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def word_counter(sentence):

    # Split the sentence into words based on whitespace

    words = sentence.split()

    # Return the count of words

    return len(words)


def main():

    print("Welcome to the Word Counter program!")

    while True:

        # Prompt user for input

        user_input = input("Please enter a sentence or paragraph (or type 'exit' to quit): ")

        # Check if user wants to exit

        if user_input.lower() == 'exit':

            print("Thank you for using the Word Counter program. Goodbye!")

            break

        # Check for empty input

        if not user_input.strip():

            print("Error: Empty input. Please enter a sentence or paragraph.")

            continue

        # Count words

        count = word_counter(user_input)

        print(f"Word count: {count}\n")


if __name__ == "__main__":

    main()
```