Defining Functions

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A Ruby Function

```ruby
def function_name(argument1, argument2, argument3)
    return … # some code to compute the result
end
```

Wrapping Our Code in a Function

Our Ruby Function

```ruby
def words_from_file(text_file)
    File.read(text_file).downcase.gsub(/[^a-z]/, " ").split
end
```

"Functions" Aren't Really Functions

A Method

```
object.method(arguments)
```

Ruby is deeply object-oriented.

A Little Extra: Global Variables

What We Did

word_counter.rb

word_counter.rb ✕

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```ruby
TEXT_FILE = "romeo-juliet.txt"

# Load the words from a file
def words_from_file(text_file)
    File.read(text_file).downcase.gsub(/[^a-z]/, " ").split
end

# Load the list of words in the text
words = words_from_file(TEXT_FILE)

```

Our Function