
Appendix A

Grammar

*There is no worse danger for a teacher
than to teach words instead of things.
– Marc Block*

Introduction — keywords — lexical conventions — programs — expressions — statements — declarations — declarators — classes — derived classes — special member functions — overloading — templates — exception handling — preprocessing directives.

A.1 Introduction

This summary of C++ syntax is intended to be an aid to comprehension. It is not an exact statement of the language. In particular, the grammar described here accepts a superset of valid C++ constructs. Disambiguation rules (§A.5, §A.7) must be applied to distinguish expressions from declarations. Moreover, access control, ambiguity, and type rules must be used to weed out syntactically valid but meaningless constructs.

The C and C++ standard grammars express very minor distinctions syntactically rather than through constraints. That gives precision, but it doesn't always improve readability.

A.2 Keywords

New context-dependent keywords are introduced into a program by *typedef* (§4.9.7), namespace (§8.2), class (Chapter 10), enumeration (§4.8), and *template* (Chapter 13) declarations.

*typedef-name:
identifier*

```

namespace-name:
  original-namespace-name
  namespace-alias

original-namespace-name:
  identifier

namespace-alias:
  identifier

class-name:
  identifier
  template-id

enum-name:
  identifier

template-name:
  identifier

```

Note that a *typedef-name* naming a class is also a *class-name*.

Unless an identifier is explicitly declared to name a type, it is assumed to name something that is not a type (see §C.13.5).

The C++ keywords are:

C++ Keywords					
<i>and</i>	<i>and_eq</i>	<i>asm</i>	<i>auto</i>	<i>bitand</i>	<i>bitor</i>
<i>bool</i>	<i>break</i>	<i>case</i>	<i>catch</i>	<i>char</i>	<i>class</i>
<i>compl</i>	<i>const</i>	<i>const_cast</i>	<i>continue</i>	<i>default</i>	<i>delete</i>
<i>do</i>	<i>double</i>	<i>dynamic_cast</i>	<i>else</i>	<i>enum</i>	<i>explicit</i>
<i>export</i>	<i>extern</i>	<i>false</i>	<i>float</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>friend</i>
<i>goto</i>	<i>if</i>	<i>inline</i>	<i>int</i>	<i>long</i>	<i>mutable</i>
<i>namespace</i>	<i>new</i>	<i>not</i>	<i>not_eq</i>	<i>operator</i>	<i>or</i>
<i>or_eq</i>	<i>private</i>	<i>protected</i>	<i>public</i>	<i>register</i>	<i>reinterpret_cast</i>
<i>return</i>	<i>short</i>	<i>signed</i>	<i>sizeof</i>	<i>static</i>	<i>static_cast</i>
<i>struct</i>	<i>switch</i>	<i>template</i>	<i>this</i>	<i>throw</i>	<i>true</i>
<i>try</i>	<i>typedef</i>	<i>typeid</i>	<i>typename</i>	<i>union</i>	<i>unsigned</i>
<i>using</i>	<i>virtual</i>	<i>void</i>	<i>volatile</i>	<i>wchar_t</i>	<i>while</i>
<i>xor</i>	<i>xor_eq</i>				

A.3 Lexical Conventions

The standard C and C++ grammars present lexical conventions as grammar productions. This adds precision but also makes for large grammars and doesn't always increase readability:

```

hex-quad:
  hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit hexadecimal-digit

```

```

universal-character-name:
  \u hex-quad
  \U hex-quad hex-quad

preprocessing-token:
  header-name
  identifier
  pp-number
  character-literal
  string-literal
  preprocessing-op-or-punc
  each non-white-space character that cannot be one of the above

token:
  identifier
  keyword
  literal
  operator
  punctuator

header-name:
  <h-char-sequence>
  "q-char-sequence"

h-char-sequence:
  h-char
  h-char-sequence h-char

h-char:
  any member of the source character set except new-line and >

q-char-sequence:
  q-char
  q-char-sequence q-char

q-char:
  any member of the source character set except new-line and "

pp-number:
  digit
  . digit
  pp-number digit
  pp-number nondigit
  pp-number e sign
  pp-number E sign
  pp-number .

identifier:
  nondigit
  identifier nondigit
  identifier digit

