

C++ Quiz Challenge 🏆



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```
$ git stash
```

Q1. 🐙 What does 'git stash' do?

- A) 🗑️ Deletes untracked files
- B) 📦 Commits all staged changes
- C) ⏪ Resets to last commit
- D) 💾 Saves uncommitted changes, cleans working directory





```
$ git add myfile.cpp  
$ git reset HEAD -- myfile.cpp
```

Q2.  What is the state of myfile.cpp after these two commands?

- A)  Committed to branch
- B)  Deleted from repo
- C)  Modified, unstaged
- D)  Staged, ready to commit

```
# .gitattributes  
my_rules.csv binary
```

Q3. ⚙️ What does 'my_rules.csv binary' in .gitattributes do?

- A)  Forces CRLF on checkout
- B)  Compresses the file
- C)  Ignores the file in commits
- D)  git won't try to merge it

□ Git

Version control: `init`, `add`, `commit`, `push`

Branching: one branch = one task


Stash: save work without committing

Pre-commit hooks: automate checks

CRLF: always use LF (`eol=lf`)

CI/CD: compile on isolated machines

```
$ g++ -E simple.cpp -o simple.i
$ g++ -S simple.i -o simple.s
$ g++ -c simple.s -o simple.o
$ g++ simple.o -o simple
```

Q5.  What is the correct order of these 4 steps?

A) Compile → Preprocess →
Assemble → Link

B) Assemble → Compile →
Preprocess → Link

C) Preprocess → Compile →
Assemble → Link

D) Preprocess → Assemble →
Compile → Link

```
$ ldd simple
libstdc++.so.6 => /usr/lib/...
libc.so.6      => /lib/...
linux-vdso.so.1 (0x...)
```

Q6. 🔍 What does 'ldd simple' show?

- A) 🏷️ All symbols defined in the binary
- B) 💻 System calls used at runtime
- C) 📁 Static libraries linked into the binary
- D) 📖 Shared libraries the binary depends on

```
# CMakeLists.txt
set(CMAKE_SYSTEM_NAME Linux)
set(CMAKE_SYSTEM_PROCESSOR aarch64)
set(CMAKE_CXX_COMPILER
    aarch64-linux-gnu-g++)
```

Q7. 🌐 What does CMAKE_SYSTEM_NAME set in a CMake toolchain file?

- A) 🏠 The host machine's OS name
- B) ⚙️ The build system generator
- C) 🏭 The compiler vendor name
- D) 🎯 The target OS for cross-compilation

□ Toolchain & Build

Toolchain: compiler, linker, assembler, debugger

Compilation: Preprocess -> Compile -> Assemble -> Link

ldd: inspect shared library dependencies

glibc: tightly coupled to Linux kernel

Static vs dynamic linking trade-offs

Cross-compilation: CMAKE_SYSTEM_NAME / PROCESSOR

```
// myheader.h  
#pragma once  
  
int foo();
```

Q9. 🛡️ What does '#pragma once' do in a header file?

- A)** 🚫 Disables all warnings in the file
- B)** 🏷️ Marks the file as system header
- C)** 📌 Prevents the file from being included more than once
- D)** 🚀 Forces the file to compile before all others

```
#include <algorithm>
#include <Windows.h>

int k = std::min(3,4);
```

Q10. 🌟 This code fails to compile on Windows. What is the cause?

- A) 🚫 algorithm is not available on Windows
- B) 📁 Missing #include for <windows.h>
- C) 🗪 Windows.h defines min/max as macros
- D) ⚠️ std::min needs two identical types

```
#define SQR(x)  x*x  
  
std::cout << SQR(4+1);
```

Q11. 🤯 **#define SQR(x)**
x*x What is the output of
SQR(4+1)?

- A) 9**
- B) 21**
- C) 25**
- D) 1**

□ Preprocessor

`#include`: text substitution, watch search dirs

`#pragma once`: prevent multiple inclusion


`#define`: avoid macros, prefer `constexpr`





`Windows.h`: define `NOMINMAX` before including

`g++ -E`: dump preprocessed output to debug

`clang-tidy`: detect include issues

```
uint64_t foo() {  
    const int N = 1024;  
    uint64_t total = 0;  
    for(int i=0;i<N;++i)  
        total += i*i;  
    return total;  
} // g++ -O3
```

Q13.  What does g++ -O3 return for this function?

- A)  A compiler error: loop is infinite
- B)  Zero, loop body is optimized away
- C)  A single constant (constant folding)
- D)  The loop runs 1024 times at runtime

