

# Today - Lecture 11 - CS162

- 1) Introduction to Pointers
- 2) Dynamically Allocated Arrays
- 3) Using Dynamically Allocated Arrays in our show list program
  - creating arrays sized just right at run time for names
  - creating the array of items sized just right at run time
  - deallocating (releasing) that memory

Announcements:

# Pointers

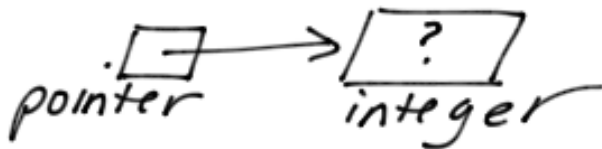
- 1) A pointer "Variable" holds a memory address
- 2) It is best to set pointers to NULL if they are not pointing anywhere
- 3) NULL is just a #define constant for  $\emptyset$

```
int * pointer = NULL;
```



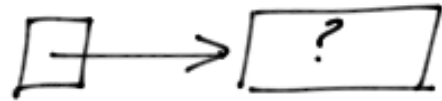
- 4) use "new" to allocate memory "dynamically" as the program is running

```
pointer = new int;
```



# Dynamically Allocated Memory

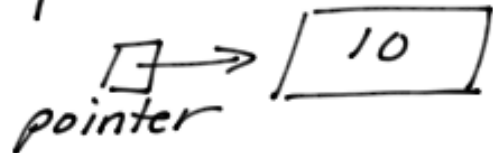
`int * pointer = new int;`



1) To Access The Memory we must get there indirectly through the pointer variable

This is called **DEREFENCING**

`* pointer = 10;`



`cout << * pointer ;`  
10

# Deallocation of memory

## General

1) Memory for local variables (including pointer variables) is automatically released at the end of the block `{ }` in which the variable was defined

2) However memory allocated with NEW is not automatically released until you use delete

3) For every use of new there should be a corresponding use of delete

```
int *ptr = new int;
```



```
delete ptr; // releases the memory  
            // that ptr points to.
```



# Dynamically Allocated Arrays

```
int length;  
cout << "How many scores are there?";  
cin >> length; cin.ignore(100, '\n');  
  
float * scores;  
float grade = 0.0;  
  
scores = new float[length]; //dynamically allocated array  
  
cout << "Please enter " << length << " scores: ";  
for (int i=0; i<length; ++i)  
{  
    cin >> scores[i];  
    cin.ignore(100, '\n');  
}  
  
//calculate the average score  
for (int i=0; i<length; ++i)  
{  
    grade += scores[i];  
}  
grade /= length;  
  
//we are done...  
delete [] scores;
```

# Pointer Arithmetic

$$\text{array}[i] == *(\text{array} + i)$$

Starting  
address

index is the  
offset

 temp  
address

Go There!

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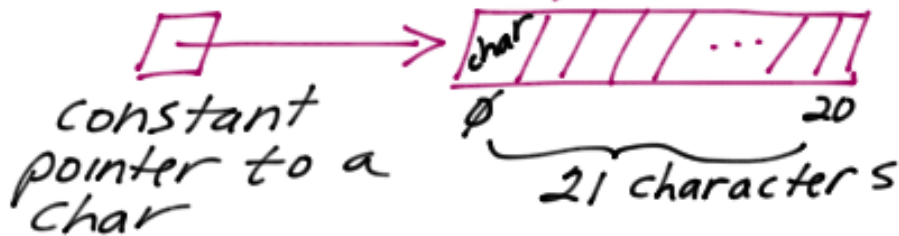
$$*(i + \text{array})$$

$$i[\text{array}]$$

# Interesting...

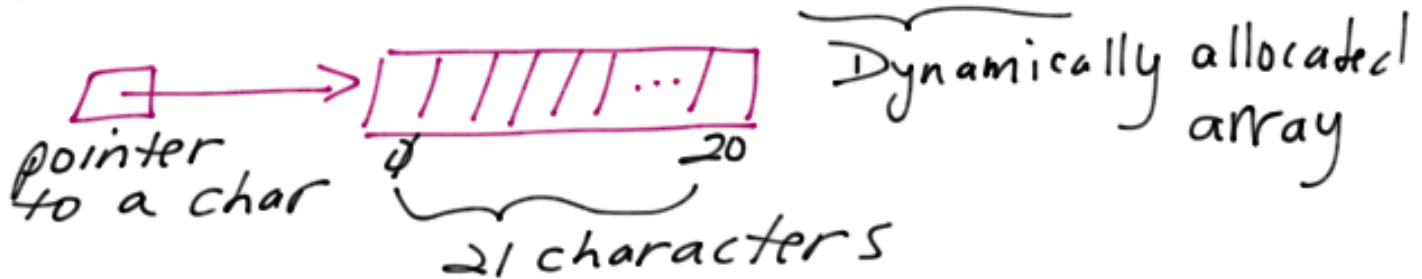
a pointer can point to one item OR  
the first of many items contiguously  
arranged.

