Streams

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How can we convert between string-represented data and the real thing?

Definition

stream: an abstraction for input/output. Streams convert between *data* and the *string representation of data.*

A stream you've used: cout

```
std::cout << 5 << std::endl; // prints 5
// use a stream to print any primitive type!
std::cout << "Frankie" << std::endl;
```

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// Mix types!
std::cout << "Frankie is " << 21 << std::endl;
```

A stream you've used: cout

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std::cout << "Frankie" << std::endl;
// Mix types!
std::cout << "Frankie is " << 21 << std::endl;
// structs?
Student s = {"Frankie", "MN", 21};
std::cout << s << std::endl;
```

A stream you've used: cout

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std::cout << 5 << std::endl; // prints 5
// use a stream to print any primitive type!
std::cout << "Frankie" << std::endl;
// Mix types!
std::cout << "Frankie is " << 21 << std::endl;
// structs?
Student s = {"Frankie", "MN", 21};
~~std::cout << s << std::endl;~~
```

A stream you've used: cout

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std::cout << 5 << std::endl; // prints 5
// use a stream to print any primitive type!
std::cout << "Frankie" << std::endl;
// Mix types!
std::cout << "Frankie is " << 21 << std::endl;
// structs?
Student s = {"Frankie", "MN", 21};
std::cout << s.name << s.age << std::endl;
```

A stream you've used: cout

```
std::cout << 5 << std::endl; // prints 5
// use a stream to print any primitive type!
std::cout << "Frankie" << std::endl;
// Mix types!
std::cout << "Frankie is " << 21 << std::endl;
// Any primitive type + most from the STL work!
// For other types, you will have to write the
            << operator yourself!
```

`std::cout` is an *output stream*. It has type `std::ostream`

Output Streams

- Have type `std::ostream`
- Can only ***send*** data using the `<<` operator
  - Converts any type into string and ***sends*** it to the stream

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- `std::cout` is the output stream that goes to the console

```
std::cout << 5 << std::endl;
// converts int value 5 to string "5"
// sends "5" to the console output stream
```

Output File Streams

- Have type `std::ofstream`
- Only receive data using the `<<` operator
  - Converts data of any type into a string and sends it to the **file stream**

Output File Streams

- Have type `std::ofstream`
- Only receive data using the `<<` operator
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- Must initialize your own `ofstream` object linked to your file

```
std::ofstream out(“out.txt”, std::ofstream::out);
// out is now an ofstream that outputs to out.txt

out << 5 << std::endl; // out.txt contains 5
```

`std::cout` is a *global constant object* that you get from `#include <iostream>`

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To use any other output stream, you must first initialize it!

Code Demo: ostreams

Input Streams!

What does this code do?

```
int x;
std::cin >> x;
```

What does this code do?

```
int x;
std::cin >> x;
// what happens if input is 5 ?
// how about 51375 ?
// how about 5 1 3 7 5?
```

`std::cin` is an *input stream*. It has type `std::istream`

Intput Streams

- Have type `std::istream`
- Can only ***receive*** data using the `>>` operator
    - ***Receives*** a string from the stream and converts it to data

Input Streams

- Have type `std::istream`
- Can only ***receive*** data using the `>>` operator
  - ***Receives*** a string from the stream and converts it to data

