

[Session 1] Python Basics Supplement

print() function

`print()` function is one of most important function in Python, because we can see the result of expression or function's return value by using this.

Basically, we can use like this:

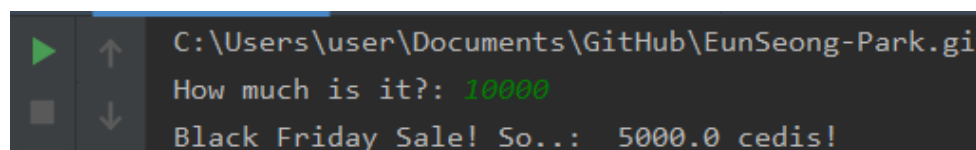
- **print(value, sep, end)**
 - **value**: Something that can be printed. As we mentioned in the lecture, this can contain multiple items.
 - **sep**: We can specify the separator. If we print multiple items, then we put separator between each item. For example, `print(1, 2, 3, sep="_")` will print "1_2_3". The default is " ", a whitespace.
 - **end**: We can specify ending character. The default is "\n", a line feed. (and this is why many lines are printed when we call `print()` function many times) For example, `print("hello", end="!")` prints "hello!", without line feed.
 - Note that, these can be omitted all, `print()` is also ok.

input() function

We can get some input from user, by using `input()` function. We can show some prompt(the signal or message that computer is ready for the input) with parameter. (Like `print()` function, we can put many things as long as these can be printed)

The return value of the `input()` function is the **string** you are typed (and then Enter). Sometimes, we may want to get a number from user. How can we do that? Use `int()` function to convert its type.

```
1 howmuch = int(input("How much is it?: "))
2 print("Black Friday Sale! So..: ", howmuch * 0.5, "cedis!")
```



```
C:\Users\user\Documents\GitHub\EunSeong-Park.git> python
How much is it?: 10000
Black Friday Sale! So..: 5000.0 cedis!
```

Indexing & Slicing of List / Tuple / String

These three datatypes have in the following commons:

- **Can be iterated**: We can traverse each element (or character). (e.g. `for` statement)
- **Can be indexed**: We can access i^{th} element directly, with `[i]`. (e.g. `(1, 3, 2, 1)[2] => 2`)
- **Can be sliced**: We can get a sub-data from the original, according to certain rules

Indexing and slicing are very important (and powerful) operations in Python. You should be accustomed to using these.

(Index Rule)

1. **Index starts at 0**. In order to access to i^{th} element, we use `(Data)[i-1]`, not `(Data)[i]`.
2. Index out of range will cause error. For example, `(1, 2, 3)[3]` is an invalid indexing

3. Negative index can be valid. For example, `list[-1]` is the last element, and `list[-2]` is the second-last element. Note that, if the number of elements is n , then index under $-n$ is invalid.
 - So, For some list with n items, `list[i] = list[-(n-i)]`

(Slicing Rule)

1. Basically, for some iterable data, A , use `A[start:end:step]`. All of them can be omitted. (even `A[:]` or `A[::]` are ok) The default of step is 1. For a list A , with n items
 - A. `A[:end] = A[0:end] = A[0:end:1]`
 - B. `A[start:] = A[start:n-1] = A[start:n-1:1]`
 - C. `A[:] = A[::] = A`
2. In `A[start:end]`, `A[end]` is not included.

We uploaded some exercises for practice of this.

Recursion

The situation that some function calls itself is called “recursion”. Recursion is sometimes useful, because it can simplify the code. For example, we will implement “Fibonacci number” function in two ways.

```
def fibo(n):
    if n == 0:
        return 0
    elif n == 1:
        return 1
    else:
        result = 0
        a, b = 0, 1
        for i in range(2, n+1):
            result = a + b
            a = b
            b = result
        return result
```

```
def fibo_recursion(n):
    if n == 0:
        return 0
    elif n == 1:
        return 1
    else:
        return fibo_recursion(n-2) + fibo_recursion(n-1)
```

The latter code has better readability and is more straightforward.

However, note that, **recursion must be ended eventually**. If the function calls itself infinitely, our computer cannot withstand and causes some problem. This is called “**stack overflow**”. (Fortunately, in most programming language prevents this, but we still cannot run the program properly.) So read your code carefully, and ensure that the recursion can be terminated eventually.