`char name[21];` ← called a  
Statically Allocated  
Array



versus

`char * name = new char[21];` this can be  
a variable!



`delete [] name ;` // once we are done with  
// the array

# *Dynamically Allocated Array of characters - sized just right! -*

```
char temp[100];  
char * name;
```

```
cout << "Please enter your full name: ";  
cin.get(temp, 100, '\n');  
cin.ignore(100, '\n');
```

```
name = new char[strlen(temp) + 1];  
strcpy(name, temp);
```

```
cout << "You entered " << name << endl;
```

```
//when done  
delete [] name;
```



*Examine These*

*(not all are correct)*

```
char temp[100];
```

```
char * name;
```

```
cout << "Please enter your full name: ";
```

```
cin.get(temp, 100, '\n');
```

```
cin.ignore(100, '\n');
```

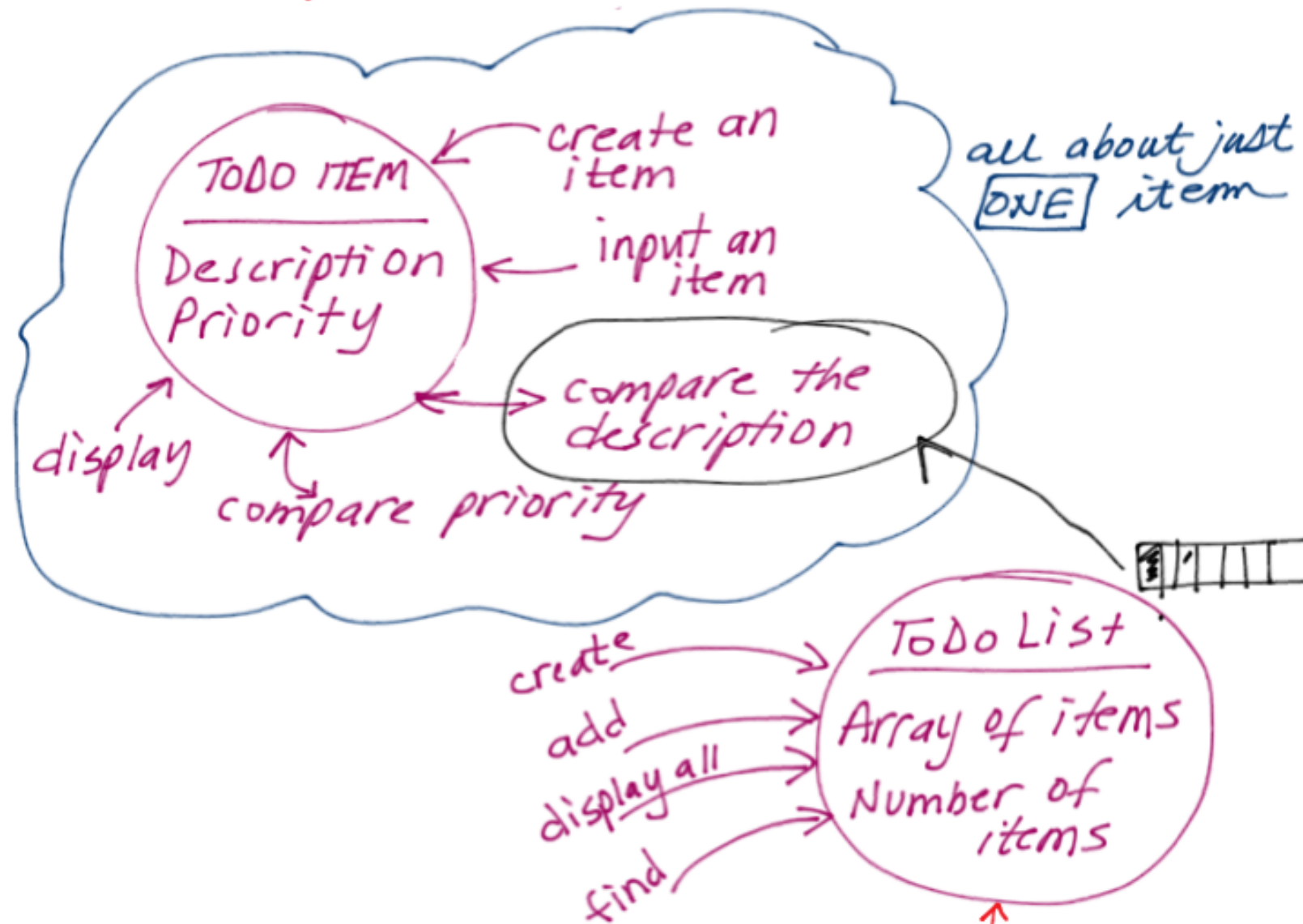
```
name = new char[strlen(temp) + 1];
```

```
name = new char[strlen(temp+1)];
```

```
name = new char[strlen(temp)] + 1;
```

---

Now Let's allocate the description dynamically at run time



And, let's create the array sized at run-time to be JUST RIGHT