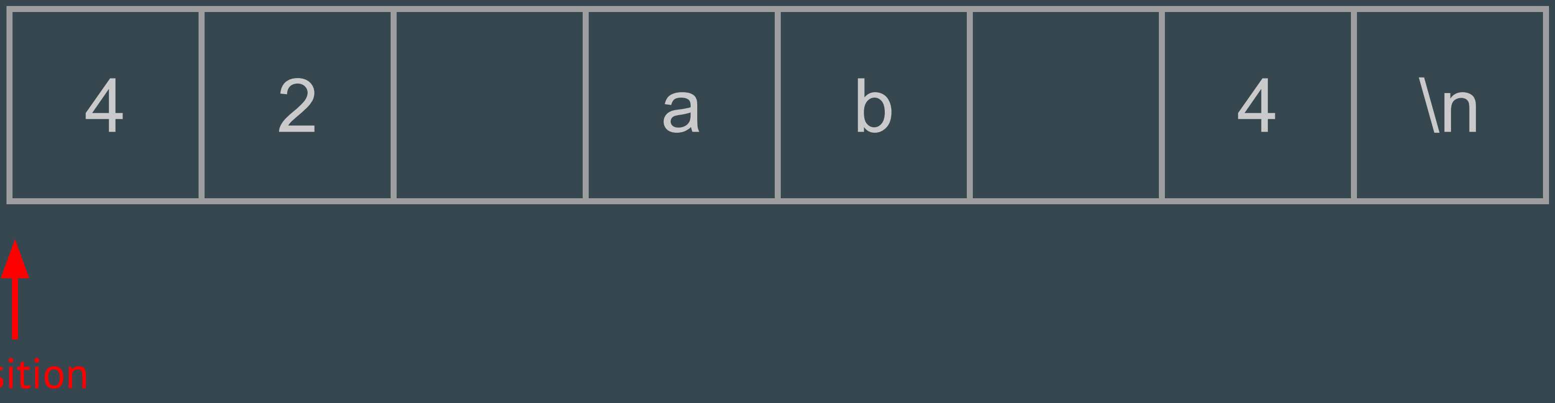
- `std::cin` is the output stream that gets input from the console

```
int x;
string str;
std::cin >> x >> str;
//reads exactly one int then 1 string from console
```

Nitty Gritty Details: `std::cin`

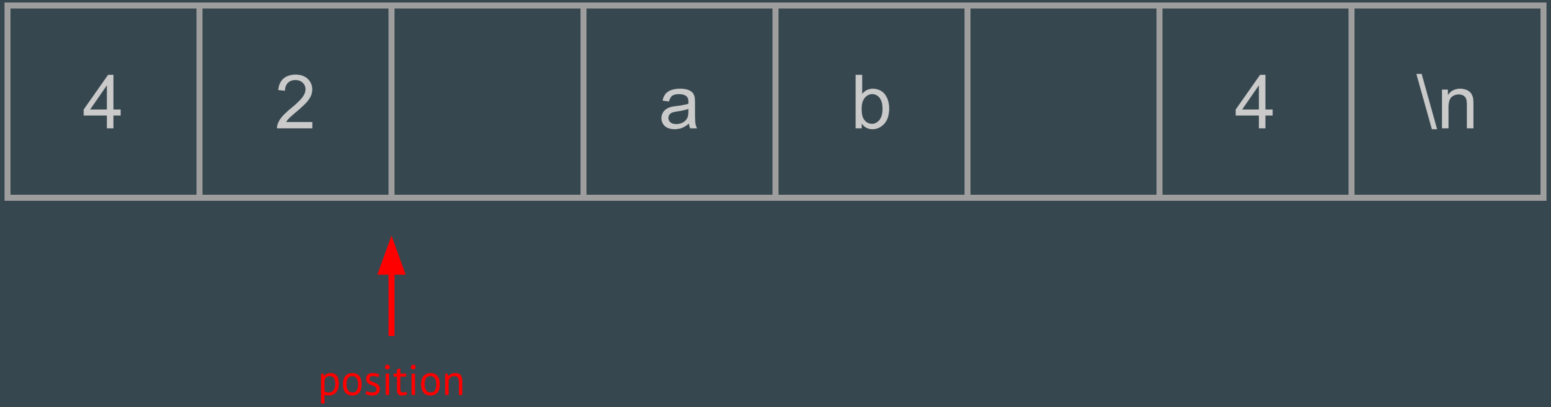
- First call to `std::cin <<` creates a command line prompt that allows the user to type until they hit enter
- Each `>>` ONLY reads until the next *whitespace*
  - Whitespace = tab, space, newline
- Everything after the first whitespace gets saved and used the next time `std::cin <<` is called
  - The place its saved is called a **buffer**!
- If there is nothing waiting in the buffer, `std::cin <<` creates a new command line prompt
- Whitespace is eaten: it won’t show up in output

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



```
int x; string y; int z;
cin >> x;
cin >> y;
cin >> z;
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



