1. History of C

- Developed by **Dennis Ritchie** in **1972** at Bell Labs.
- C evolved from two previous languages: **B** and **BCPL** (Basic Combined Programming Language).
- Initially designed for system programming (e.g., operating systems like Unix).
- Known as the mother of all programming languages because many modern languages like C++,
 Java, Python, etc., are derived from it.

2. Structure of a C Program

A C program is composed of:

- Preprocessor directives: Start with # (e.g., #include <stdio.h> for standard input/output library).
- **Main function**: Entry point of a program, int main().
- Statements/Functions: Code instructions inside {}.
- Example:

3. Compilation Process

- Steps:
 - 1. **Preprocessing**: Handles **#include** and macros.
 - 2. **Compilation**: Converts C code to Assembly code.
 - 3. **Assembly**: Converts Assembly code to Machine code.
 - 4. **Linking**: Links libraries and creates the final executable.
- Tools: GCC (GNU Compiler Collection) is commonly used.

4. Variables and Constants

Variable: A name that stores data. Syntax: data_type variable_name;
 Example:

```
int age = 20; // Declaring and initializing an integer variable
```

Constant: Fixed value that cannot be changed. Declared using const.
 Example:

```
const float PI = 3.14; // Declares a constant PI
```

5. Keywords and Identifiers

- **Keywords**: Reserved words in C (e.g., int, return, if). Total: **32** in standard C.
- Identifiers: Names used for variables, functions, or arrays.
 - Must start with a letter or _.
 - Cannot use spaces or special characters.

6. Input/Output Functions

Input: Use scanf() to take input from the user.
 Example:

```
int num;
printf("Enter a number: ");
scanf("%d", &num); // Reads an integer
```

Output: Use printf() to display data.

Example:

```
printf("The number is: %d", num); // Outputs the number
```

Key Points to Remember

- C is case-sensitive (Variable and variable are different).
- Every statement ends with a semicolon (;).
- Use comments for clarity:

o Single-line: // Comment

O Multi-line: /* Comment */

Do you need further clarification on any of these topics or example programs?