Features of Python

1. A simple language which is easier to learn
Python has a very simple and elegant syntax. Python makes programming fun and allows us to focus on the solution rather than syntax.

2. Free and open-source
We can freely use and distribute Python, even for commercial use. Not only can use and distribute softwares written in it, we can even make changes to the Python's source code.

3. Portability
We can move Python programs from one platform to another, and run it without any changes.

4. Object-oriented
Everything in Python is an object. Object oriented programming (OOP) helps us to solve a complex problem intuitively.

Environment Setup

Simple steps to install Python on Unix/Linux machine.

- Open a Web browser and go to https://www.python.org/downloads/
- Follow the link to download zipped source code available for Unix/Linux.
- Download and extract files.
- Editing the *Modules/Setup* file if you want to customize some options.
- run ./configure script
- make
- make install

This installs Python at standard location */usr/local/bin* and its libraries at */usr/local/lib/pythonXX* where XX is the version of Python.