```
int x; string y; int z;
cin >> x; //42 put into x
cin >> y;
cin >> z;
```

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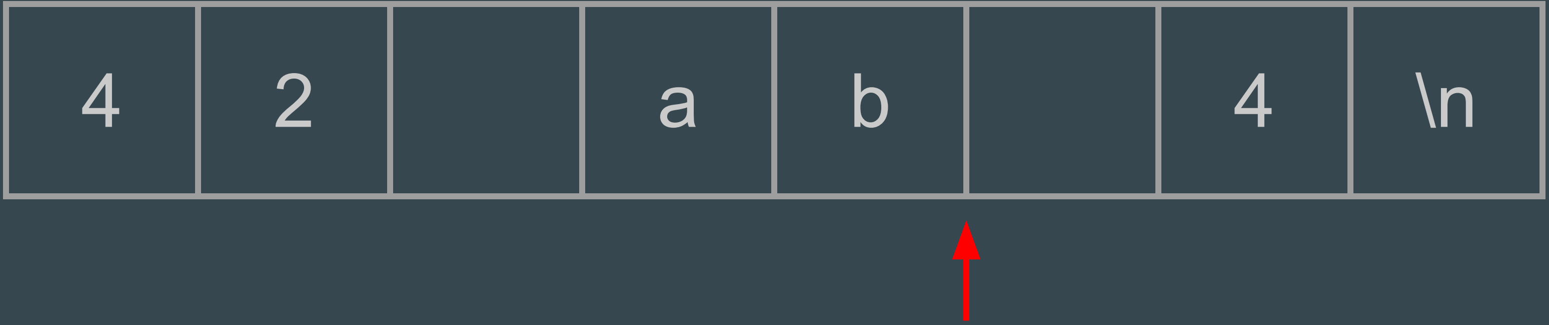
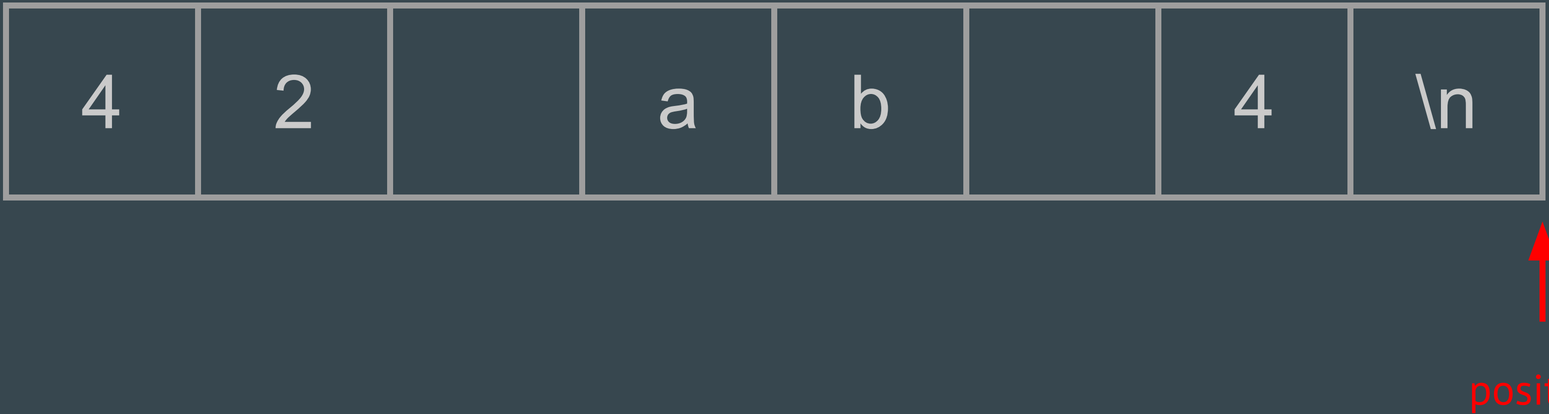


position

```
int x; string y; int z;
cin >> x;
cin >> y; //ab put into y
cin >> z;
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



