

1 A tiny word counter

We will build a minimal word counter and explain its parts. The program runs in $O(n)$ over the bytes of the input. We assemble the final script in the chunk `<<wc.py>>=` by referring to named subchunks that we define later.

```
<wc.py>≡  
  <imports>  
  <parse-args>  
  <count-words>  
  <main-guard>
```

1.1 Imports

```
<imports>≡  
  import sys  
  from collections import Counter  
  from pathlib import Path  
  import argparse
```

1.2 Argument parsing

```
<parse-args>≡  
  def parse_args(argv=None):  
      p = argparse.ArgumentParser(  
          description="Count words in a file or stdin."  
      )  
      p.add_argument("file", nargs="?", help="Path to text file; default: stdin")  
      p.add_argument("-n", "--top", type=int, default=10,  
          help="Show top-N words (default: 10)")  
      return p.parse_args(argv)
```

1.3 Counting logic

```
<count-words>≡
def words_from_text(text: str):
    # Very naive tokenization: split on whitespace and punctuation
    # Lowercasing makes counts case-insensitive.
    import re
    for w in re.findall(r"[A-Za-z0-9']+", text.lower()):
        yield w

def count_words(stream) -> Counter:
    c = Counter()
    for line in stream:
        c.update(words_from_text(line))
    return c
```

1.4 Program entry point

```
<main-guard>≡
def main(argv=None):
    args = parse_args(argv)
    if args.file:
        data = Path(args.file).read_text(encoding="utf-8", errors="ignore")
        stream = data.splitlines(keepends=True)
    else:
        stream = sys.stdin

    counts = count_words(stream)
    for word, n in counts.most_common(args.top):
        print(f"{n:7d} {word}")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```