

LISTS AND LOOPS

Shannon Turner

Twitter: @svthmc

**Github: [http://github.com/
shannonturner](http://github.com/shannonturner)**

OBJECTIVE

- Review Lesson One
- Learn what lists are
- Learn how to add and remove items
- Learn the situations lists are useful for
- Learn how to use loops and lists together to make your programs powerful and flexible

LIGHTNING REVIEW

- Variables are names that you can assign values to
- Variables can contain numbers, strings, lists, True/False, any type of information you want to store!
- Variable names can contain letters and underscores and should be descriptive (can you tell what it's used for?)

LIGHTNING REVIEW

- Strings (text) can contain anything that you can type out on the keyboard
- Strings are commonly used for names, phone numbers, email addresses, other addresses, URLs, and so much more!
- Slicing is used to see parts of a string

LIGHTNING REVIEW

- String methods allow you to do special actions on strings (find, replace, count, lowercase, etc)
- `.format()` is the string method we'll use most often.

```
1 name = "Shannon"
2 age = 29
3
4 print "My name is {0} and my age is {1}".format(name, age)
```

LIGHTNING REVIEW

- Conditionals allow you to change the behavior of your program
- Program behavior is based on your variables:

```
if location == 'DC':  
    print "District of Columbia"  
elif location == 'MD':  
    print "Maryland"  
elif location == 'VA':  
    print "Virginia"  
else:  
    print "Somewhere else"
```

WE KNOW WHAT A LIST IS

- We're already very familiar with lists. We just took attendance!
- Lists are containers that can hold multiple pieces of information. Lists are commonly used to hold:
 - strings (ex: list of attendees' names)
 - numbers (ex: number of attendees for each class)

DON'T DO THIS!

- If we had to do this, it would be a pain:
- attendee1 = 'Shannon'
- attendee2 = 'Jenn'
- attendee3 = 'Grace'
- What if Jenn had to cancel? Do we have to do this for every attendee?

CREATING A LIST

- Lists are created by placing items inside of `[]`
- **`attendees = ['Shannon', 'Jenn', 'Grace']`**
- Items are separated by commas
- An empty list looks like this:
 - **`people_who_didnt_do_playtime = []`**

HOW LONG IS MY LIST?

- `attendees = ['Shannon', 'Jenn', 'Grace']`
- `print len(attendees) # 3`

or

- `number_of_attendees = len(attendees)`
- `print number_of_attendees # 3`

REMEMBER SLICING?

- `attendees = ['Shannon', 'Jenn', 'Grace']`
- `print attendees[0] # Shannon`
- `print attendees[1] # Jenn`
- `print attendees[2] # Grace`
- `print attendees[0:2] # Shannon, Jenn`
- What happens if we `print attendees[3]` ?

ADDING ITEMS TO A LIST

- `.append()` adds an item to the end of a list
- `class_sizes = []`
- `class_sizes.append(28)`
- `print class_sizes # [28]`
- `class_sizes.append(27)`
- `print class_sizes # [28, 27]`

CHANGING LIST ITEMS

- `print class_sizes # [28, 27]`
- `# Someone showed up late to the first class, so let's change the first list item`
- `class_sizes[0] = 29`
- `print class_sizes # [29, 27]`

QUICK EXERCISE

- `days_of_week = ['Monday' , 'Tuesday']`
- `days_of_week.append('Wednesday')`
- Append the rest of the days in the week, printing your progress as you go:
- `print days_of_week`
- `print len(days_of_week)`

DELETING LIST ITEMS

- **`print days_of_week`** after each time you make a change to your list.
- **When in doubt, print it out!**
- There are two main ways to delete an item from a list. This one will just get rid of the list item:
- **`days_of_week.pop()`**
- **`print days_of_week`**

DELETING LIST ITEMS

- **When in doubt, print it out!**
- And this one will get rid of the list item and save it into a variable:
- `day = days_of_week.pop()`
- `print day`
- `print days_of_week`

DELETING LIST ITEMS

- By default, `.pop()` will remove the last item in your list.
- But you can specify a position, and it will remove that item instead.
- `day = days_of_week.pop(3)`
- `print day`
- `print days_of_week`

QUICK EXERCISE

- `months = ['January', 'February']`
- `months.extend(['March', 'April' ...])`
- `.append()` adds one to the end
- `.extend()` adds many

ADD/REMOVE FROM THE BEGINNING OF A LIST

- `# Remove the first month`
`months.pop(0)`
- `# Insert 'January' before index 0`
`months.insert(0, 'January')`

STRINGS -> LISTS

- `address = "1133 19th St NW Washington, DC 20036"`
- `address_as_list = address.split(" ")`
- In this example, every time Python sees a space, it will use that to know where to split the string into a list (but you can use any character)

IS THIS IN MY STRING?

