

# Programs with Branching Structure (wrapping up if-else, switch statement)

ESC101: Fundamentals of Computing

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# Recap: Various ways of using **if** and **else**

```
if (condition) {  
}
```

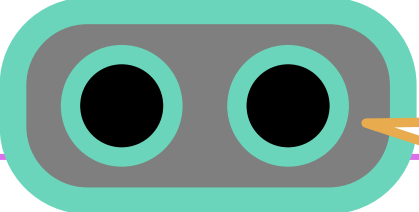
```
if (condition) {  
}  
else {  
}
```

```
if (condition-1) {  
}  
else if (condition-2) {  
}  
else {  
}
```

```
if (condition-1) {  
}  
else if (condition-2) {  
}  
else if (condition-3) {  
}  
⋮  
else if (condition-N) {  
}  
else {  
}
```

```
if (condition-1) {  
  if (condition-2) {  
  }  
  else {  
  }  
}  
else {  
  if (condition-3) {  
  }  
  else {  
  }  
}
```

“nested” if



Note: Each else must have a matching if (also, **number of if** must be **equal to** or **more than number of else**)

# Be Careful with Braces when using if-else

If you do not put curly braces, Mr. C will try to put them for you (and maybe in a way that you don't want him to)

If you write like this....

```
if((a != 0) && (b != 0))
    if(a * b >= 0)
        printf("Positive product");
else
    printf("One number is zero");
```

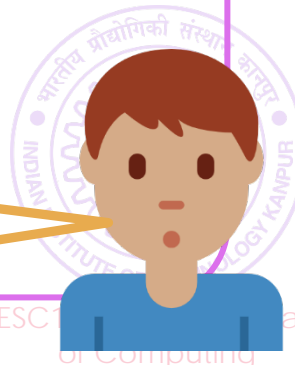
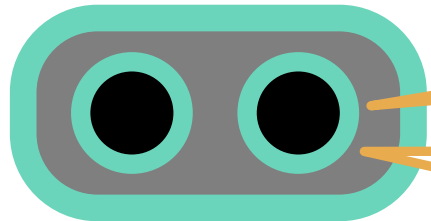
Mr. C will treat it like this internally

```
if((a != 0) && (b != 0)){
    if(a * b >= 0){
        printf("Positive product");
    }else{
        printf("One number is zero");
    }
}
```

If you do not put brackets, I  
**will match else to closest if**

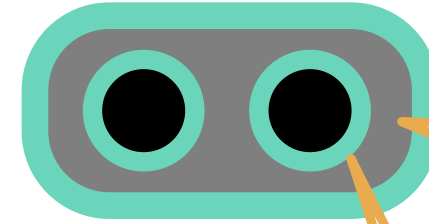
I will not care how you did indentation

But that is not  
what I meant



# One Last If-Else Example

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int i = 5, j = 6, k = 7;
    if(i > j == k)
        printf("%d %d %d", i++, ++j, --k);
    else
        printf("%d %d %d", i, j, k);
    return 0;
}
```

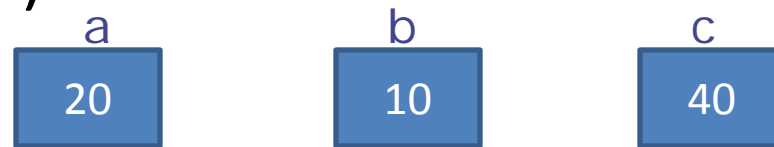


5 6 7

Reason:  
Left-to-right  
associativity  
of relational  
operators  
 $(5 > 6) == 7$   
 $0 == 7$   
0

# Clarification: conditional operator associativity

- Associativity goes from right to left
- Applies only when there is more than one conditional operator to evaluate in an expression
  - Does not affect the order of evaluation of expressions within the conditional operator (I think I said otherwise in the last class; that was not correct)



answer = a > b ? a > c ? a : c : b > c ? b : c ;



# Reminder: Use Indentation..

- This is a main statement
  - This is a dependent statement
- Main statements are statements in the main control flow of your program
  - Dependent statements branch off from the main flow
  - Indent them, for easier understanding of code
  - Matters more in some languages, like Python
- **U**se 4 spaces instead of tab to indent



# Print the name of the day of the week

