

2.3 Strings

①

* String is a sequence of characters terminated by a "null character '\0'".

* Strings in C are stored as an array of characters.

Syntax:- char string-name [size];
 ↓ ↓ ↓
 datatype name of size of array.
 string variable

* NOTE:- '\0' ⇒ used to indicate the termination of a string (that differs strings from normal character arrays).

Ways to initialize a String in C:-

① Assigning a string literal without size:-

```
char str[] = "C-Programming";
```

// sizeof(str) ⇒ 13 (including '\0')

② Assigning a string literal with a predefined size:-

```
char str[50] = "C-Programming";
```

⇒ Remember that we should always account for one extra space for '\0'.

// sizeof(str) ⇒ 50

③ Assigning character by character with size:-

```
char str[13] = {'c', 'p', 'r', 'o', 'g', 'r', 'a', 'm', 'm', 'i', 'n', 'g', '\0'};
```

Note:- '\0' should be added at the end.

④ Assigning character by character without size:-

```
char str[] = {'c', 'p', 'r', 'o', 'g', 'r', 'a', 'm', 'm', 'i', 'n', 'g', '\0'};
```

//sizeof(str) \Rightarrow 13.

Note: Size of the string is determined by the compiler automatically.

\Rightarrow When a sequence of characters enclosed in the double quotation is encountered by the compiler, '\0' is appended at the end of the string by default.

Example:-

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

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

```
void main()
```

```
{
```

```
    char c1[] = "Cprogramming";
```

```
    char c2[50] = "Cprogramming";
```

```
    char c3[13] = {'c', 'p', 'r', 'o', 'g', 'r', 'a', 'm', 'm', 'i', 'n', 'g', '\0'};
```

②

```

char c4[] = {'c', 'p', 'r', 'o', 'g', 'r', 'a', 'm', 'm', 'i', 'n', 'g', 'l', 'o'};
printf("Size (c1) = %d\n Size (c2) = %d\n Size (c3) = %d\n\n",
Size (c4) = %d\n", sizeof(c1), sizeof(c2), sizeof(c3), sizeof(c4));
}

```

Output :

Size (c1) = 13

Size (c2) = 50

Size (c3) = 13

Size (c4) = 13

Reading string input from user :-

① Using "%s" :-

```

#include <stdio.h>
void main()
{
    char s[50];
    printf("String = ");
    scanf("%s", s);
    printf("%s", s);
}

```

Output:-

① String = Hello
Hello

② String = Dennis Ritchie

Dennis



content after whitespace is ignored.

Methods to avoid ignorance of string after whitespace:-

(1) Using gets() :-

Use gets() to read characters from the standard input (stdin) and store them as a C string until a newline character is reached.

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main()
{
    char name[30];
    printf("Name = ");
    gets(name);
    printf("Name entered = ");
    puts(name);
}
```

Output :-

Name = Dennis Ritchie

Name entered = Dennis
Ritchie

(2) Using scanf() :-

scanf "%.[^\n]s" can be used to read string and store them in an array until newline (\n) is encountered.

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main() {
    char str[20];
    printf("Enter value = ");
    scanf("%.[^\n]s", str);
    printf("O/p: %s", str);
}
```

Output:-

Enter value = Hi Hello

O/p: Hi Hello

Why no '&' before string-name in scanf?

```
char str[20];  
scanf("%s", str);
```

* Ampersand (&) symbol must be used to provide the address of the variable to scanf() in order to store the value read in memory.

* As "str[]" is a character array, using "str" will give the base address of the string.

* Hence using "str" implies that we are already providing the base address of the string to scanf.

Wrong initialization of string:-

```
char s[10];
```

```
s = "HelloWorld";
```