

# C++ Basics



**I'M SORRY,  
YOU'RE BASIC.**

A black and white line drawing of a woman's head and shoulders. She has short, wavy hair and is looking upwards and to the right with a slight smile. She is holding a clear glass filled with water in her right hand. The drawing uses fine lines and cross-hatching for shading and texture.

# Announcements

Lab 1 this week!

Homework posted Wednesday (late)

# Avoid errors

To remove your program of bugs, you should try to test your program on a wide range of inputs

Typically it is useful to start with a small piece of code that works and build up rather than trying to program everything and then debug for hours

# Variables

Variables are objects in program

To use variables two things must be done:

- Declaration
- Initialization

See: uninitialized.cpp

Example if you forget to initialize:

I am 0 inches tall.

I am -1094369310 inches tall.

# Variables

```
int x, y, z; ← Declaration  
x = 2;      }  
y = 3;      } Initialization  
z = 4;      }
```

Same as:

```
int x=2, y=3, z=4;
```

Variables can be declared anywhere  
(preferably at start)

# Assignment operator

= is the assignment operator

The object to the right of the equals sign is stored into the object in the left

```
int x, y;
```

```
y = 2;
```

```
x = y+2;
```

See: `assignmentOp.cpp`

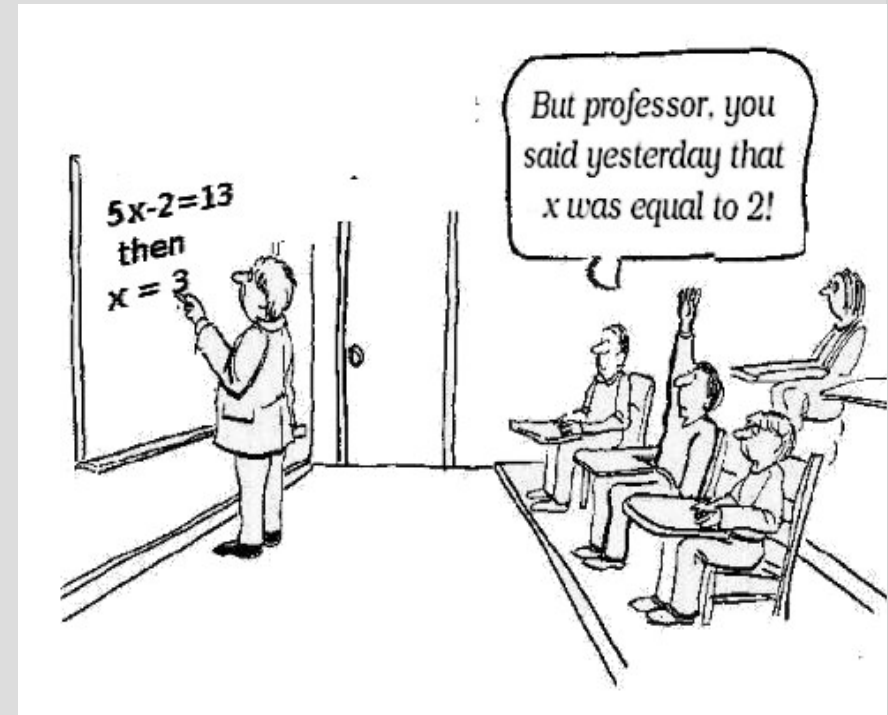
# Assignment operator

= is NOT a mathematic equals

```
x=3;
```

```
x=4; // computer is happy!
```

This does not mean  $3=4$



# Assignment operator

To the left of = needs to be a valid object that can store the type of data on the right

```
int x;
```

```
x=2.6; // unhappy, 2.6 is not an integer
```

```
x+2 = 6; // x+2 not an object
```

```
2 = x; // 2 is a constant, cannot store x
```



# Assignment operator

What does this code do?

```
int x = 2, y = 3;  
y=x;  
x=y;
```

What was the intention of this code?

