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def count_words(text):  
    if not text.strip(): # Check if input is empty or only whitespace  
        return 0  
    words = text.split() # Split the text into words based on spaces  
    return len(words) # Return the count of words  
  
def main():  
    user_input = input("Enter a sentence or paragraph: ") # Prompt the user for input  
    word_count = count_words(user_input) # Call the count_words function  
    print("Word count:", word_count) # Print the word count  
  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    main()
```