- The **in** keyword allows you to check whether a (smaller) string appears within a (larger) string
- **'ann' in 'Shannon' # True**
- **'SE' in address: # False**
- This works *just a little* differently with lists.

IS THIS IN MY LIST?

- The **in** keyword allows you to check: does this exact list item appear in this list?
- **'Shannon' in attendees # True**
- **'ann' in attendees # False**
- **'Frankenstein' in attendees # False ... what a relief!**

GROUP EXERCISE & LUNCH

Create a program that checks which quadrant an address belongs to.

If an address contains a quadrant (NW, NE, SE, SW), then add it to that quadrant's list.

Do this with a handful of addresses and print the contents of each list.

FOR EACH ITEM IN THIS LIST ...

```
attendees = ['Shannon', 'Jenn',  
             'Grace', ...]
```

```
for name in attendees:  
    print name
```

For each item in this list:
do something with that item

... DO SOMETHING WITH THAT ITEM

```
days = ['Monday', 'Tuesday', ...]
```

```
for day in days:  
    print day
```

For each item in this list:
do something with that item

IF WE HAVE A LIST, WE CAN LOOP OVER IT

- **# Most common: range from 0 to ...**
`range(5) # [0, 1, 2, 3, 4]`
- **# range(start, stop)**
`range(5, 10) # [5, 6, 7, 8, 9]`
- **range()** creates a list of numbers.
- If we have a list, we can loop over it.

FOR EACH NUMBER IN THIS LIST

```
for number in range(10):  
    print number
```

- Use this when you need to do a task a certain number of times
- Remember: **range()** creates a list, and a **for** loop will do something for each item in a list.

FOR EACH NUMBER IN THIS LIST

```
for week in range(1, 5):  
    print "Week {0}".format(week)
```

For each item in this list:
do something with that item

`range(1, 5)` is equivalent to `[1, 2, 3, 4]`

NESTED FOR LOOPS

```
for week in range(1, 5):  
    print "Week {0}".format(week)  
  
    for day in days:  
        print day
```

Notice how the days loop is indented.

What happens if it's at the same indentation level as the weeks loop?

LOOPS WITHIN LOOPS

```
for month in months:  
    print month
```

```
for week in range(1, 5):  
    print "Week {0}".format(week)
```

```
for day in days:  
    print day
```

ENUMERATE()

Normally, a **for** loop gives you each item in a list one at a time

enumerate() is a function that you use with a for loop to get the index (position) of that list item, too.

Commonly used when you need to change each item in a list one at a time.

ENUMERATE()

We're going to beat the lunchtime slump by taking attendance again now - twice!

```
for name in attendees:  
    print name
```

```
for index, name in enumerate(attendees):  
    print index, name
```


ZIP() MULTIPLE LISTS TOGETHER LIKE A ZIPPER

Normally, a **for** loop lets you use each item in a single list one at a time

zip() is a function that you use with a for loop to use each item in multiple lists all at once.

```
1 state_abbrevs = ['AL', 'AK', 'AZ']
2 state_names = ['Alabama', 'Alaska', 'Arizona']
3
4 for abbrev, name in zip(state_abbrevs, state_names):
5     print "The abbreviation of {0} is {1}".format(name, abbrev)
```

WHILE LOOPS

A **for** loop lets you use each item in a single list one at a time, which is great for performing actions a certain number of times.

while loops are the cousins of conditionals.

Like an if statement, while will ask "is this true?"

WHILE LOOPS: AS LONG AS THIS IS TRUE

```
if bread >= 2:  
    print "I'm making a sandwich"
```

```
while bread >= 2:  
    print "I'm making a sandwich"  
    bread = bread - 2
```

What if you forget "bread = bread - 2"

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS?

Lists and loops make your programs flexible and powerful.

Here are a few examples:

- [Looping through every row in a spreadsheet](#), and using the data to [add pins to a map](#)
- When a search is performed, [add the results to our database](#) if we don't [already have it](#)

EXERCISES

On my Github's [python-lessons](#) repo, in the playtime folder:

- Beginner: [PB&J While Loop](#)
- Beginner: [99 bottles of beer on the wall](#)
- Intermediate: [States Drop-down menu](#)

CODE SAMPLES

All about Lists

[https://github.com/shannonturner/python-lessons/tree/master/section_04_\(lists\)](https://github.com/shannonturner/python-lessons/tree/master/section_04_(lists))

All about Loops

[https://github.com/shannonturner/python-lessons/tree/master/section_05_\(loops\)](https://github.com/shannonturner/python-lessons/tree/master/section_05_(loops))

All about Strings to lists, lists to strings

[https://github.com/shannonturner/python-lessons/tree/master/section_06_\(str-list\)](https://github.com/shannonturner/python-lessons/tree/master/section_06_(str-list))