# Increment operators

What does this code do?

```
int x = 2;  
x=x+1;
```

# Increment operators

What does this code do?

```
int x = 2;  
x=x+1;
```

Same as:

```
x+=1;
```

or

```
x++;
```

# Increment operators

Two types of increment operators:

`x++;` // increments after command

VS

`++x;` // increments before command

# Complex assignments

The following format is general for common operations:

variable (operator)= expression

variable = variable (operator) expression

Examples:

$x += 2$

$x *= y + 2$



$x = x + 2$

$x = x * (y + 2)$

# Order of operations

Order of precedence (higher operations first):

-, +, ++, -- and ! (unary operators)

\*, / and % (binary operators)

+ and - (binary operators)

% is remainder operator

(example later in simpleDivision.cpp)

# Order of operations

Binary operators need two arguments

Examples:

$2+3$ ,  $5/2$  and  $6\%2$

Unary operators require only one argument:

Examples: (see `binaryVsUnaryOps.cpp`)

$+x$ ,  $x++$ ,  $!x$

( $!$  is the logical inversion operator for `bool`)

# Identifiers

HELLO

my name is

*Inigo Montoya  
You killed my Father  
Prepare to die*



# Identifiers

An identifier is the name of a variable (or object, class, method, etc.)

`int sum;`

type

identifier

- Case sensitive
- Must use only letters, numbers or \_
- Cannot start with a number
- (Some reserved identifiers, like main)

# Identifiers

Already did this in week 1!  
See: RuntimeError.cpp



```
1 #include <iostream>
2 using namespace std;
3
4 int main()
5 {
6     int number;
7
8     cout << "What is your lucky number?" << endl;
9     cin >> number;
10    cout << "I like " << 10/number << "!\n";
11
12    return 0;
13 }
14
```

# Identifiers

Which identifiers are valid?

1) james parker

2) BoByBoY

3) x3

4) 3x

5) x\_\_\_\_\_

6) \_\_\_\_\_x

7) Home.Class

8) Five%

9) x-1

# Identifiers

Which identifiers are valid?