```

nondigit: one of

universal-character-name

_	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	

digit: one of

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

preprocessing-op-or-punc: one of

{	}	[]	#	##	()	<:	:	>	<%	%>	%::
%:	;	:	?	::	.	.*	+	-	*	/	%	^	
&		~	!	=	<	>	+=	-=	*=	/=	%=	^=	
&=	=	<<=	>>=	<<	>>	==	!=	<=	>=	&&		++	
--	,	>->	->*	...	new	delete	and	and_eq	xor	or_eq	xor_eq		
bitor	compl	not	or	not_eq									

literal:

integer-literal

character-literal

floating-literal

string-literal

boolean-literal

integer-literal:

decimal-literal integer-suffix_{opt}

octal-literal integer-suffix_{opt}

hexadecimal-literal integer-suffix_{opt}

decimal-literal:

nonzero-digit

decimal-literal digit

octal-literal:

0

octal-literal octal-digit

hexadecimal-literal:

0x *hexadecimal-digit*

0X *hexadecimal-digit*

hexadecimal-literal hexadecimal-digit

nonzero-digit: one of

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

octal-digit: one of

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

hexadecimal-digit: one of

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

a	b	c	d	e	f
---	---	---	---	---	---

A	B	C	D	E	F
---	---	---	---	---	---

```

integer-suffix:
  unsigned-suffix long-suffixopt
  long-suffix unsigned-suffixopt

unsigned-suffix: one of
  u   U

long-suffix: one of
  l   L

character-literal:
  'c-char-sequence'
  L'c-char-sequence'

c-char-sequence:
  c-char
  c-char-sequence c-char

c-char:
  any member of the source character set except the single-quote, backslash, or new-line character
  escape-sequence
  universal-character-name

escape-sequence:
  simple-escape-sequence
  octal-escape-sequence
  hexadecimal-escape-sequence

simple-escape-sequence: one of
  \'  \"  \?  \\  \a  \b  \f  \n  \r  \t  \v

octal-escape-sequence:
  \ octal-digit
  \ octal-digit octal-digit
  \ octal-digit octal-digit octal-digit

hexadecimal-escape-sequence:
  \x hexadecimal-digit
  hexadecimal-escape-sequence hexadecimal-digit

floating-literal:
  fractional-constant exponent-partopt floating-suffixopt
  digit-sequence exponent-part floating-suffixopt

fractional-constant:
  digit-sequenceopt . digit-sequence
  digit-sequence .

exponent-part:
  e signopt digit-sequence
  E signopt digit-sequence

sign: one of
  +
  -

```

```

digit-sequence:
    digit
    digit-sequence digit

floating-suffix: one of
    f   l   F   L

string-literal:
    " s-char-sequenceopt "
    L" s-char-sequenceopt "

s-char-sequence:
    s-char
    s-char-sequence s-char

s-char:
    any member of the source character set except double-quote, backslash , or new-line
    escape-sequence
    universal-character-name

boolean-literal:
    false
    true

```

A.4 Programs

A program is a collection of *translation-units* combined through linking (§9.4). A *translation-unit*, often called a *source file*, is a sequence of *declarations*:

```

translation-unit:
    declaration-seqopt

```

A.5 Expressions

See §6.2.

```

primary-expression:
    literal
    this
    :: identifier
    :: operator-function-id
    :: qualified-id
    ( expression )
    id-expression

id-expression:
    unqualified-id
    qualified-id

```

```

id-expression:
  unqualified-id
  qualified-id

unqualified-id:
  identifier
  operator-function-id
  conversion-function-id
  ~ class-name
  template-id

qualified-id:
  nested-name-specifier templateopt unqualified-id

nested-name-specifier:
  class-or-namespace-name :: nested-name-specifieropt
  class-or-namespace-name :: template nested-name-specifier

class-or-namespace-name:
  class-name
  namespace-name

postfix-expression:
  primary-expression
  postfix-expression [ expression ]
  postfix-expression ( expression-listopt )
  simple-type-specifier ( expression-listopt )
  typename ::opt nested-name-specifier identifier ( expression-listopt )
  typename ::opt nested-name-specifier templateopt template-id ( expression-listopt )
  postfix-expression . templateopt ::opt id-expression
  postfix-expression -> templateopt ::opt id-expression
  postfix-expression . pseudo-destructor-name
  postfix-expression -> pseudo-destructor-name
  postfix-expression ++
  postfix-expression --
  dynamic_cast < type-id > ( expression )
  static_cast < type-id > ( expression )
  reinterpret_cast < type-id > ( expression )
  const_cast < type-id > ( expression )
  typeid ( expression )
  typeid ( type-id )

expression-list:
  assignment-expression
  expression-list , assignment-expression

pseudo-destructor-name:
  ::opt nested-name-specifieropt type-name :: ~ type-name
  ::opt nested-name-specifier template template-id :: ~ type-name
  ::opt nested-name-specifieropt ~ type-name