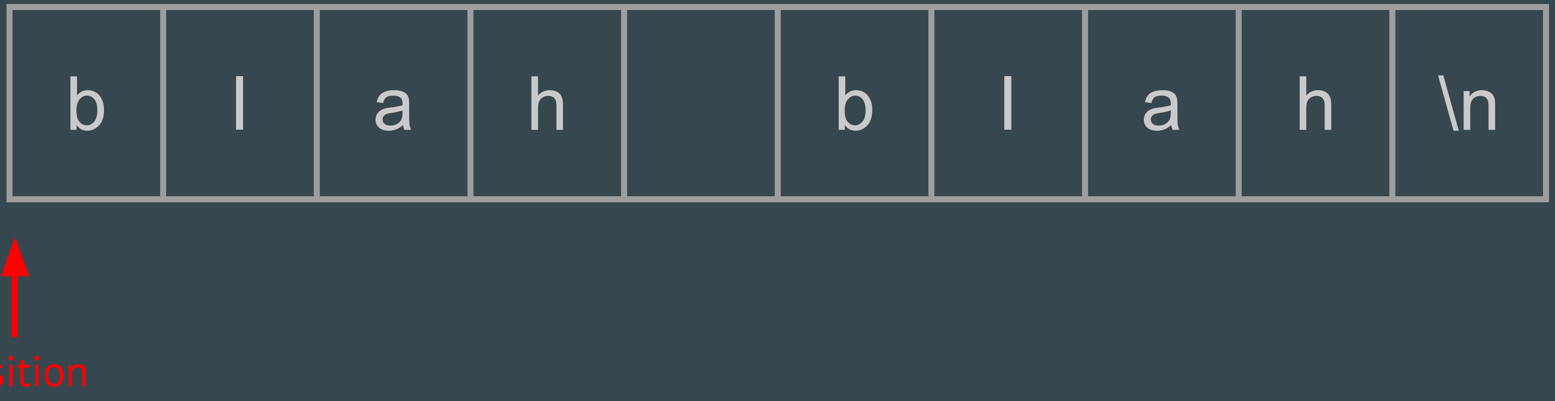
```
int x; string y; int z;
cin >> x;
cin >> y;
cin >> z; //4 put into z
```

Input Streams: When things go wrong

```
string str;
int x;
std::cin >> str >> x;
//what happens if input is blah blah?
std::cout << str << x;
```

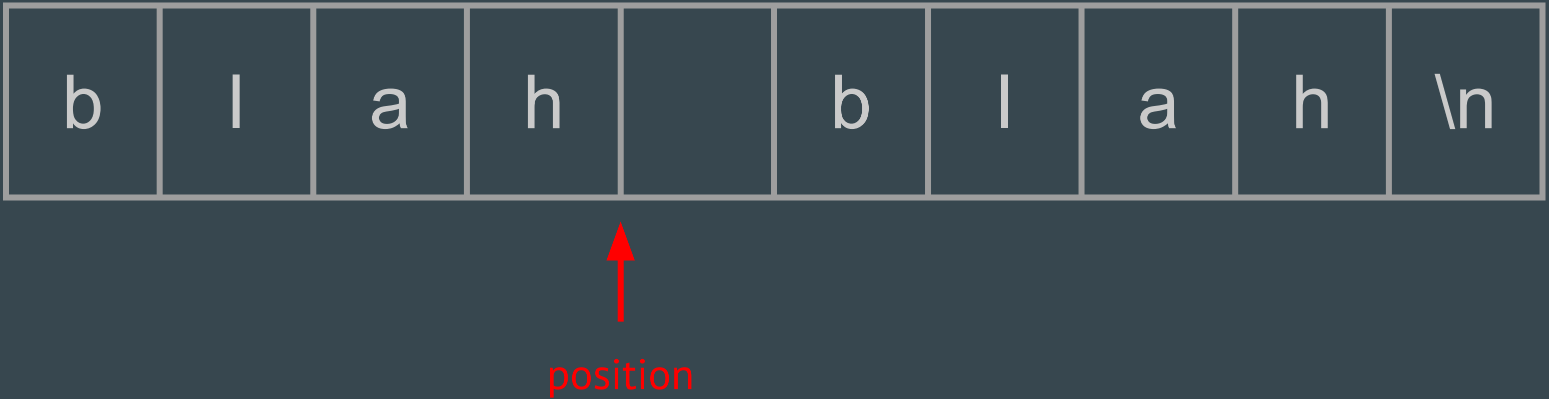
Playground (istreams.cpp)