~~1) james parker~~

2) BoByBoY

3) x3

~~4) 3x~~

5) x\_\_\_\_\_

6) \_\_\_\_\_x

~~7) Home.Class~~

~~8) Five%~~

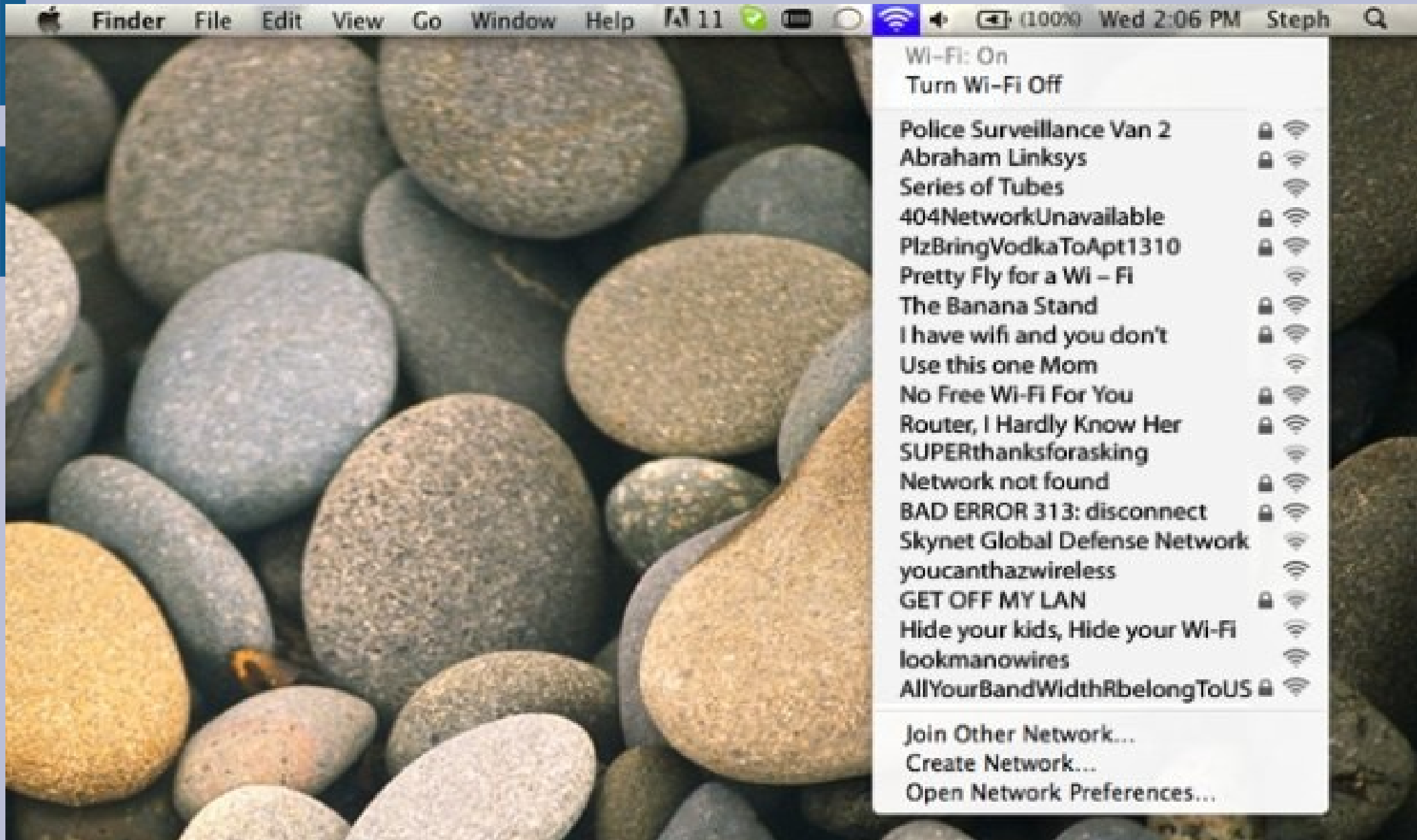
~~9) x 1~~

# Identifiers

(See: float.cpp)

```
7 int main()
8 {
9     float Float, fLoat, fl0at, FLOAt, FLOAT;
10    Float = 1;
11    fLoat = 2;
12    fl0at = -3;
13    FLOAT = 2;
14    FLOAt = 4;
15    cout << (-fLoat + floAT(fLoat*fLoat - FLOAt * Float * fl0at))/(FLOAT*Fl
16    cout << (-fLoat - floAT(fLoat*fLoat - FLOAt * Float * fl0at))/(FLOAT*Fl
17
18    return 0;
19 }
```

# Identifiers



# Variables

We (hopefully) know that if you say:

```
int x;
```

You ask the computer for a variable called *x*

Each variable actually has an associated type describing what information it holds (i.e. what can you put in the box, how big is it, etc.)

# Fundamental Types

`bool` - true or false

`char` - (character) A letter or number

`int` - (integer) Whole numbers

`long` - (long integers) Larger whole numbers

`float` - Decimal numbers

`double` - Larger decimal numbers

See: `intVSlong.cpp`



# int vs long?

**int** - Whole numbers in the approximate range:  
-2.14 billion to 2.14 billions ( $10^9$ )

**long** - Whole numbers in the approximate range:  
-9.22 quintillion to 9.22 quintillion ( $10^{18}$ )

Using **int** is standard (unless you really need more space, for example scientific computing)

float vs double?



# float vs double?

`float` is now pretty much obsolete.

`double` takes twice as much space in the computer and 1) has wider range and 2) is more precise

Bottom line: use `double` (unless for a joke)

# float and double

Both stored in scientific notation

```
double x = 2858291;
```

Computer's perspective:

$$x = 2.858291e6$$

or

$$x = 2.858291 * 10^6$$

# Welcome to binary

Decimal:

$$1/2 = 0.5$$

$$1/3 = 0.33333333$$

$$1/10 = 0.1$$

Binary:

$$0.1$$

$$0.0101010101$$

$$0.0001100110011$$

**double** is often just an approximation!

# Numerical analysis

Field of study for (reducing) computer error

See: `subtractionError.cpp`

Can happen frequently when solving system of linear equations

# bool

You can use integers to represent `bool` also.