```
#include <climits>
int main() {
    int max = INT_MAX;
    max++; // ???
}
```

Q14. 🧠 What is the behavior of 'max++' when max == INT_MAX?

- A) 🛑 Compiler error: overflow detected
- B) 🔄 Wraps to INT_MIN (guaranteed)
- C) 0 Result is 0
- D) 💣 Undefined behavior (signed overflow)

```
$ g++ -fsanitize=address \  
-fsanitize=undefined \  
main.cpp
```

Q15. 🩺 What do sanitizer flags like -fsanitize=address do?

- A) ✂ Strip debug symbols from the binary
- B) 🔔 Disable compiler optimizations
- C) ⚡ Speed up execution by removing bounds checks
- D) 🔍 Add runtime checks that detect memory errors

□ **Compiler**

`-O0/-O2/-O3`: optimization levels

Constant folding: loops \rightarrow single instruction

Undefined behavior: silent data corruption



Sanitizers: `-fsanitize=address,undefined`

`-Wall -Wextra -Werror`: enable all warnings

clang vs MSVC: error message quality

```
# Which is correct on Linux?  
g++ main.o -lpow -lmul -ladd  
g++ main.o -ladd -lmul -lpow
```

Q17. Which link command is correct on Linux?


- A)  Use --start-group for all cases
- B) g++ main.o -ladd -lmul -lpow
- C) g++ main.o -lpow -lmul -ladd
- D)  Order does not matter on Linux





```
$ nm -C libmul.a  
U add(int, int)  
T mul(int, int)
```

Q18. 🔍 In nm output, what does 'T' mean next to a symbol?

- A) 📊 In a data section
- B) 📋 Template function
- C) ❓ Undefined, must be linked
- D) 💡 Defined in the text (code) section

```
// add.cpp (Windows DLL)
int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
}
```

Q19.  A Windows DLL is built but no .lib file is created. Why?

- A)  No `__declspec(dllexport)` symbols in the code
- B)  CMake forgot to set `SHARED` keyword
- C)  Wrong architecture (x86 vs x64)
- D)  Missing `/MD` compiler flag

□ **Linker**

Links .o files into executable / .so / .dll

Linux: library order matters (left to right)


nm: inspect symbols (T=defined, U=undefined)


Static .a vs dynamic .so/.dll trade-offs

Windows: `__declspec(dllexport)` to export

Linux: `-fvisibility=hidden + __attribute__`

```
#include <iostream>
int main() {
    std::cout << sizeof(long);
}
// 64-bit Linux vs Windows?
```

Q21.  **sizeof(long) on 64-bit Linux vs 64-bit Windows?**


- A)** Both: 4
- B)** Linux: 8, Windows: 4
- C)** Both: 8
- D)**  Linux: 4, Windows: 8

```
char c = 200;
if (c > 0)
    std::cout << "Positive";
else
    std::cout << "Negative";
// x86 GCC vs ARM GCC?
```

Q22. 🤔 **char c = 200 — what is the output on x86 GCC vs ARM GCC?**

- A)** — Both print Negative
- B)** 💀 Undefined behavior on both platforms
- C)** + Both print Positive
- D)** 🔄 Different — char signedness is implementation-defined

```
#pragma pack(push, 1)
struct S {
    char  a;    // 1 byte
    int   b;    // 4 bytes
    short c;    // 2 bytes
};
#pragma pack(pop)
```

Q23.  What is sizeof(S) after #pragma pack(push,1)?

A) 12

B) 4

C) 7

D) 8

□ ABI

ABI = Application Binary Interface

Rule 1: Use POD types only

Rule 2: Use fixed-width types (int32_t...)

Rule 3: #pragma pack(push,1) for structs

Rule 4: Export only needed symbols

Rule 5: extern "C" to prevent name mangling





```
$ g++ -g -O2 main.cpp -o app  
$ strip app
```

Q25. ✂ What does 'strip app' do to the binary?

- A) 🗑 Deletes the binary from disk
- B) 🔒 Encrypts the binary for distribution
- C) 🔄 Removes optimizations, adds debug info
- D) 📉 Removes debug symbols, shrinks binary size

```
(gdb) watch var  
(gdb) rwatch var  
(gdb) awatch var
```

Q26. 🧐 What does 'watch var' do in gdb?

- A)  Stops execution when var is written
- B)  Stops execution when var is read
- C)  Prints var value every step
- D)  Sets var to zero and continues

