

C++ Basics



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

A black and white line drawing of a woman with short, wavy hair, smiling and looking upwards and to the right. She is holding a glass of water in her right hand. The drawing is in a classic, slightly caricatured style.

Announcements

Lab 1 this week!

Homework posted Thursday

-Due next Thursday at 11:55pm

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`

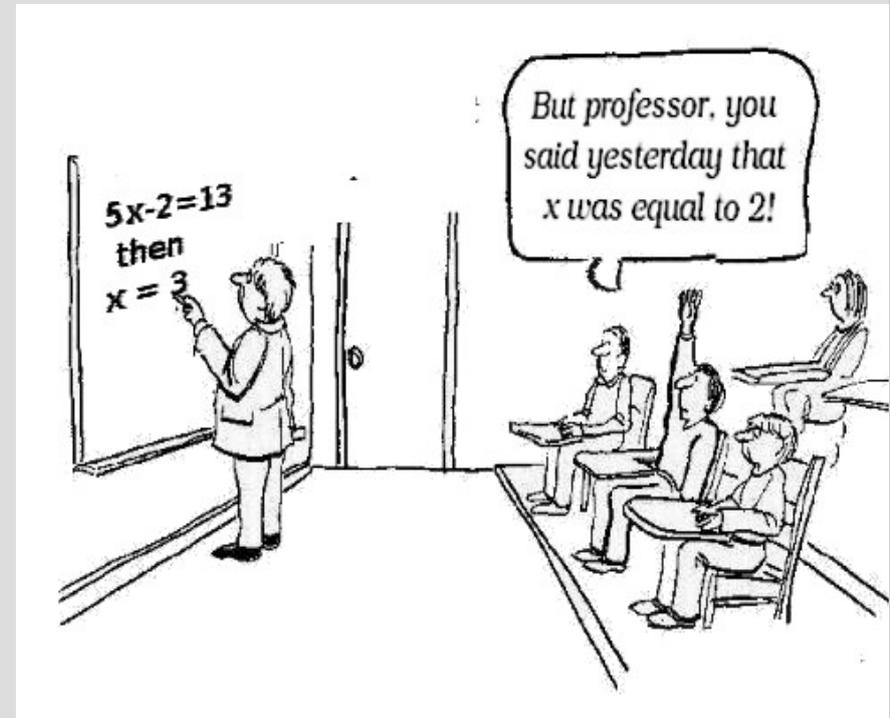
Assignment operator

= 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;
```

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:

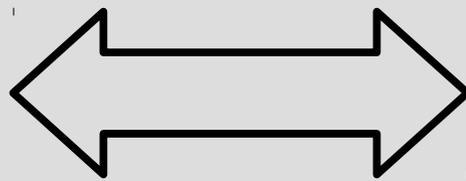
variable (operator)= expression

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;`

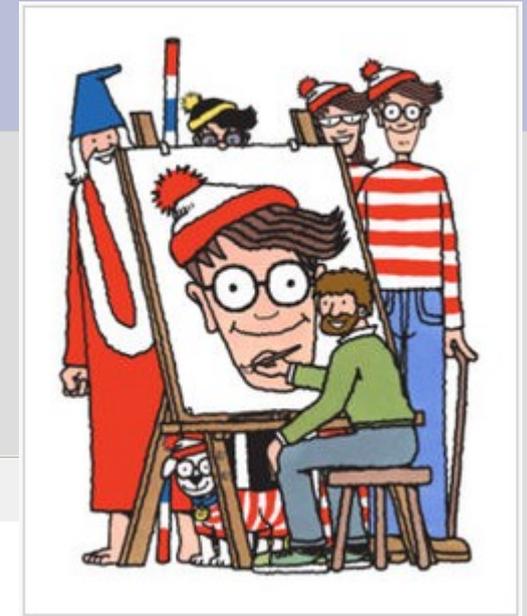
type

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%~~