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



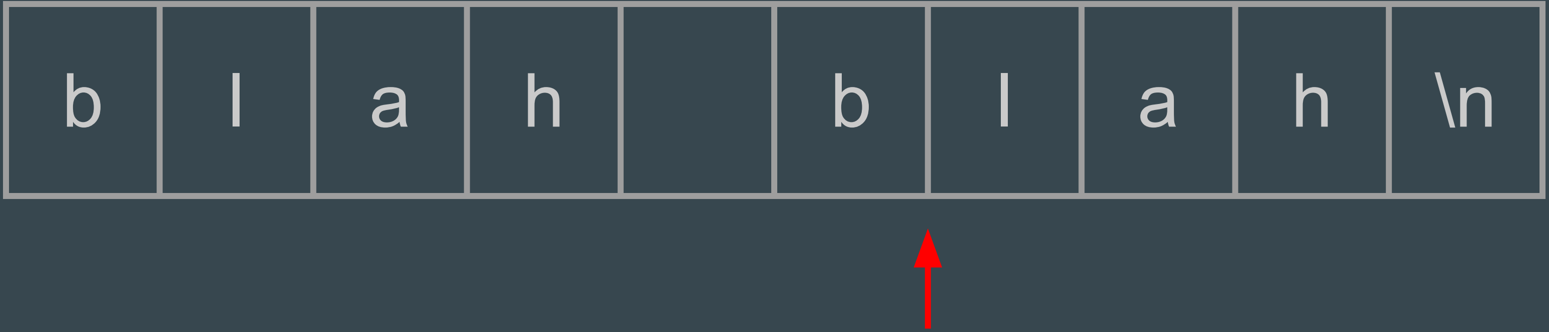
```
string str; int x;
std::cin >> str >> x;
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



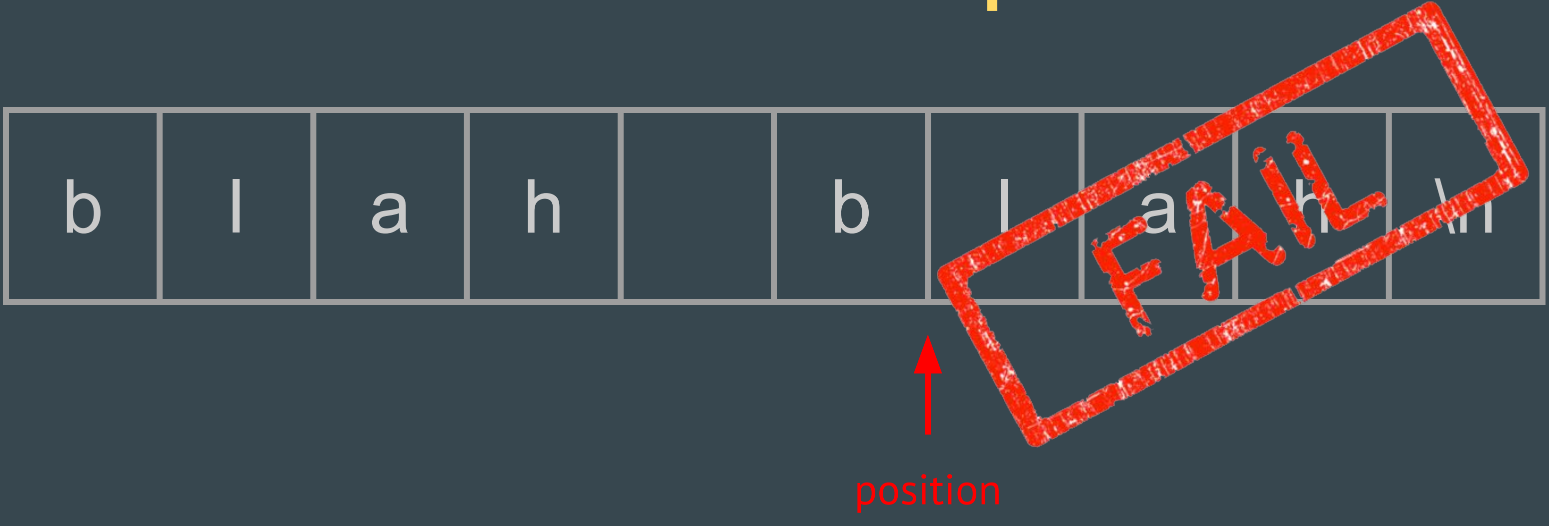
```
string str; int x;
std::cin >> str >> x;
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



```
string str; int x;
std::cin >> str >> x;
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



