

MIT OpenCourseware 6.0001 Introduction to Computer Science and Programming in Python
Lecture 2: Branching and Iteration

Reminder: a computer only does what it is told

Objects and operations

A new object: a String

How do we branch and iterate?

A STRING

- sequences of characters

- enclosed in `'` or `''`

- object bound to the string value

Concatenate: use `+` to add them together

(in print statements, you can use commas to add objects together and they can be different types, but python adds a space in between (unlike with the `+`))

Ex. `hi = "hi"`

`name = "maanya"`

`print(hi + name)`

himaanya

`X = (hi + " " + name)`

`print(X)`

hi maanya

`print(X*3)`

hi_maanyahi_maanyahi_maanya

***input** gets input from the user and waits for them to type and enter*

- made as a string (can be bound to different type of object by CASTING)

Add tests in your code by using comparison operators

EVAL TO BOOLEAN:

`i > j`

`i < j`

`i >= j`

`i <= j`

`i == j` (equality)

`i != j` (inequality)

can use keywords `and/or` (boolean truth tables)

This adds BRANCHING in our code, because we can perform tests to make decisions...

with key words **if/elif/else** (**control flow commands**)

DENOTE the flow of control using INDENTATION (matters!)

- nested conditionals should also be intended

- in conditionals, do not compare using = (assignment), instead use == (comparison)

LOOPS

-while

- repeat until a condition is met

- can be infinite

- also uses indentation

-for

- iterates through a sequence/x amount of times

- counter variables (don't need to initialize separately)

- better for exact num of iterations

(starts at a value, increases by increment, ends at some num-1)

****must be integers**

for x in range(start, stop, step)

- default start = 0, step = 1

- loop until stop-1

Exit loop early using **break** which exists the innermost loop without executing remaining expressions in the code block that is exited