```

```

unary-expression:
  postfix-expression
  ++ cast-expression
  -- cast-expression
  unary-operator cast-expression
  sizeof unary-expression
  sizeof ( type-id )
  new-expression
  delete-expression

unary-operator: one of
  *   &   +   -   !   ~

new-expression:
  ::opt new new-placementopt new-type-id new-initializeropt
  ::opt new new-placementopt ( type-id ) new-initializeropt

new-placement:
  ( expression-list )

new-type-id:
  type-specifier-seq new-declaratoropt

new-declarator:
  ptr-operator new-declaratoropt
  direct-new-declarator

direct-new-declarator:
  [ expression ]
  direct-new-declarator [ constant-expression ]

new-initializer:
  ( expression-listopt )

delete-expression:
  ::opt delete cast-expression
  ::opt delete [ ] cast-expression

cast-expression:
  unary-expression
  ( type-id ) cast-expression

pm-expression:
  cast-expression
  pm-expression . * cast-expression
  pm-expression -> * cast-expression

multiplicative-expression:
  pm-expression
  multiplicative-expression * pm-expression
  multiplicative-expression / pm-expression
  multiplicative-expression % pm-expression

```

additive-expression:

- multiplicative-expression*
- additive-expression + multiplicative-expression*
- additive-expression - multiplicative-expression*

shift-expression:

- additive-expression*
- shift-expression << additive-expression*
- shift-expression >> additive-expression*

relational-expression:

- shift-expression*
- relational-expression < shift-expression*
- relational-expression > shift-expression*
- relational-expression <= shift-expression*
- relational-expression >= shift-expression*

equality-expression:

- relational-expression*
- equality-expression == relational-expression*
- equality-expression != relational-expression*

and-expression:

- equality-expression*
- and-expression & equality-expression*

exclusive-or-expression:

- and-expression*
- exclusive-or-expression ^ and-expression*

inclusive-or-expression:

- exclusive-or-expression*
- inclusive-or-expression | exclusive-or-expression*

logical-and-expression:

- inclusive-or-expression*
- logical-and-expression && inclusive-or-expression*

logical-or-expression:

- logical-and-expression*
- logical-or-expression || logical-and-expression*

conditional-expression:

- logical-or-expression*
- logical-or-expression ? expression : assignment-expression*

assignment-expression:

- conditional-expression*
- logical-or-expression assignment-operator assignment-expression*

throw-expression

assignment-operator: one of

- = * = / = % = += -= >>= <<= &= ^= |=*

```

expression:
  assignment-expression
  expression , assignment-expression

constant-expression:
  conditional-expression

```

Grammar ambiguities arise from the similarity between function style casts and declarations. For example:

```

int x;
void f()
{
    char(x); // conversion of x to char or declaration of a char called x?
}

```

All such ambiguities are resolved to declarations. That is, “if it could possibly be interpreted as a declaration, it is a declaration.” For example:

```

T(a)->m;           // expression statement
T(a)++;             // expression statement

T(*e)(int(3));     // declaration
T(f)[4];            // declaration

T(a);               // declaration
T(a)=m;              // declaration
T(*b)();            // declaration
T(x),y,z=7;         // declaration

```

This disambiguation is purely syntactic. The only information used for a name is whether it is known to be a name of a type or a name of a template. If that cannot be determined, the name is assumed to name something that isn’t a template or a type.

The construct *template unqualified-id* is used to state that the *unqualified-id* is the name of a template in a context in which that cannot be deduced (see §C.13.5).

