Compatibility Note

You might have to use string.h instead of cstring if your implementation has not yet added the new header files.

Here is a sample run:

Enter a word: animal
lamina

Yes, the program succeeds in printing animal backward; choosing animal as a test word more clearly illustrates the effect of this program than choosing, say, redder or stats.

The Increment (++) and Decrement (--) Operators

C++ features several operators that frequently are used in loops, so let's take a little time to examine them now. You've already seen two: the increment operator (++), which inspired the name C++, and the decrement operator (--). These perform two exceedingly common loop operations: increasing or decreasing a loop counter by 1. However, there's more to their story than you've seen to date. Each operator comes in two varieties. The prefix version comes before the operand, as in ++x. The postfix version comes after the operand, as in x++. The two versions have the same effect upon the operand, but they differ in when they take place. It's like getting paid for mowing the lawn in advance or afterward; both methods have the same final effect on your wallet, but they differ in when the money gets added. Listing 5.7 demonstrates this difference for the increment operator.

Listing 5.7 plus_one.cpp

// plus_one.cpp -- the increment operator
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main()