`false` = 0

`true` = anything else

(You probably won't need to do this)

# int or double?

If you are counting something (money),  
use `int`

If you are dealing with abstract concepts (physics),  
use `double`

`int` doesn't make “rounding” mistakes



# Primitive type hierarchy

`bool < int < long < float < double`

If multiple primitive types are mixed together in a statement, it will convert to the largest type present

Otherwise it will not convert type

# Primitive type hierarchy

```
int x;  
double y;
```

$x+y$

Converted to  
double

```
int x;  
int y;
```

$x/y$

Not converted  
(still int)

# Integer division

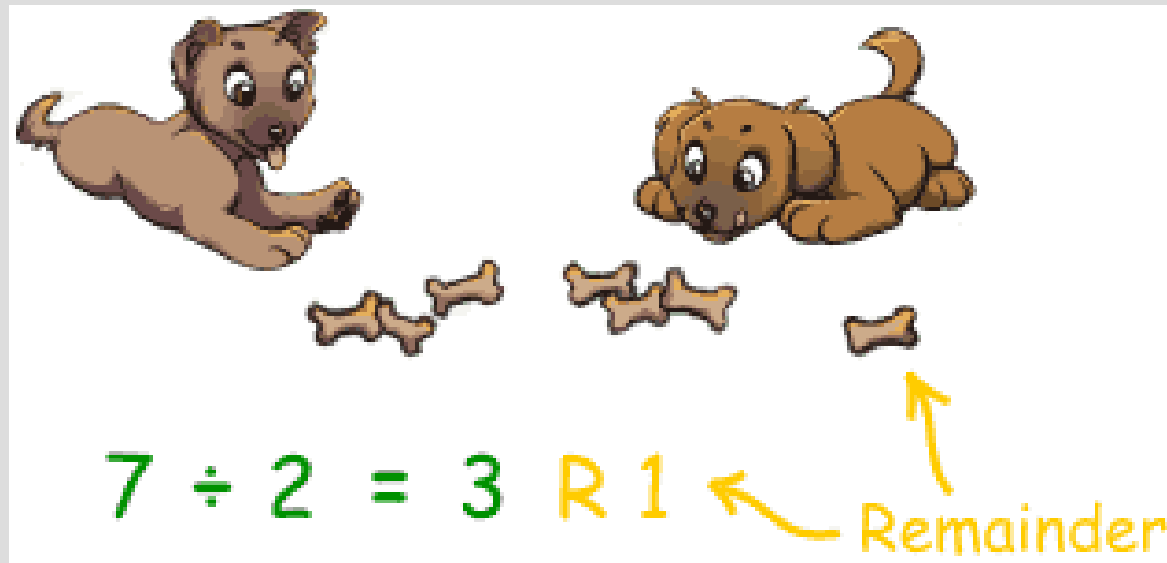
See: simpleDivision.cpp

Can be fixed by making one a double:

$1/2.0$

or

`static_cast<double>(1)/2`



# Constants

You can also make a “constant” by adding `const` before the type

This will only let you set the value once

```
const double myPI = 3.14;  
myPI = 7.23; // unhappy computer!
```

# Functions

Functions allow you to reuse pieces of code (either your own or someone else's)

Every function has a return type, specifically the type of object returned

`sqrt(2)` returns a double, as the number will probably have a fractional part

The “2” is an argument to the `sqrt` function

# Functions

Functions can return **void**, to imply they return nothing (you should not use this in an assignment operation)

The return type is found right before the functions name/identifier.

