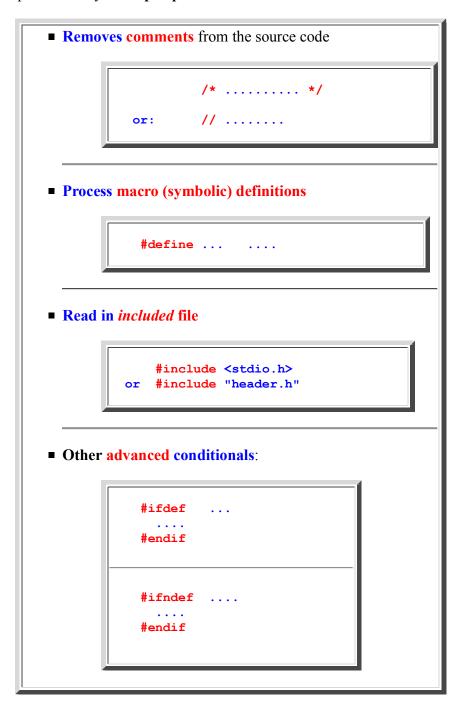
## Intro to the C pre-processor

- C pre-processor
  - Before invoking the C compiler, the C programming language system will always invoke a



to process the program source code.

• Tasks performed by the C pre-processor:



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## • Comments in C

It used to be that C only have multi-line comments enclosed between the pairs of "brackets" /\*
 ... \*/:

```
/* ....
.... */
```

• Examples:

```
/* This is a comment in a C program */

/*

* This is an another comment

* in a C program

*/
```

• A later revision C99 in 1999 of the C programming language has added the C++ style comment:

```
// This is now allowed as comment
```

 $\circ\,$  The C pre-processor will remove all comments.

## Demo:

```
This is a Comment (will generate syntax error !)

int main( int argc, char* argv[] )
```

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```
printf( "Hello World !\n" );

using this command:

gcc -E comment.c
```

• Result:

```
# 1 "comment.c"
# 1 ""
# 1 ""
# 1 "comment.c"

This is a NOT comment (will generate syntax error !)

int main( int argc, char* argv[] )
{
    printf( "Hello World !\n" );
}
```

• Example Program: (Demo above code)



■ Prog file: <u>click here</u>

## How to run the program:

- Right click on link and save in a scratch directory
- To compile: gcc -E comment.c
- Look at the output on the terminal....

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