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"If you act too quickly, you might make a mistake."

main() and Mistakes

Many people mishandle the `main()` function. You can avoid such mishandling by setting your compiler to ANSI C standard so that it will point out the error.

5.1 What `main()` returns?

`main()` should return 0 or 1. If it returns 0 to the operation system, the operating system will understand that the program is successfully executed. If it returns 1, the operating system will understand that the program is terminated with error. So `main()` *should not* be declared as `void`.

`main()` should be declared as

```
int main( void )
{
    :
    :
    return ( 0 ); /* or return( EXIT_SUCCESS ); */
}
```

5.2 Arguments of `main()`

`main()` should be declared without any arguments or with two arguments:

- a) `int main(void)`
- or
- b) `int main(int argc, char *argv[])`

5.3 `exit()`

The statement `exit()` also returns values to the operating system as the `return()` in `main()`. The `exit` takes only two values 0 and 1. (Many people use `exit(2)`, `exit(3)`... All these are wrong!)

So `exit` should be used as:

- a) For normal termination `exit(0);` or `exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);`
- b) For abnormal termination `exit(1);` or `exit(EXIT_FAILURE);`