**int** main() { ... means main returns an **int** type, which is why we always write **return** 0 and not **return** 'a' (there is no char main())

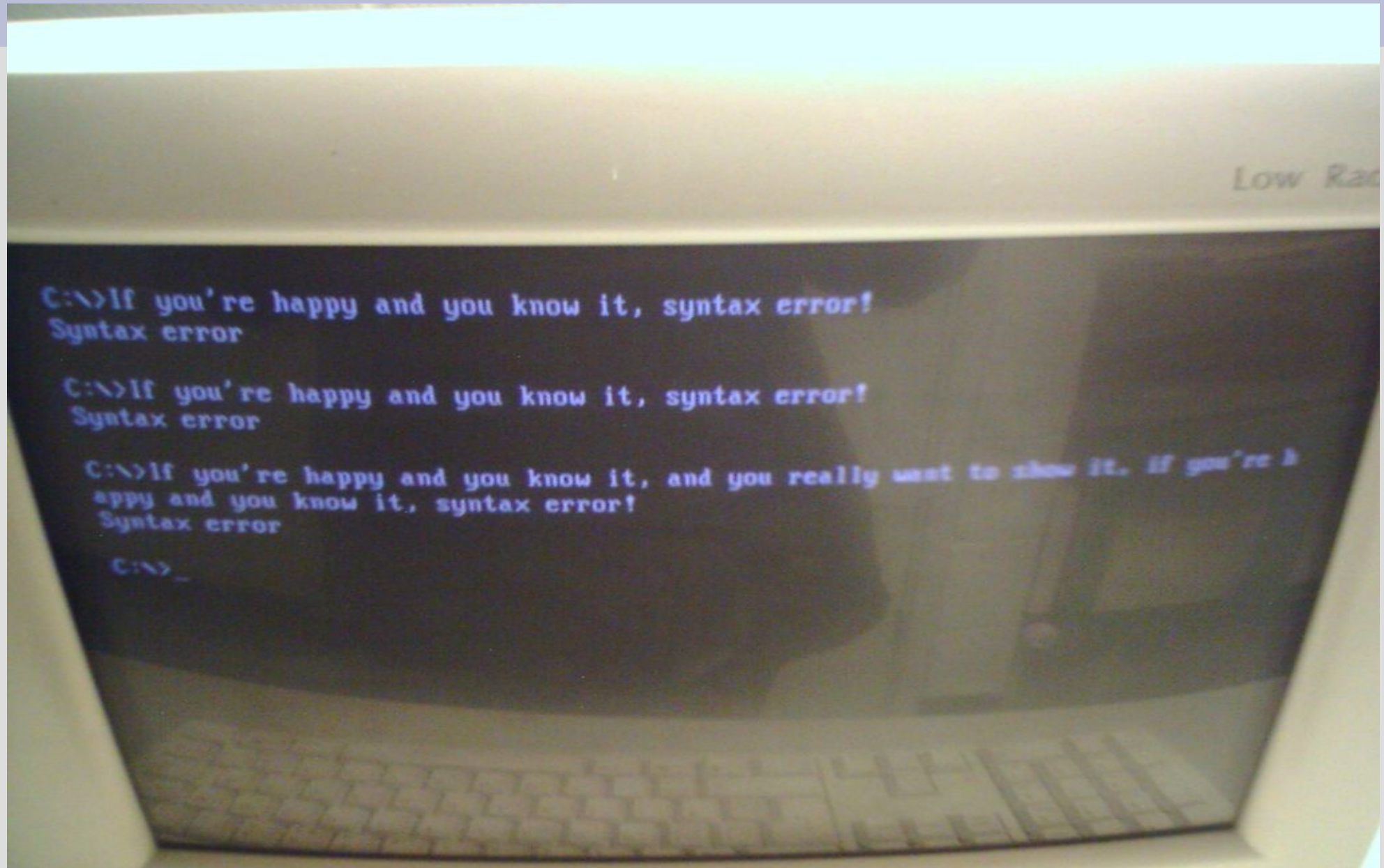
# Functions

A wide range of math functions are inside `<cmath>` (get it by `#include <cmath>`; at top)

We can use these functions to compute Snell's Law for refraction angle

(See: `math.cpp`)

# Input and output





# Strings and input

char can only hold a single letter/number,  
but one way to hold multiple is a string

```
string str;  
cin >> str;
```

The above will only pull one word,  
to get all words (until enter key) use:

```
getline(cin, str);    (See: stringInput.cpp)
```

