Functions



CS for Social Good



Two main types of naming systems:

- Camel case: camelCase
- Snake case: snake_case
- Snake case is the standard for Python!



Two main types of naming systems:

- Camel case: camelCase
- Snake case: snake_case
- Snake case is the standard for Python!
- Names must start with a letter or the underscore character (letter and _letter are both valid)
 - Cannot start with a number (1st_variable is not allowed)
- Names can only include alphanumeric characters and underscores
 - No special characters
- Names are case-sensitive (case and Case are different variables)



Practice: are the following variable names allowed?

- 1. _my_var = "B"
- 2. my-var = "e"
- 3. myvar = "n"
- 4. my var = "i"
- 5. myVar = "c"
- 6. myvar2 = "i"
- 7. 2myvar = "a"
- 8. my_var = "High"
- 9. MYVAR = "School"



Practice: are the following variable names allowed?

8.
$$my_var = "High"$$

Yes

No (no special characters allowed)

Yes

No (no spaces allowed)

Yes

Yes

No (cannot start with a number)

Yes

Yes



Coding Break



A function is a block of code that runs only when it is called. Below is the basic template for creating functions in Python.

```
def hello_world():
    print("Hello, world!")
```

All functions definitions need three things:

- The **def** keyword
- A name for the function followed by a pair of parentheses and a colon
- A indented block of code containing the steps to be executed



Functions are a great way to decompose large blocks of code into chunks of closely related steps.

This will make you programs more readable and allow you to reuse your code in different areas.

If you find yourself typing the same lines of code over and over, that is a good indicator that you should use put these lines together into a function.



```
def greet_user():
    name = input("Enter your name:")
    print("Hello" + name)
def even_or_odd():
    number = int(input("Enter a number:"))
    if number % 2 == 0:
         print("This number is even.")
    else:
         print("This number is odd.")
```



You call a function in python by typing the function name followed by parentheses.

```
greet_user()
choice = input("cards or dice?")
if choice == "cards":
        card_game()
else:
        dice_game()
print_goodbye()
```



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```
greet_user()
choice = input("cards or dice?")
if choice == "cards":
        card_game()
else:
        dice_game()
print_goodbye()
```



You can call functions within other functions

```
def daily_report():
    print_date()
    print_weather()
    print_headlines()
```



```
Functions are super helpful with repetitive tasks!
             What are some benefits of print_fancy_separator()?
def print_fancy_separator():
    print("°°¤ø,,,ø¤°°`°°¤ø,,ø¤°°¤ø,,,ø¤°°`°°¤ø,")
def daily_report():
    print_fancy_separator()
    print_date()
    print_weather()
    print_fancy_separator()
    print_headlines()
    print_fancy_separator()
```



Now what if you are trying to do something that is repetitive but has some differences between repetitions?

E.g. your mom is making you write thank you cards to a dozen of different relatives

Dear aunt Betty, Thank you for the sweater. I really love it! Best wishes, John Dear uncle Tom, Thank you for the book. I really love it! Best wishes, John Dear aunt Mary, Thank you for the scarf. I really love it! Best wishes, John

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Arguments to the rescue!

Arguments allow you to give the function additional information on what they should do.

(In fancier words, you pass arguments to a function)



When you define functions, you can put arguments into the parentheses, then pass in the value when you call the function.

```
def greet_user():
    name = input("What is your name?")
    print("Hello " + name)
```



When you define functions, you can put arguments into the parentheses, then pass in the value when you call the function.

```
def greet_user_specified_by_me(name):
    print("Hello " + name)
```



When you define functions, you can put arguments into the parentheses, then pass in the value when you call the function.

```
def greet_user_specified_by_me(name):
    print("Hello " + name)
```

greet_user_specified_b

Output: Hello Alice

y_me("Alice")



When you define functions, you can put arguments into the parentheses, then pass in the value when you call the function.

```
def greet_user_specified_by_me(name):
    print("Hello " + name)
```

greet_user_specified_b

Output: Hello Bob

y_me("Bob")



Coding Break



Note that the content of an argument inside the function is only based on what's passed to it. Functions can't see what's outside of their **scope**



Coding Break



```
def add(y, x):
 z = x + y
 print("in function: ", x, y, z)
x = 4
y = 8
z = y - 1
add(x, z)
print("outside of function: ", x, y, z)
```



x = 4

```
def add(y, x):
      z = x + y
      print("in function: ", x, y, z)
\implies x = 4
    y = 8
    z = y - 1
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def add(y, x):

Arguments

x = 4

y = 8

z = 7

```
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      print("in function: ", x, y, z)
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```

```
x = 4
y = 8
z = 7
y = ?
x = ?
```



```
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x = 4
y = 8
z = 7
y = ?
x = ?
```



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y = 8
z = 7
y = 4
x = ?
```



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x = 4
y = 8
z = 7
y = 4
x = 7
```



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    x = 4
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    z = y - 1
    add(x, z)
    print("outside of function: ", x, y, z)
```

```
x = 4
y = 8
z = 7
y = 4
x = 7
z = 11
```



Tracing problem:

def add(y, x):

z = x + y

print("in function: ", x, y, z)

x = 4

y = 8

z = y - 1

add(x, z)

print("outside of function: ", x, y, z)

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y = 8

z = 7

y = 4

x = 7

z = 11

in function: 7, 4, 11



Tracing problem:

```
def add(y, x):
 z = x + y
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x = 4
y = 8
z = y - 1
add(x, z)
```

⇒ print("outside of function: ", x, y, z)

$$x = 4$$
 $y = 8$
 $z = 7$
 $y = 4$

$$x = 7$$
$$z = 11$$

in function: 7, 4, 11 outside of function: 4, 8, 7



Returns

When a function ends, you have the option to have it **return** a value!

So far, we've been working with functions that don't return anything (these are called void functions). Let's look at a function that returns the sum of two numbers:



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```
def return_sum(a, b):
    sum = a + b
    return sum

sum = return_sum(3, 6)
print(sum)
```

Behind the scenes:							
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    sum = a + b
    return sum

sum = return_sum(3, 6)
print(sum)
```

```
def return_sum(3, 6):
    sum = 3 + 6
    return 9
```



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Behind the scenes:

sum = return_sum(3, 6)



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```
def return_sum(a, b):
    sum = a + b
    return sum
```

Behind the scenes:

sum = 9



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```
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sum = return_sum(3, 6)

print(sum)
```

Behind the scenes:

print(9)



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```
def return_sum(a, b):
    sum = a + b
    return sum

sum = return_sum(3, 6)
print(sum)
```

Output:

9



Coding Break



Next Time!

For-loops and lists!