>

void greet() {
    printf("Hello, World!\n");
}

int main() {
    greet();
    return 0;
}
```

Example: Function with One Parameter and No Return Value

```c
#include <stdio.h>

void printSquare(int n) {
    printf("Square of %d is %d\n", n, n * n);
}

int main() {
    printSquare(5);
    return 0;
}
```

Example: Function with One Parameter and a Return Value

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int getSquare(int n) {
    return n*n;
}

int main() {
    printf("The square of 5 is %d", getSquare(5));
    return 0;
}
```

Example: Function with Multiple Parameters and Return Value

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
}

int main() {
    int result = add(10, 20);
    printf("Sum = %d\n", result);
    return 0;
}
```

Exercises

- Write a function to find the maximum of two numbers
- Write a function that checks if an integer is even or odd
- Write a function that takes three numbers and returns their average
- Write a recursive function to calculate the sum of digits of an integer
- Write a recursive function to calculate the GCD of two integers
- Write a function that checks whether a given integer is prime
- Write a function to print all prime numbers between 1 and 100