A.6 Statements

See §6.3.

```

statement:
  labeled-statement
  expression-statement
  compound-statement
  selection-statement
  iteration-statement
  jump-statement
  declaration-statement
  try-block

```

```

labeled-statement:
  identifier : statement
  case constant-expression : statement
  default : statement

expression-statement:
  expressionopt ;

compound-statement:
  { statement-seqopt }

statement-seq:
  statement
  statement-seq statement

selection-statement:
  if ( condition ) statement
  if ( condition ) statement else statement
  switch ( condition ) statement

condition:
  expression
  type-specifier-seq declarator = assignment-expression

iteration-statement:
  while ( condition ) statement
  do statement while ( expression ) ;
  for ( for-init-statement conditionopt ; expressionopt ) statement

for-init-statement:
  expression-statement
  simple-declaration

jump-statement:
  break ;
  continue ;
  return expressionopt ;
  goto identifier ;

declaration-statement:
  block-declaration

```

A.7 Declarations

The structure of declarations is described in Chapter 4, enumerations in §4.8, pointers and arrays in Chapter 5, functions in Chapter 7, namespaces in §8.2, linkage directives in §9.2.4, and storage classes in §10.4.

```

declaration-seq:
  declaration
  declaration-seq declaration

```

declaration:
 block-declaration
 function-definition
 template-declaration
 explicit-instantiation
 explicit-specialization
 linkage-specification
 namespace-definition

block-declaration:
 simple-declaration
 asm-definition
 namespace-alias-definition
 using-declaration
 using-directive

simple-declaration:
 decl-specifier-seq_{opt} *init-declarator-list_{opt}* ;

decl-specifier:
 storage-class-specifier
 type-specifier
 function-specifier
 friend
 typedef

decl-specifier-seq:
 decl-specifier-seq_{opt} *decl-specifier*

storage-class-specifier:
 auto
 register
 static
 extern
 mutable

function-specifier:
 inline
 virtual
 explicit

typedef-name:
 identifier

type-specifier:
 simple-type-specifier
 class-specifier
 enum-specifier
 elaborated-type-specifier
 cv-qualifier

```

simple-type-specifier:
  ::opt nested-name-specifieropt type-name
  ::opt nested-name-specifier templateopt template-id
  char
  wchar_t
  bool
  short
  int
  long
  signed
  unsigned
  float
  double
  void

type-name:
  class-name
  enum-name
  typedef-name

elaborated-type-specifier:
  class-key ::opt nested-name-specifieropt identifier
  enum ::opt nested-name-specifieropt identifier
  typename ::opt nested-name-specifier identifier
  typename ::opt nested-name-specifier templateopt template-id

enum-name:
  identifier

enum-specifier:
  enum identifieropt { enumerator-listopt }

enumerator-list:
  enumerator-definition
  enumerator-list , enumerator-definition

enumerator-definition:
  enumerator
  enumerator = constant-expression

enumerator:
  identifier

namespace-name:
  original-namespace-name
  namespace-alias

original-namespace-name:
  identifier

namespace-definition:
  named-namespace-definition
  unnamed-namespace-definition

```

```

named-namespace-definition:
  original-namespace-definition
  extension-namespace-definition

original-namespace-definition:
  namespace identifier { namespace-body }

extension-namespace-definition:
  namespace original-namespace-name { namespace-body }

unnamed-namespace-definition:
  namespace { namespace-body }

namespace-body:
  declaration-seqopt

namespace-alias:
  identifier

namespace-alias-definition:
  namespace identifier = qualified-namespace-specifier ;

qualified-namespace-specifier:
  ::opt nested-name-specifieropt namespace-name

using-declaration:
  using typenameopt ::opt nested-name-specifier unqualified-id ;
  using :: unqualified-id ;

using-directive:
  using namespace ::opt nested-name-specifieropt namespace-name ;

asm-definition:
  asm ( string-literal ) ;

linkage-specification:
  extern string-literal { declaration-seqopt }
  extern string-literal declaration

```

The grammar allows for arbitrary nesting of declarations. However, some semantic restrictions apply. For example, nested functions (functions defined local to other functions) are not allowed.

The list of specifiers that starts a declaration cannot be empty (there is no “implicit *int*;” §B.2) and consists of the longest possible sequence of specifiers. For example:

```

typedef int I;
void f(unsigned I) { /* ... */ }

```

Here, *f()* takes an unnamed *unsigned int*.

An *asm()* is an assembly code insert. Its meaning is implementation-defined, but the intent is for the string to be a piece of assembly code that will be inserted into the generated code at the place where it is specified.

Declaring a variable *register* is a hint to the compiler to optimize for frequent access; doing so is redundant with most modern compilers.

