Arguments to main

argc & argv what are they ?

The declaration of main looks like this:

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

There are two arguments to main: argc and argv.

argc **-** is a count of the arguments supplied to the program.
argv - is an array of pointers to strings.

These arguments are passed to the program by the host system's command line
 interpreter

you will often see the declaration of main expressed in these terms as well:

*int main(int argc, char **argv);*

מרכז להכשרה מקצועית והשמה בתעשיית ההייטק

argc & argv what are they ?

When a program starts, the arguments to main will have been initialized to meet the following conditions:

argc is greater than zero.

argv[argc] is a null pointer.

argv[0] through to argv[argc-1] are pointers to strings whose meaning will be determined by the program.

argv[0] will be a string containing the program's name or a null string if that is not available.

Remaining elements of argv represent the arguments supplied to the program. In cases where there is only support for single-case characters, the contents of these strings will be supplied to the program in lower-case.