Let’s start by looking at our first program.

On the top, there is a comment. A comment is description about the program. A comment starts with slash followed by asterisk; the comment ends with asterisk followed by slash.

You can also start a line of comment by using slash slash.

The next two lines include header files. A C program does not exist in isolation. Instead, a C program needs many things already defined and implemented for ALL C programs. Before using the pre-defined information from the C language, a program has to include the relevant header files.

This program needs two header files: S T D I O dot H. and S T D L I B dot H.

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The first one means standard input and output.

The second one means standard library.

S T D I O dot H declares a commonly used function called print F.

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S T D L I B dot H defines a symbol EXIT SUCCESS.

The starting point of a C program is the special function called M. A. I. N.

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This function returns an integer. Thus, before M. A. I. N., we add I. N. T. for the integer.

The integer's value can be EXIT SUCCESS or EXIT FAILURE.

The main function needs two arguments. The first is an integer and the second is a character star star.

Their names, by convention, are A. R. G. C. and A. R. G. Vee.

Do not change the names. Everyone uses A. R. G. C. and A. R. G. Vee.

I will explain these arguments in a later lecture.

The first argument, A R G C, means the number of arguments. Here, C means count.

The second argument, A R G Vee, means the values of arguments. Here, Vee means value.

Each function in a C program must be enclosed by a pair of braces.

Inside the main function, the first statement uses the print F function to print "Hello C". Here F. means formatting. Print F. allows you to format the output in several different ways.

The ending slash n means adding a new line at the end of the message.

The main function ends with return EXIT SUCCESS, meaning that the program has successfully done its job. Since this function is extremely simple, we assume it always succeeds. In some examples later, we will see situations when the programs cannot do their work and have to return EXIT FAILURE.

The main function is the starting point of the program. When the main function returns, the program terminates.