A.7.1 Declarators

See §4.9.1, Chapter 5 (pointers and arrays), §7.7 (pointers to functions), and §15.5 (pointers to members).

```

init-declarator-list:
    init-declarator
    init-declarator-list , init-declarator

init-declarator:
    declarator initializeropt

declarator:
    direct-declarator
    ptr-operator declarator

direct-declarator:
    declarator-id
    direct-declarator ( parameter-declaration-clause ) cv-qualifier-seqopt exception-specificationopt
    direct-declarator [ constant-expressionopt ]
    ( declarator )

ptr-operator:
    * cv-qualifier-seqopt
    &
    ::opt nested-name-specifier * cv-qualifier-seqopt

cv-qualifier-seq:
    cv-qualifier cv-qualifier-seqopt

cv-qualifier:
    const
    volatile

declarator-id:
    ::opt id-expression
    ::opt nested-name-specifieropt type-name

type-id:
    type-specifier-seq abstract-declaratoropt

type-specifier-seq:
    type-specifier type-specifier-seqopt

abstract-declarator:
    ptr-operator abstract-declaratoropt
    direct-abstract-declarator

direct-abstract-declarator:
    direct-abstract-declaratoropt ( parameter-declaration-clause ) cv-qualifier-seqopt exception-specificationopt
    direct-abstract-declaratoropt [ constant-expressionopt ]
    ( abstract-declarator )

```

```

parameter-declaration-clause:
  parameter-declaration-listopt · · ·opt
  parameter-declaration-list , · · ·

parameter-declaration-list:
  parameter-declaration
  parameter-declaration-list , parameter-declaration

parameter-declaration:
  decl-specifier-seq declarator
  decl-specifier-seq declarator = assignment-expression
  decl-specifier-seq abstract-declaratoropt
  decl-specifier-seq abstract-declaratoropt = assignment-expression

function-definition:
  decl-specifier-seqopt declarator ctor-initializeropt function-body
  decl-specifier-seqopt declarator function-try-block

function-body:
  compound-statement

initializer:
  = initializer-clause
  ( expression-list )

initializer-clause:
  assignment-expression
  { initializer-list ,opt }
  {

initializer-list:
  initializer-clause
  initializer-list , initializer-clause

```

A *volatile* specifier is a hint to a compiler that an object may change its value in ways not specified by the language so that aggressive optimizations must be avoided. For example, a real time clock might be declared:

```
extern const volatile clock;
```

Two successive reads of *clock* might give different results.

A.8 Classes

See Chapter 10.

```

class-name:
  identifier
  template-id

class-specifier:
  class-head { member-specificationopt }

```

```

class-head:
  class-key identifieropt base-clauseopt
  class-key nested-name-specifier identifier base-clauseopt
  class-key nested-name-specifier template template-id base-clauseopt

class-key:
  class
  struct
  union

member-specification:
  member-declaration member-specificationopt
  access-specifier : member-specificationopt

member-declaration:
  decl-specifier-seqopt member-declarator-listopt ;
  function-definition ;opt
  ::opt nested-name-specifier templateopt unqualified-id ;
  using-declaration
  template-declaration

member-declarator-list:
  member-declarator
  member-declarator-list , member-declarator

member-declarator:
  declarator pure-specifieropt
  declarator constant-initializeropt
  identifieropt : constant-expression

pure-specifier:
  = 0

constant-initializer:
  = constant-expression

```

To preserve C compatibility, a class and a non-class of the same name can be declared in the same scope (§5.7). For example:

```

struct stat { /* ... */ };
int stat(char* name, struct stat* buf);

```

In this case, the plain name (*stat*) is the name of the non-class. The class must be referred to using a *class-key* prefix.

Constant expressions are defined in §C.5.

A.8.1 Derived Classes

See Chapter 12 and Chapter 15.

```

base-clause:
  : base-specifier-list

```

```

base-specifier-list:
  base-specifier
  base-specifier-list , base-specifier

base-specifier:
  ::opt nested-name-specifieropt class-name
  virtual access-specifieropt ::opt nested-name-specifieropt class-name
  access-specifier virtual ::opt nested-name-specifieropt class-name

access-specifier:
  private
  protected
  public

```

A.8.2 Special Member Functions

See §11.4 (conversion operators), §10.4.6 (class member initialization), and §12.2.2 (base initialization).

```

conversion-function-id:
  operator conversion-type-id

conversion-type-id:
  type-specifier-seq conversion-declaratoropt

conversion-declarator:
  ptr-operator conversion-declaratoropt

ctor-initializer:
  : mem-initializer-list

mem-initializer-list:
  mem-initializer
  mem-initializer , mem-initializer-list

mem-initializer:
  mem-initializer-id ( expression-listopt )

mem-initializer-id:
  ::opt nested-name-specifieropt class-name
  identifier