```
$ ulimit -c unlimited  
$ echo "/tmp/core.%e.%p" |  
  sudo tee /proc/sys/kernel/core_pattern
```

Q27. 🌟 What do these two commands enable on Linux?

- A) 💾 Core dump creation when a process crashes
- B) 🔍 Debug symbol loading from /proc
- C) 🌐 Remote gdbserver on port 2000
- D) 📝 Full memory logging to /tmp

□ Debugging

Debug info: -g (Linux DWARF) / /Zi (Windows PDB)

RelWithDebInfo: -O2 + -g (best of both worlds)


strip: remove debug info from binary





gdb: break, next, step, bt, watch, p

Core dumps: ulimit -c unlimited

Remote: gdbserver :2000 ./app

```
void foo(int a) {  
    int x = 42;  
    bar(x);  
}
```

Q29.  What memory region holds local variables like 'int x'?

- A)  Stack
- B)  ROM
- C)  Global/Static
- D)  Heap

```
int& get_ref() {  
    int x = 42;  
    return x;  
}  
  
int main() {  
    int& r = get_ref();  
    return r;  
}
```

Q30. 🧠 What is wrong with this get_ref() function?

- A) 📦 x is allocated on the heap
- B) 🔁 Infinite recursion
- C) 🔔 Missing return type
- D) 🔥 Returns a dangling reference to a local variable

```
void leak() {  
    int* p = new int[100];  
    if (!OpenFile())  
        return;  
    delete[] p;  
}
```

Q31. 🪣 What bug does this leak() function contain?


- A) 📏 Buffer overflow
- B) 👻 Use-after-free
- C) 💧 Memory leak when OpenFile() returns false
- D) 🔥 Double free of p






```
void f() {  
    int* p = new int[100];  
    delete[] p;  
    delete[] p;  
}
```

Q32. ✨ What is wrong with deleting p twice?

- A) 📦 p becomes nullptr automatically
- B) 💀 Double free: undefined behavior
- C) ✂ Extra memory is freed safely
- D) 🔔 Compiler catches it at build time

```
std::vector<int> v;  
v.push_back(1);  
int* p = &v[0];  
v.push_back(2);  
*p = 99;
```

Q33.  What happens when you dereference 'p' after push_back?

- A)  p still points to v[0]
- B)  Buffer overflow on the stack
- C)  Use-after-free: push_back may reallocate the vector
- D)  Compile error: p is const

```
struct Foo { int x; Foo(){} };  
Foo g_foo;  
int main() {  
    Foo s_foo;  
    // g_foo.x vs s_foo.x ?  
}
```

Q34. 🏛️ What is g_foo.x vs s_foo.x before any assignment?

- A)** g_foo.x is undefined, s_foo.x is 0
- B)** Both are undefined
- C)** Both are 0 (always zero-init)
- D)** g_foo.x is 0, s_foo.x is undefined

□ Memory

Stack: fast, auto, scope-bound (grows down)

Heap: dynamic, explicit new/delete/malloc/free

Global/Static: zero-init, lives for program lifetime

Stack bugs: overflow, dangling ref, buffer overrun

Heap bugs: leak, double-free, use-after-free

Modern C++: prefer RAII + smart pointers

```
$ ./my_tests  
    --catch_system_errors=yes  
  
// What does this flag do?
```

Q36. ● Boost.Test: what does --catch_system_errors=yes do?

- A)** Lets segfaults produce a core dump
- B)** Only catches C++ exceptions
- C)** Catches segfaults/signals and reports them as test failures
- D)** Disables all error checking


```
// Adding a new feature...  
// How to make it unit-testable?  
  
class NewFeature {  
    // ???  
};
```

Q37. 🧪 How do you make a new feature easy to unit test?

- A)** Write the tests after the full feature is done
- B)** Add it directly inside main()
- C)** Implement it as a standalone class
- D)** Use global variables for shared state

```
// Which framework has the  
// strongest mocks ecosystem?
```

```
// A) Boost.Test  
// B) GoogleTest (gMock)  
// C) Catch2  
// D) All are equal
```

Q38.  Which C++ test framework has the strongest mocks ecosystem?

- A)** GoogleTest (gMock)
- B)** Boost.Test
- C)** Catch2
- D)** All are equal



Testing

Unit test: one class/function, fast (ms)

Component test: full algorithm + data replay

System test: whole project, threads, IO, mocks

TDD: Red -> Green -> Refactor

Frameworks: GTest / Boost.Test / Catch2


CI: build -> test -> package, fail fast


```
int counter = 0;
void run() {
    for(int i=0;i<100000; ++i)
        counter++;
}
// Two threads call run(). Output?
```

Q40. 🏎️ Two threads call `run()`. What is the output of counter?

- A)** 0 (both threads cancel each other out)
- B)** Unpredictable (data race, could be anything)
- C)** A compile error
- D)** Exactly 200000 (always)