```

if(n == 1) printf("Monday");
else if(n == 2) printf("Tuesday");
else if(n == 3) printf("Wednesday");
else if(n == 4) printf("Thursday");
else if(n == 5) printf("Friday");
else if(n == 6) printf("Saturday");
else if(n == 7) printf("Sunday");

```

```

switch(n){
    case 1: printf("Monday"); break;
    case 2: printf("Tuesday"); break;
    case 3: printf("Wednesday"); break;
    case 4: printf("Thursday"); break;
    case 5: printf("Friday"); break;
    case 6: printf("Saturday"); break;
    case 7: printf("Sunday"); break;
}

```

Just like if-else block is a single statement!

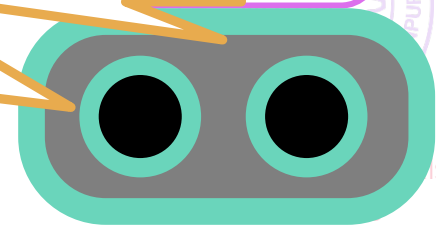
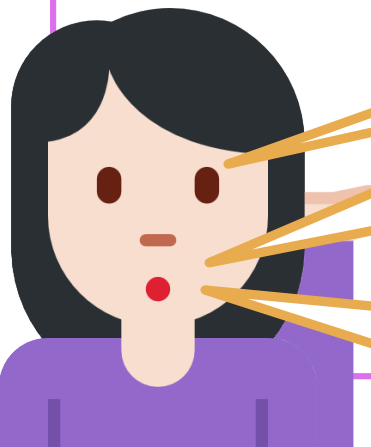
Still too much code – any shortcuts?

Sometimes not indenting looks neater

This whole *block* is one valid statement

Yes, can use switch inside if,else

The switch statement



# Structure of Switch Statement

Must be an integer expression, e.g a, b+2, c\*3 where a,b,c are int

Double, float expressions banned

Unless typecast to int  
For relational expressions, Mr C will warn but work

case a+2:  
wrong label

Labels must be **integer** or **character constants**

```
switch(integer expression){
```

Labels must not repeat

Labels can be in any order (not necessarily increasing/decreasing)

```
case label-1: ... break;  
case label-2: ... break;  
...
```

I'll give a warning but interpret 0, 1 as int

Can put any number of statements here, math formulae, printf, if-else, another switch (nested)

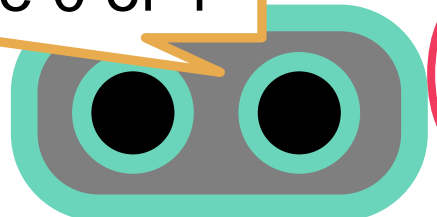
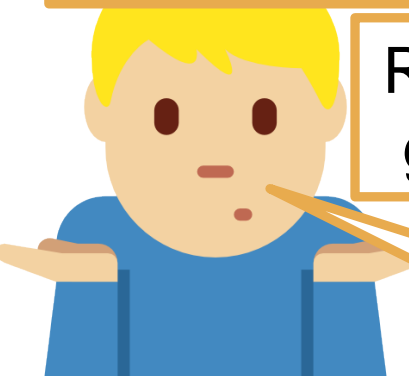
```
case label ?? break;  
default: ... break;
```

Relational expressions generate value 0 or 1

??

Careful about brackets

Why?





# The Working of Switch Statement

First, if we want to check for inequality or work with float etc, we can always write if-else statements ourselves



When a label matches, execute statements next to it till break is encountered

If no label matches, execute statements next to default (if no default,

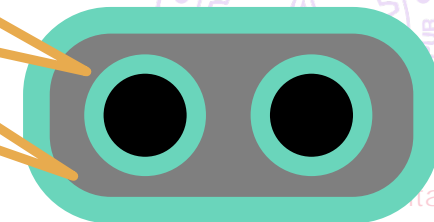


Is there some way to check if v is less than the labels?