```
string str; int x;
std::cin >> str >> x;
```

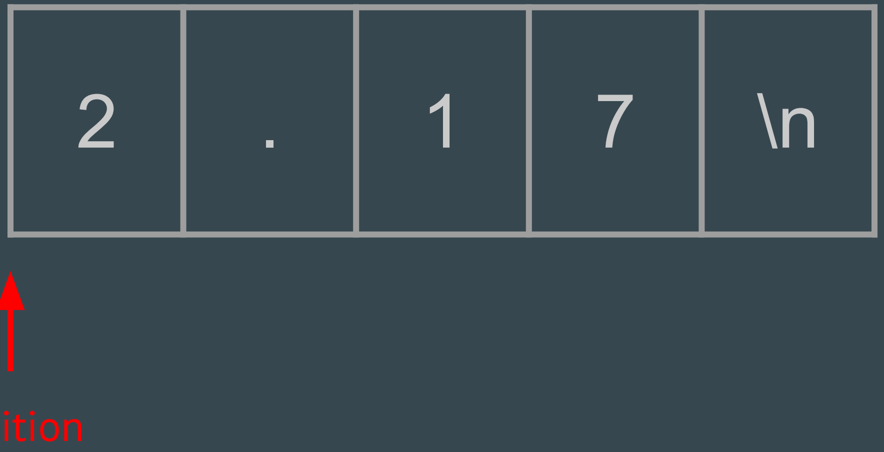
Output Streams: When things go wrong

```
string str;
int x;
std::cin >> str >> x;
//what happens if input is blah blah?
std::cout << str << x;
//once an error is detected, the input stream's
//fail bit is set, and it will no longer accept
//input
```

Output Streams: When things go wrong

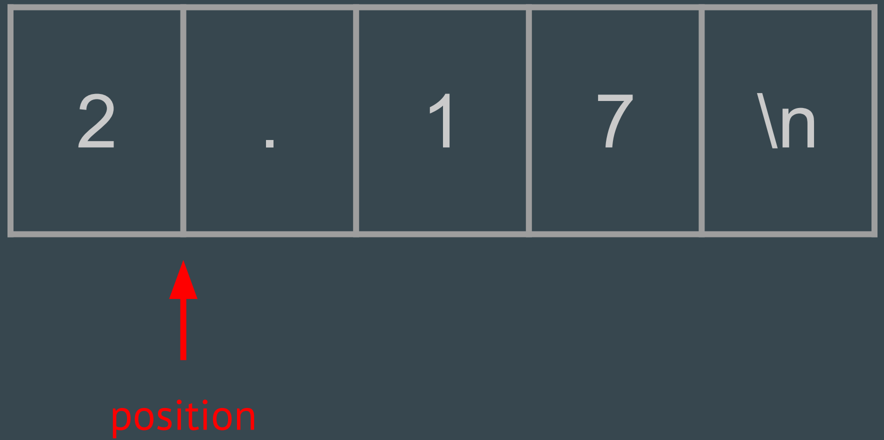
```
int age; double hourlyWage;
cout << "Please enter your age: ";
cin >> age;
cout << "Please enter your hourly wage: ";
cin >> hourlyWage;
//what happens if first input is 2.17?
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



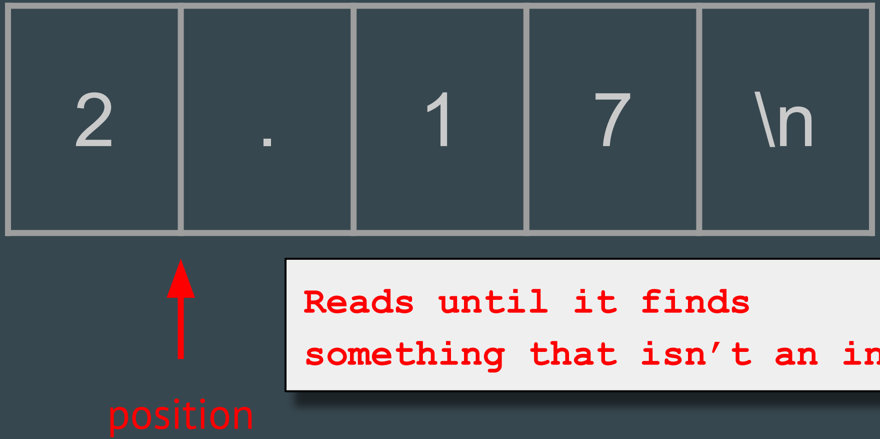
```
cin >> age;
cout << "Wage: ";
cin >> hourlyWage;
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