```

A.8.3 Overloading

See Chapter 11.

```

operator-function-id:
  operator operator

```

```

operator: one of
new delete new[ ] delete[ ]
+ - * / % ^ & | ~ ! = < >
+= -= *= /= %= ^= &= |= << >> >>= <<= ==
!= <= >= && || ++ -- , ->* -> ( ) [ ]

```

A.9 Templates

Templates are explained in Chapter 13 and §C.13.

```

template-declaration:
    exportopt template < template-parameter-list > declaration

template-parameter-list:
    template-parameter
    template-parameter-list , template-parameter

template-parameter:
    type-parameter
    parameter-declaration

type-parameter:
    class identifieropt
    class identifieropt = type-id
    typename identifieropt
    typename identifieropt = type-id
    template < template-parameter-list > class identifieropt
    template < template-parameter-list > class identifieropt = template-name

template-id:
    template-name < template-argument-listopt >

template-name:
    identifier

template-argument-list:
    template-argument
    template-argument-list , template-argument

template-argument:
    assignment-expression
    type-id
    template-name

explicit-instantiation:
    template declaration

explicit-specialization:
    template < > declaration

```

The explicit template argument specification opens up the possibility of an obscure syntactic ambiguity. Consider:

```
void h()
{
    f<I>(0); // ambiguity: ((f)<I>) >(0) or (f<I>)(0) ?
    // resolution: f<I> is called with argument 0
}
```

The resolution is simple and effective: if *f* is a template name, *f<* is the beginning of a qualified template name and the subsequent tokens must be interpreted based on that; otherwise, *<* means less-than. Similarly, the first non-nested *>* terminates a template argument list. If a greater-than is needed, parentheses must be used:

```
f< a>b >(0); // syntax error
f< (a>b) >(0); // ok
```

A similar lexical ambiguity can occur when terminating *>*s get too close. For example:

```
list<vector<int>> lv1; // syntax error: unexpected >> (right shift)
list< vector<int> > lv2; // correct: list of vectors
```

Note the space between the two *>*s; *>>* is the right-shift operator. That can be a real nuisance.

A.10 Exception Handling

See §8.3 and Chapter 14.

```
try-block:
    try compound-statement handler-seq

function-try-block:
    try ctor-initializeropt function-body handler-seq

handler-seq:
    handler handler-seqopt

handler:
    catch ( exception-declaration ) compound-statement

exception-declaration:
    type-specifier-seq declarator
    type-specifier-seq abstract-declarator
    type-specifier-seq
    ...

throw-expression:
    throw assignment-expressionopt

exception-specification:
    throw ( type-id-listopt )

type-id-list:
    type-id
    type-id-list , type-id
```

A.11 Preprocessing Directives

The preprocessor is a relatively unsophisticated macro processor that works primarily on lexical tokens rather than individual characters. In addition to the ability to define and use macros (§7.8), the preprocessor provides mechanisms for including text files and standard headers (§9.2.1) and conditional compilation based on macros (§9.3.3). For example:

```
#if OPT==4
#include "header4.h"
#elif 0<OPT
#include "someheader.h"
#else
#include<cstdlib>
#endif
```

All preprocessor directives start with a #, which must be the first non-whitespace character on its line.

```
preprocessing-file:
    groupopt

group:
    group-part
    group group-part

group-part:
    pp-tokensopt new-line
    if-section
    control-line

if-section:
    if-group elif-groupsopt else-groupopt endif-line

if-group:
    # if constant-expression new-line groupopt
    # ifdef identifier new-line groupopt
    # ifndef identifier new-line groupopt

elif-groups:
    elif-group
    elif-groups elif-group

elif-group:
    # elif constant-expression new-line groupopt

else-group:
    # else new-line groupopt

endif-line:
    # endif new-line
```

control-line:

```
# include pp-tokens new-line
# define identifier replacement-list new-line
# define identifier lparen identifier-listopt ) replacement-list new-line
# undef identifier new-line
# line pp-tokens new-line
# error pp-tokensopt new-line
# pragma pp-tokensopt new-line
# new-line
```

lparen:

the left-parenthesis character without preceding white-space

replacement-list:

```
pp-tokensopt
```

pp-tokens:

```
preprocessing-token
pp-tokens preprocessing-token
```

new-line:

the new-line character