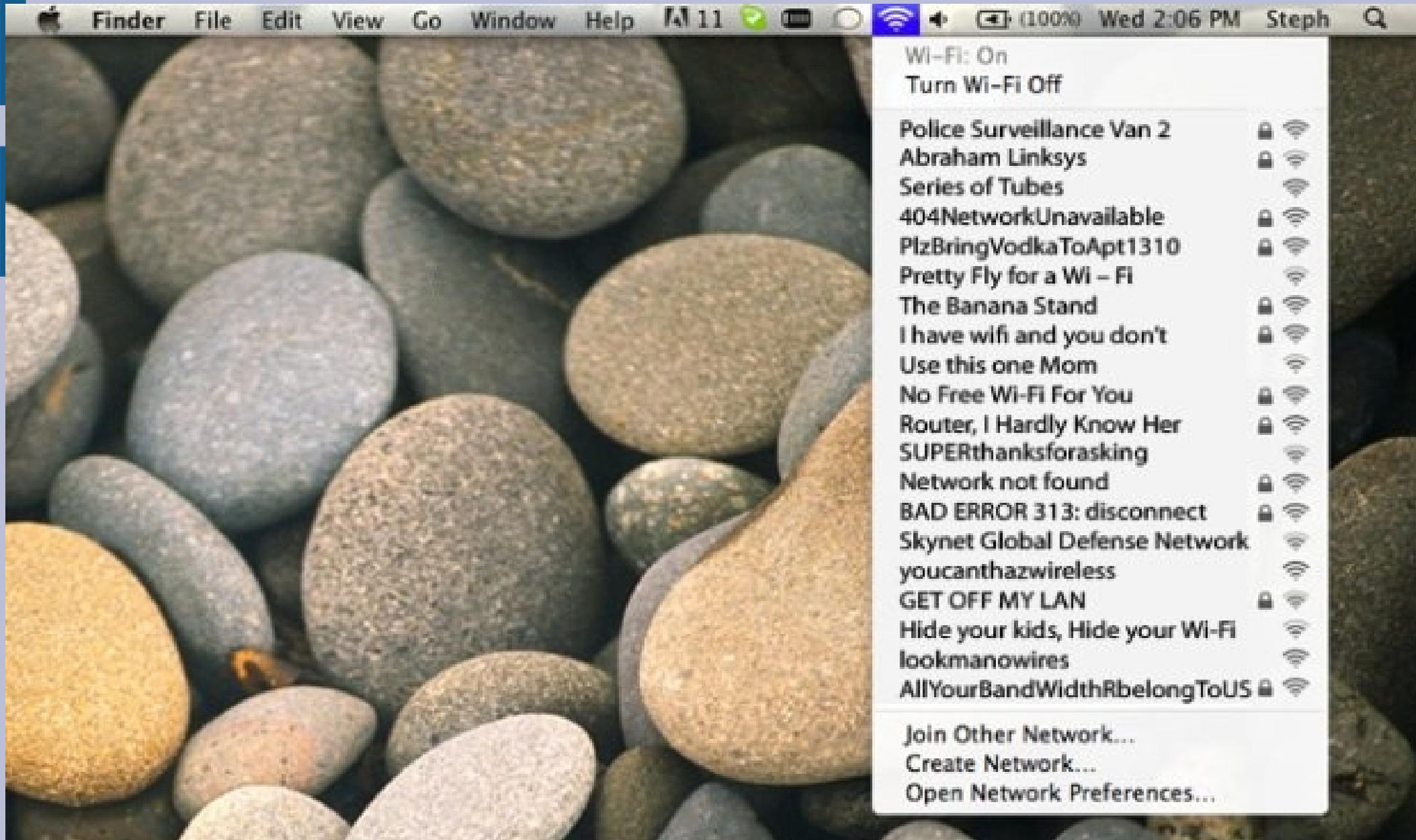
~~9) x 1~~

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

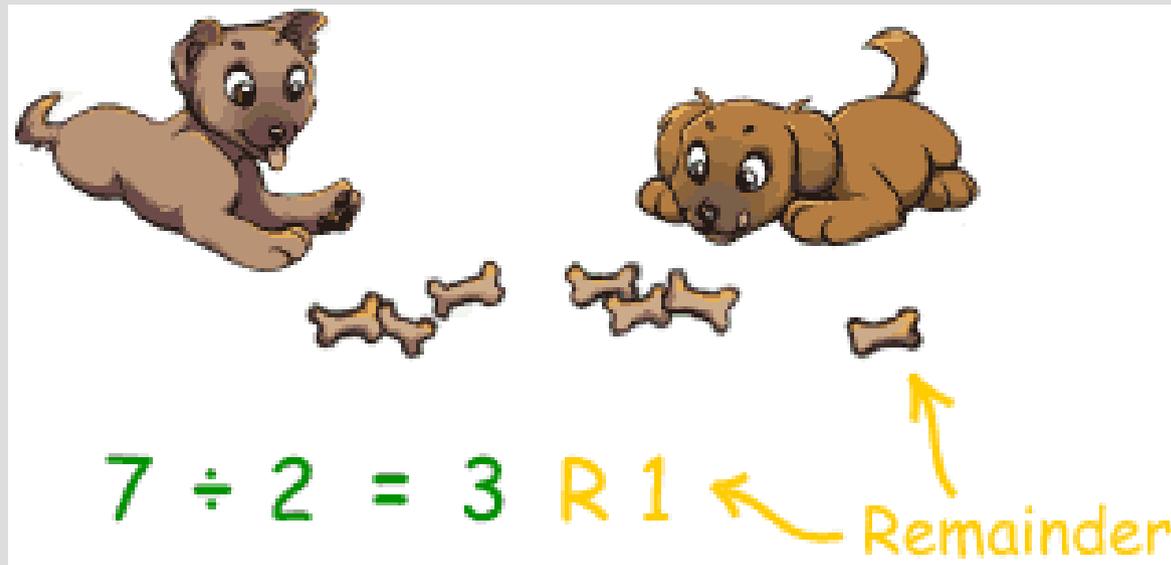
See: simpleDivision.cpp

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())

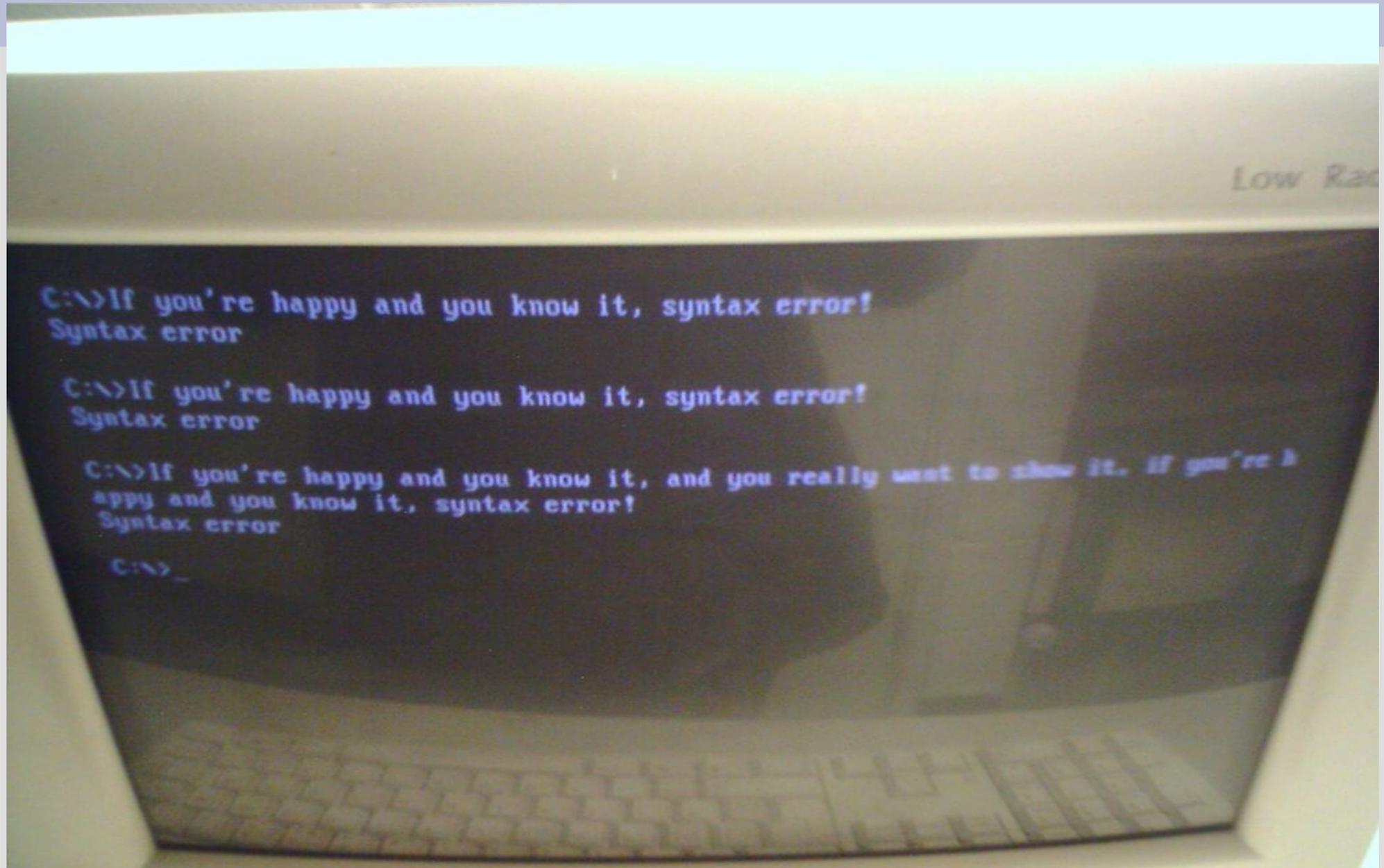
Functions

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”

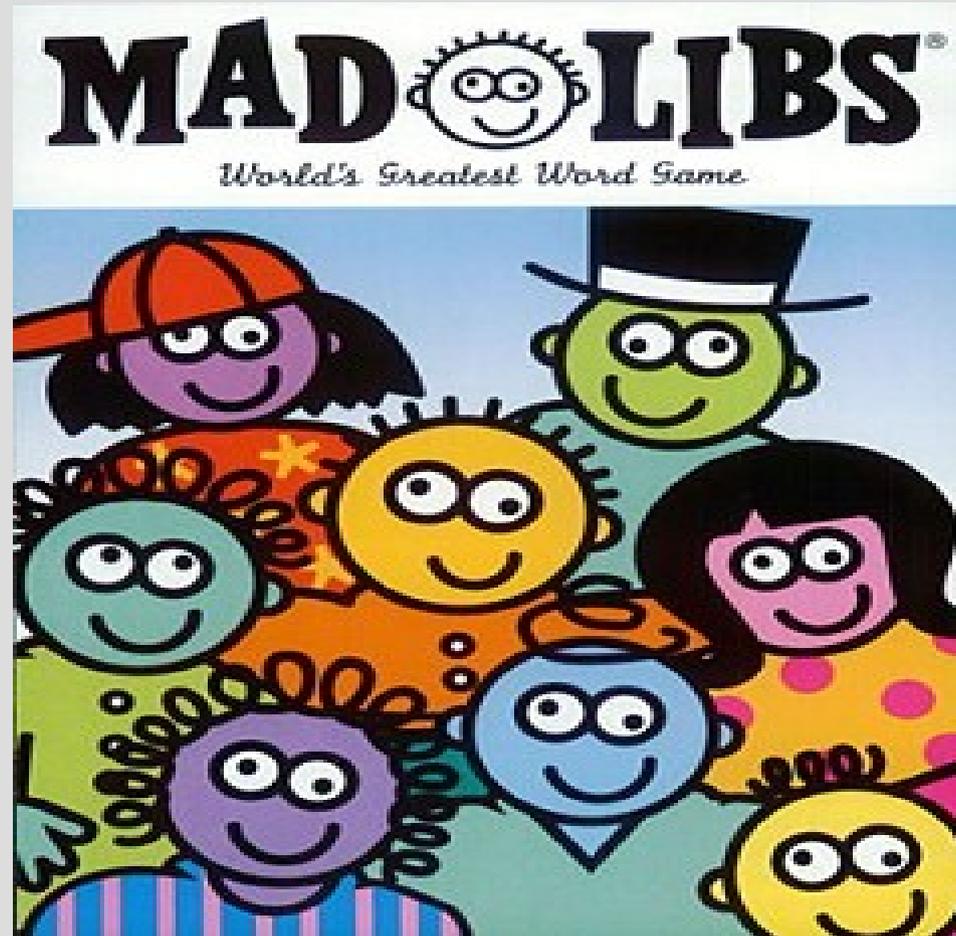
```
cout << endl;
```

... is the same as...

