Compilation of a C-program

A ".c" file goes through stages of compilation to get an executable file And to get the required output we run this executable file in terminal.

Stages of Compilation:

<u>Pre-Processing</u>: This is the first steps where source file is passed. This step is performed by following command in our makefile:

gcc -E hello.c -o hello.i

The preprocessor does removal of comment, removal of comments, expansion of Macros, expansion of the included files, Conditional compilation. The preprocessor convert the file into ".i" extension.

<u>Compilation</u>: This is the second steps of the process and performed with the help of following command:

gcc -S hello.i -o hello.s

It takes the output (generated ".i" file) and generates the assembler source code. I.e. it will create ".s" file.

<u>Assembly:</u> In this steps, Assembler converts ".s" file into Object code, it will create a file with ".o" extension which is the binary version of the code. This step is performed by this command:

gcc -c hello.s -o hello.o

<u>Linking:</u> This is the final step of compilation where ".o" file is finally converted to executable file.this step is performed by this command:

gcc hello.o -o hello

Finally our code is ready to run by "./hello"