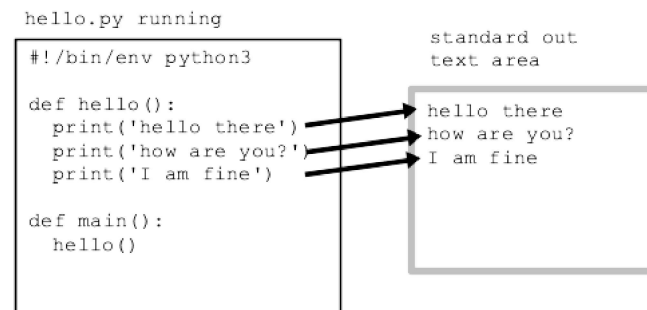# Python Reader

Back to Code in Place

`print()` and Standard Out

Every running program has a text output area called "standard out", or sometimes just "stdout". The Python print() function takes in python data such as ints and strings, and prints those values to standard out.

```
hello.py running

#!/bin/env python3

def hello():
  print('hello there')
  print('how are you?')
  print('I am fine')

def main():
  hello()
```

```
standard out
text area

hello there
how are you?
I am fine
```

To say that standard out is "text" here means a series of lines, where each line is a series of chars with a `'\n'` newline char marking the end of each line. Standard out is relatively simple. It is a single area of text shared by all the code in a program. Each printed line is appended at its end.

Standard Out in the Terminal

When you run a program from the terminal, standard out appears right there. Here is example of running the above `hello.py` in the terminal, and whatever it prints appears immediately in the terminal.

```
>>> python hello.py
hello there
how are you?
I am fine
```

When using `print` , you can either use double quotes ("text"), or single quotes ('text')

If your text contains single quotes, you should use double quotes:

```
print("no, you didn't") -->   no, you didn't
```

If your text contains double quotes, you should use single quotes:

```
print('say "hi" Karel') -->   say "hi" Karel
```