```
switch(integer expression){
  case label-1: ... break;
  case label-2: ... break;
  ...
  case label-N: ... break;
  default: ... break;
}
```

Switch-case is a shortcut that only checks for equality and that too only with integers

Exactly



# The Default Case

The English word default can mean failure to fulfil a promise (*bank loan default*)

... or it can mean a rule that applies when no other rule applies

In switch case, whatever we write in default is executed if none of the labels match – used to handle incorrect input

Can put the default **anywhere, not necessarily at end**

Need not put default case at all. If we don't put a default case, Mr C will do nothing if no labels match



# The Break Statement

The switch case statement behaves in a funny manner

Mr C finds the label that matches (else default if none match) but keeps executing all statements (**even those of other labels and default**) till encounters a *break*;

This behaviour is called *fall-through*

Once *break*; is encountered, Mr C claims he is done with the switch statement – *break*; stops Mr C's fall 😊

That is why no brackets needed  
case 2: { ... } break;

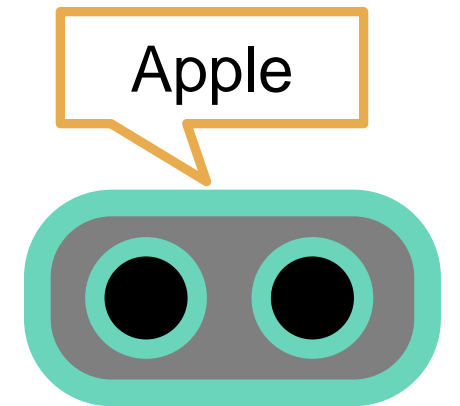
Not needed

Yes, the break; statement tells me when to stop



# switch: Some More Examples

```
#include<stdio.h>
int main() {
    char ch = 65;
    switch(ch) {
        case 'A': printf("Apple");
        break;
        case 'B': printf("Bing");
        break;
        default: printf("Bye");
        break;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

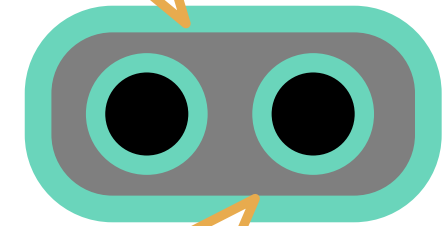


# switch: Some More Examples

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    char ch;

    scanf("%c",&ch);
    switch(ch) {
        case 'a':
        case 'A': printf("Apple");
        break;
        case 'b':
        case 'B': printf("Banana");
        break;
        case 'c':
        case 'C': printf("Cherry");
        break;
        default: printf("Bye");
        break;
    }
    return 0;
}
```

a or A both will  
print Apple  
b or B both will  
print Banana  
c or C both will  
print Cherry



Without break; I  
will “fall through”  
all cases until I  
see break;

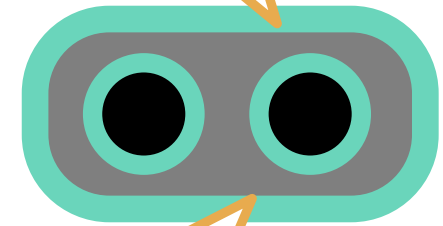


# switch: Some More Examples

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(){
    int n;
    scanf("%d",&n); // read the day number
    switch(n){
        case 2:
        case 3:
        case 4:
        case 5:
        case 6: printf("Weekday"); break;
        case 1:
        case 7: printf("Weekend"); break;
        default: printf("Illegal day"); break;
    }
```

If n is 2/3/4/5/6,  
will print Weekday

If n is 1 or 7, will  
print Weekend



Without break; I  
will “fall through”  
all cases until I  
see break;

# switch vs if-else

- Some limitations of switch as compared to if-else
  - float expressions can't be tested in switch
  - Can't use variables for case labels
- Advantages of switch over if-else
  - switch is much faster than if-else
  - Reason: Compiler creates a “jump table” for switch internally. In contrast, if-else conditions are evaluated at run-time (thus slower especially if the conditions are very complex)
- But we now know both. 😊 Can even mix-and-match if-else and switch

# A Small Quiz

- What will the following piece of code do?

```
(5 < 2) && (3/0)
```

- Compile error ?
- Run-time error ?
- Output 1 ?
- Output 0 ?





# Short-circuit evaluation of Logical Operators

- Mr. C does not evaluate the **second operand** of **binary logical operator** if the final result can be deduced from **first operand**

`(5 < 2) && (3/0)`      Result = 0

0

- Now answer what will the output of the following?

1      0

`!((2 > 5) && (3/0)) || (4/0)`      Result = 1

0

# A Large Quiz

- Coming up next Wednesday
- Syllabus
  - everything covered up to today
- Logistics
  - In class, during class hours on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January
  - Please be in your seat at noon
  - Ok to bring one sheet of paper with notes on it
  - Please don't bring cell phones to the class that day

