

More on Conditionals

9-29-2003

Opening Discussion

- What did we talk about last class?
- Do you have any questions about the assignment?
- Last minute essay answer. Don't be print happy.

```
if(age<30) {  
    rate=age*0.1;  
}  
if(age>20 && age <50) {  
    rate=rate+age*0.05;  
}
```

Nested if/else Statements

- In C, you can have all types of nesting of structures. Expressions contain other expressions and the statements in an if block can include other if blocks.
- This can happen arbitrarily deep, but beyond a certain point you have to worry about the understandability of your code.
- There are a number of times when and if statement will be the only one in an else block.

Tertiary Operator

- Earlier I mentioned an operator that took three arguments. The syntax is like this:

```
(condition)?(val1):(val2)
/* parenthesis not required */
```

- This is basically like a tiny if/else statement in one expression. The first argument is a conditional, the second is the value of the expression if it is true and the third is the value if it is false.

The switch Statement

- The other conditional statement in C is the switch statement. This is useful when you are selecting between several possible values of an integer expression. Keep in mind that characters are integers.

```
switch(intExpression) {
    case m: statements; break;
    case n: statements; break;
    default: statements;
}
```

The Role of break

- The code in a case doesn't have to be all on one line. The break keyword tell the program to jump to the end of the block (where the '}' is).
- If a case doesn't end with a break or a return (more on that later) execution will "fall through" to the next case. This needs to be well commented because it is a common source of errors.

Debugging and Types of Bugs

- No matter how hard you try, you are very likely to write errors into your code. These are called bugs for historical reasons. Unlike the first bug though, yours can all be blamed on you.
 - Syntax errors - Simplest to find because the compiler tells you. Leaving out a ';' or a ')' are examples.
 - Runtime Errors - The program compiles, but crashes when you run it. Typically the crash happens where the error is and a debugger can give you a line.
 - Logic Errors - Programs compiles and runs, but the output is not correct. It's completely up to you to figure out what went wrong.

A Side Note #define

- We have seen the #include preprocessor directive, now we will introduce another one, the #define directive.
- Code matching the define is replaced with what follows it before compile.

```
#define CONSTANT 10  
#define MIN(x,y) ((x)<(y))?(x):(y)
```

Example Code

- For our code today we will write the wage calculator code and then do another recursive function, the factorial. We can also look at another way to have our program count up.

Minute Essay

- In what situations might you choose to use a switch statement instead of if/else statements?
- Read Chapter 6 for next class.
- Assignment #3 is due on Wednesday.