```
cout << “\n”
```

I will use both when coding

Madlibs



(see: `madlibs.cpp`)

bool

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

We will use the following today:

> (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 statement

Code inside an if statement is only run if the condition is true.

Need parenthesis
(no semi-colon)

```
if(guess == random0to9)
{
    cout << "Correct, here is a cookie!\n";
}
```

Indent

(See: numberGuessing.cpp)

if/else statement

Immediately after an if statement, you can make an else statement

If the “if statement” does not run, then the else statement will

If you do not surround your code with braces only one line will be in the if (and/or else) statement

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)`

Loop

Often we want to do a (similar) command more than once

Computer programmers call this code a loop

Loops are quite powerful and are very commonly used

while loop

A while loop tests a **bool** expression and will run until that expression is **false**

```
while (i < 10)
{
    // looped code
    // variable i should change in here
}
```

bool exp.



(See: whileLoop.cpp)

while loop

The **bool** expression is tested when first entering the while loop

And!

When the end of the loop code is reached (the } to close the loop)

```
int i = 0;
while (i < 5) {
    cout << "Looping, i = " << i << "\n";
    i++;
}
cout << "Outside the loop, i = " << i << "\n";
```

while loop

3 parts to any (good) loop:

- Test variable initialized

```
i=0;
```

- **bool** expression

```
while (i < 10)
```

- Test variable updated inside loop

```
i++;
```

do-while loop

A do-while loop is similar to a normal while loop, **except** the **bool** expression is only tested at the end of the loop (not at the start)

```
8   cout << "How many times do you want to run the loop?\n";
9   cin >> i; // what happens if i is less than 1?
10  do {
11      cout << "Looping, i = " << i << "\n";
12      i--;
13  } while (i > 0); ← Note semicolon!
14  cout << "Outside the loop, i = " << i << "\n";
```

(See: doWhile.cpp)

do-while loop

Q: Why would I ever want a do-while loop?

A: When the first time the variable is set is inside the loop.

You can initialize the variable correctly and use a normal while loop, but this makes the logic harder

Semi-colons

When to put semi-colons?

You put semi colons after every statement, except if you (should) start a block

Blocks should start after functions, if-statements and loops, thus these should not have semi colons after them