```
cin >> age;
cout << "Wage: ";
cin >> hourlyWage;
```

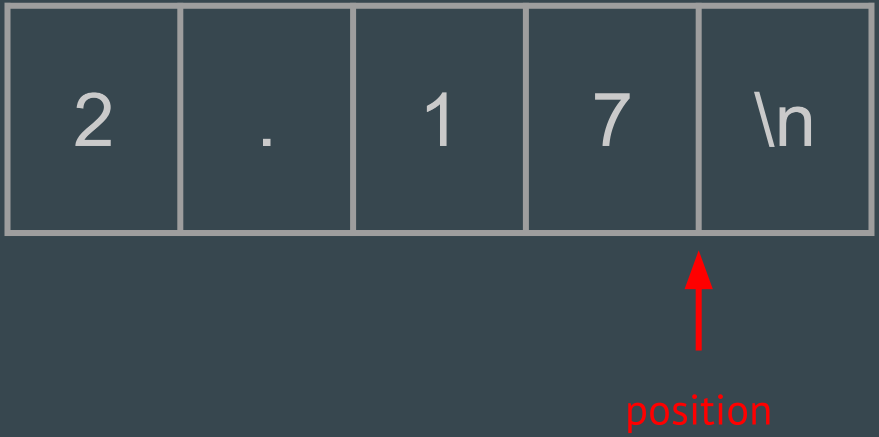
Think of a `std::istream` as a sequence of characters



```
Reads until it finds
something that isn't an int!
```

```
cin >> age; // age = 2
cout << "Wage: ";
cin >> hourlyWage;
```

Think of a `std::istream` as a **sequence** of characters



```
cin >> age;
cout << "Wage: ";
cin >> hourlyWage;// =.17
```

`std::cin` is dangerous to use on its own!

Reading using >> extracts a single "word" or type *including for strings*

To read a whole line, use

```
std::getline(istream& stream, string& line);
```

Don’t mix >> with getline!

- **>>** reads up to the next whitespace character and *does not* go past that whitespace character.
- **getline** reads up to the next delimiter (by default, ‘\n’), and *does* go past that delimiter.
- Don’t mix the two or bad things will happen!

📝 **Note for 106B:** Don’t use >> with Stanford libraries, they use getline.

Input File Streams

- Have type `std::ifstream`
- Only send data using the `>>` operator
  - Receives data of any type into and converts it into a string to send to the **file stream**

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- Must initialize your own `ofstream` object linked to your file

```
std::ifstream in("out.txt", std::ifstream::in);
// in is now an ifstream that reads from out.txt
string str;
in >> str; // first word in out.txt goes into str
```

`std::cin` is a *global constant object* that you get from `#include <iostream>`

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To use any other input stream, you must first initialize it!

Code Demo: istreams

Stringstreams

Stringstreams

- Input stream: std::istringstream
  - Give any data type to the istringstream, it'll store it as a string!
- Output stream: std::ostringstream
  - Make an ostringstream out of a string, read from it word/type by word/type!
- The same as the other i/ostreams you've seen!

ostringstreams

```
string judgementCall(int age, string name,
                                    bool lovesCpp)
{
  std::ostringstream formatter;
  formatter << name <<", age " << age;
  if(lovesCpp) formatter << ", rocks.";
  else formatter << " could be better";
  return formatter.str();
}
```

istringstreams

```
Student reverseJudgementCall(string judgement)
{
    std::istringstream converter;
    string fluff; int age; bool lovesCpp; string name;
    converter >> name;
    converter >> fluff;
    converter >> age;
    converter >> fluff;
    string cool;
    converter >> cool;
    if(fluff == "rocks") return Student{name, age, "bliss"};
    else return Student{name, age, "misery"};
}
```

Lets write getInteger!