```
std::condition_variable cv;  
std::mutex mtx;  
// Consumer:  
std::unique_lock<std::mutex> lk(mtx);  
cv.wait(lk); // bug?  
process();
```

Q41.  What is the bug in this condition_variable usage?

- A)** Missing predicate: susceptible to spurious wakeups
- B)** mtx must be a recursive_mutex
- C)** process() must be called before wait()
- D)** cv.wait() needs a timeout argument

```
auto ptr = std::make_shared<int>(0);  
// Thread A:  
*ptr = 20;  
// Thread B (concurrent):  
*ptr = 30;
```

Q42. 🧵 Is writing `*ptr` from two threads simultaneously safe?

- A)** No: data race on the managed object
- B)** Yes: `shared_ptr` is fully thread-safe
- C)** Yes: atomic ref-count protects the value
- D)** Only unsafe on ARM

□ Multithreading

Thread: OS resource sharing address space

Data race: two threads, one write -> UB

Mutex: use `lock_guard`, never `lock()` manually

CV: always use a predicate (spurious wakeups!)

`atomic<T>`: lock-free only for small types


Priority inversion: low holds lock, high blocks

```
double a = 0.1 + 0.2;
if (a == 0.3)
    std::cout << "Equal";
else
    std::cout << "Not Equal";
```

Q44.  What does this code print?

- A)** Equal (IEEE 754 is exact)
- B)** Undefined behavior
- C)** Not Equal (0.1+0.2 has rounding error)
- D)** Compile error: == invalid for doubles

```
double x = 1.0 / 0.0;  
std::cout << x;  
// What is printed?
```

Q45.  What does
'double x = 1.0/0.0' print?

- A)** Crash: divide by zero
- B)** 0
- C)** +inf
- D)** NaN

```
double n = std::sqrt(-1.0);  
if (n == n)  
    std::cout << "equal";  
else  
    std::cout << "not equal";  
// What prints?
```

Q46. 🧠 What does this NaN comparison print?

- A)** equal (NaN is unique)
- B)** Undefined behavior
- C)** Compile error
- D)** not equal (NaN != NaN is always true)

```
// Compiled with g++ -ffast-math
double a = 1e16;
double b = 1.0;
std::cout << (a + b) - a;
// Expected vs actual output?
```

Q47. ⚡ What does -ffast-math do to floating-point code?

- A)** Only speeds up integers, floats unchanged
- B)** Allows non-IEEE optimizations, may change results
- C)** Forces strict IEEE 754 compliance
- D)** Disables SIMD instructions

□ Numbers

IEEE 754: sign + exponent + mantissa

$0.1 + 0.2 \neq 0.3$ (finite binary precision)


$\text{NaN} \neq \text{NaN}$ (always false, use `std::isnan`)

$1.0/0.0 = +\text{inf}$, $0.0/0.0 = \text{NaN}$ (no exception!)

-ffast-math: fast but non-IEEE, non-deterministic

ULP: smallest difference between two floats

```
std::tuple<int, std::string>  
get_user_data() {  
    return {1, "Alice"};  
}  
  
auto [id, name] = get_user_data();
```

Q49. 1  What C++17 feature does 'auto [id, name] = ...' use?

- A)** Structured bindings: unpack tuple/struct
- B)** std::pair destructuring (C++11 feature)
- C)** Template parameter pack
- D)** Move semantics on return value

```
if (auto it = m.find("key");  
    it != m.end()) {  
    use(it->second);  
}  
// 'it' after the closing brace?
```

Q50. 🔍 After the closing brace, is 'it' accessible?

- A)** Yes: 'it' is a regular local variable
- B)** No: 'it' is scoped to the if block
- C)** Only if the if condition was true
- D)** Only in the else branch

```
template<typename T>
void info(T val) {
    if constexpr (std::is_integral_v<T>)
        std::cout << val;
    else
        std::cout << val.size();
}
// info(42);  -- would .size() compile?
```

Q51. ⚙ Why does info(42) compile even though 'val.size()' is in the code?

- A)** Template instantiation defers all checks
- B)** The compiler ignores unreachable code paths
- C)** int has a .size() method in C++17
- D)** constexpr if discards the else branch at compile time for int

17 C++17

Structured bindings: `auto [a, b] = tuple;`

if/switch with initializer: `if (auto x=f(); x>0)`

`std::optional<T>`: value or `std::nullopt`

`std::filesystem`: portable path, `directory_iterator`

`constexpr if`: compile-time branch (no SFINAE!)

`std::string_view`: non-owning string reference