

Python Learning Journal

Exercise 1.1

Learning Goals;

- Summarize the uses and benefits of Python for web development
- Prepare your developer environment for programming with Python

Reflection Questions:

- 1) In your own words, what is the difference between frontend and backend web development? If you were hired to work on backend programming for a web application, what kinds of operations would you be working on?

Back-end development focuses more on server-side programming and infrastructure, while a front end developer is more involved in the UI and user facing elements of the website/app. Operations that a back end developer might be working on include; database management, user information handling, building and maintaining servers, working to improve website security and monitoring and improving performance and functionality.

- 2) Imagine you're working as a full-stack developer in the near future. Your team is asking for your advice on whether to use JavaScript or Python for a project, and you think Python would be the better choice. How would you explain the similarities and differences between the two languages to your team? Drawing from what you learned in this Exercise, what reasons would you give to convince your team that Python is the better option? (Hint: refer to the Exercise section "The Benefits of Developing with Python")

If I was recommending Python for a project, I would look to highlight the ease of use, built in package manager, simplicity and support. Python was designed to be easy to learn and the standardized syntax of the language enables anyone with some coding experience to understand the code at a glance. This simplicity extends to the built in package manager - PIP. The base install of Python comes with many useful packages and it is very easy to install further packages through the console. Python is also well supported by an active online community that continually improve the language.

- 3) Now that you've had an introduction to Python, write down 3 goals you have for yourself and your learning during this Achievement. You can reflect on the following questions if it helps you. What do you want to learn about Python? What do you want to get out of this Achievement? Where or what do you see yourself working on after you complete this Achievement?

- a) My first goal is to make notes throughout the project on how I think the things learnt would be useful in other situations or projects.**
- b) I want to understand the language to the point where I am seeing solutions to tasks and issues without needing to rely solely on the learning material.**
- c) Ultimately, I want to be confident about putting Python on my CV/portfolio and comfortable using the language and answering questions about it.**