# More Output

When showing **doubles** with cout, you can change how they are shown

For example, to show a number as dollars and cents, you would type (before cout):

```
cout.setf(ios::fixed);  
cout.setf(ios::showpoint);  
cout.precision(2);
```

# More Output

There are two ways to get output to move down a line: endl and “\n”

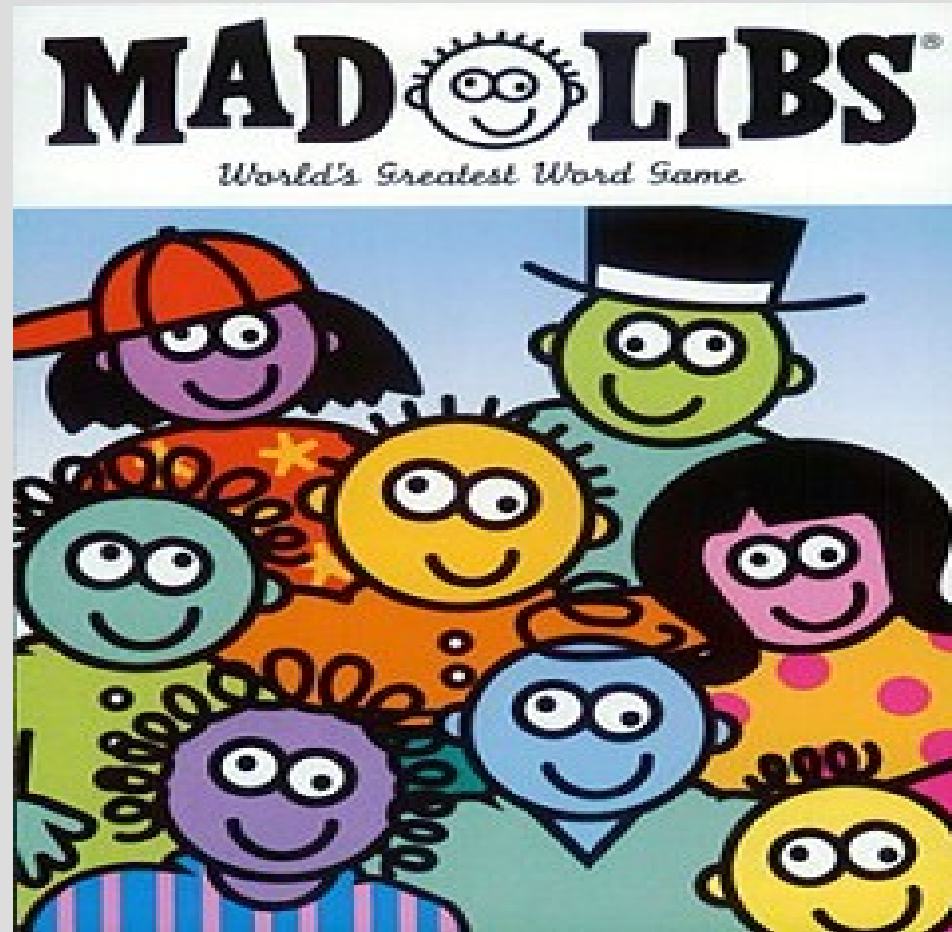
```
cout << endl;
```

... is the same as...

```
cout << “\n”
```

I will use both when coding

# Madlibs



(see: `madlibs.cpp`)

# bool

bool - either **true** or **false**

You have the common math comparisons:

> (greater than), e.g.  $7 > 2.5$  is **true**

== (equals), e.g.  $5 == 4$  is **false**

<= (less than or eq), e.g.  $1 <= 1$  is **true**

If you cout this, “false” will be 0  
and “true” will be 1 (anything non-zero is T)

# Double trouble!



(See: `doubleCompare.cpp`)

# Double trouble!

When comparing **doubles**, you should use `fabs` to see if relative error is small:

$$\text{fabs}((x-y)/x) < 10\text{E-}10$$

(**double** has about 16 digits of accuracy so you could go to 10E-15 if you want)

For comparing Strings, use: (0 if same)  
`string1.compare(string2)`