

Default Arguments (or) Default parameter values

* Default arguments are the default values provided for the function parameters, if the arguments are not passed during function call.

- the default values are assigned automatically by the compiler.

(Ex) #include <iostream.h>

```
int sum (int x, int y, int z=10)
```

```
{
```

```
    return x+y+z;
```

```
}
```

```
void main()
```

```
{
```

```
    cout << sum (20, 30) << endl; // Prints 60 => one missing argument
```

```
    cout << sum (20, 30, 50) << endl; // Prints 100 => No missing argument.
```

```
}
```

Note:

Defaults should be added from right to left.

(Ex) int sum (int x, int y=20, int z); // illegal

int sum (int x, int y=20, int z=10); // legal.

Reference variable

- * A reference variable is an alternative name (alias) for already existing variable.
- * Once a reference is initialized with a variable, either the variable name or reference name may be used to refer the variable.

Syntax :

`datatype & referencename = variable name;`

(Eg) `int a = 10;`

`int& b = a;` // b is an alternative name to a. Both represent same data in memory

`cout << a << " " << b;` // both prints 10

`b = b + 20;`

`cout << a << " " << b;` // both prints 30

Note :

A reference variable must be initialized at the time of declaration.

(Eg) `int x[10];`

`int& y = x[10];`

Reference variables with Functions

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* In C++, a function can take arguments passed by

- value \Rightarrow a copy of actual parameters in function call is assigned to formal parameters.

- pointer \Rightarrow address of actual parameters is passed.

- reference \Rightarrow an alias (reference) of actual parameters is passed

(Ex) Program to swap integer values using reference variable (call by reference)

```
#include <iostream.h>

void swap (int& x, int& y)
{
    int t;
    t = x; x = y; y = t;
}

void main()
{
    int a, b;
    cout << "Enter two integers\n";
    cin >> a >> b;
    swap (a, b);
    cout << "After swapping" << a << " " << b;
}
```

* Here formal arguments x and y in the called function become aliases to actual arguments a and b in calling function.

* Both represent same data in memory.

Call by reference
Using pointers

```
#include <iostream.h>

void swap (int *x, int *y)
{
    int t;
    t = *x; *x = *y; *y = t;
}

void main()
{
    int a, b;
    :
    swap (&a, &b);
    :
}
```

Note:

* In C, call by reference is achieved by pointers and indirection operators.

* It is also allowed in C++, but more complicated than reference variables.

Inline Functions

- * An inline function is a function that is expanded in line when it is invoked.

(ie) The compiler replaces the function call with the corresponding function code during compilation.

Syntax:

```
inline fn_header  
{  
    fn body  
}
```

(Eg) inline int cube(int a)
{
 return (a*a*a);
}

c = cube(3);

- * All inline functions must be defined before they are called.
- * Prefix the keyword "inline" to the function definition.
- * Usually, functions are made inline, when they are small enough to be defined in one or two lines.
- * Inline fns should not be recursive.

Why inline fn?

- * For smaller programs, the time needed to make function call is more than the execution time of function.
- * Hence inline functions are used to reduce function call overhead.

Function call execution steps:

- * CPU stores memory address of instruction following fn call.
- * Copies fn args. to stack.
- * Transfer control to specified fn.
- * Execute fn. code.
- * Stores return value in a register.
- * Returns to calling fn.