## **Python Lists**

- •A list is a collection of items with various data types which are **ordered and changeable**.
- •You access the list items by referring to the **index number**.

```
mylist = [42, 'apple', 5234656]
print(mylist)
mylist[2] = 'banana'
print(mylist)
```

#### What is the output?

[42, 'apple', 5234656] [42, 'apple', 'banana']

• To create a list in Python, we can use bracket notation [] to either create an empty list or an initialized list.

```
mylist1 = [] # Creates an empty list
mylist2 = [expression1, expression2, ...]
```

• The these two are referred to as *list displays*, mylist2 creates a list with initialized items

```
mylist2 = [42, 'apple', 'banana', 5234656]
```

• Also can create a list by comprehension

```
mylist3 = [expression for variable in sequence]
```

```
mylist3 = [i**2 for i in range(5)]
print(mylist3)
```

Output: [0, 1, 4, 9, 16]

• We can also use the built-in list constructor to create a new list.

```
mylist1 = list() # create an empty list
mylist2 = list(sequence) #initialize list with items by a sequence
mylist3 = list(expression for variable in sequence) #list comprehension
```

• The sequence argument in the second example can be **any kind of sequence object**.

```
mylist = list(["apple", "banana", "cherry"])#list argument
mylist = list(("apple", "banana", "cherry"))#tuple argument

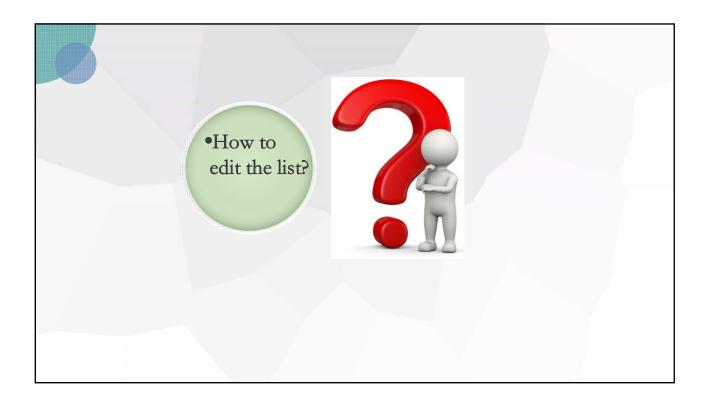
mylist = list("apple", "banana", "cherry")
    # TypeError
```

• Note that you cannot create a new list through assignment.

```
# mylist1 and mylist2 point to the same list
mylist1 = mylist2 = []

# mylist3 and mylist4 point to the same list
mylist3 = []
mylist4 = mylist3

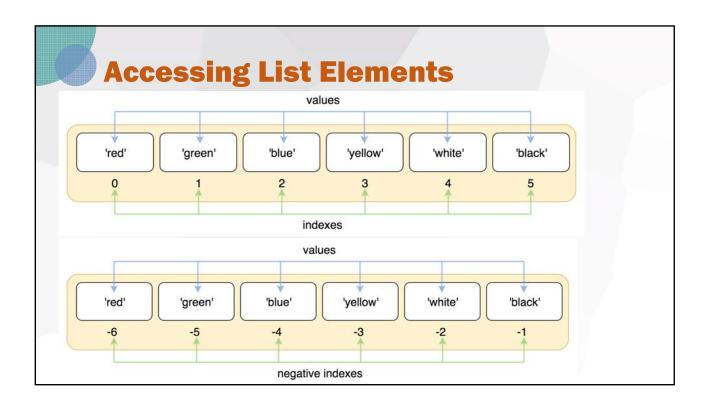
mylist5 = []; mylist6 = [] # different lists
```



## **Accessing List Elements**

• If the <u>index</u> of the desired element is known, you can simply use bracket notation to index into the list. <u>Index=0...n-1 or -1...-n</u>

```
mylist = [34,67,45,29]
mylist[2] #45
mylist[-2] #45
```



## **Accessing List Elements**

• If the index is not known, use the **index() function** to find the first index of an item. An exception will be raised if the item cannot be found.

```
mylist = [34,67,45,29]
print(mylist.index(67))
1
mylist = [34,45,45,29]
print(mylist.index(45))
1
```

## **Accessing List Elements**

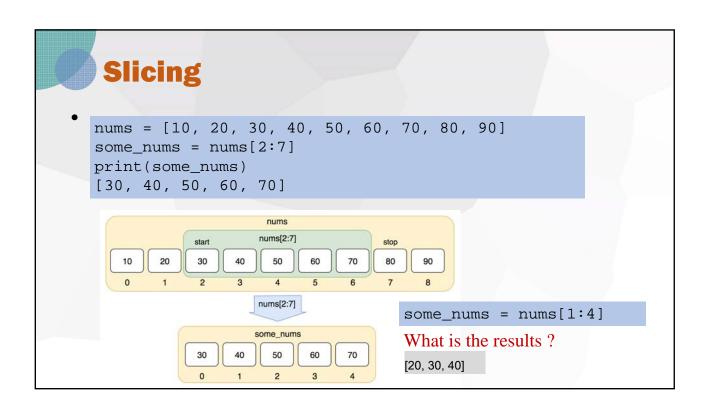
Use **the built-in len() function** to get the max for the index.

```
L = [2, 'a', 4, [1,2]]
print(len(L))
4
```

This list can also have another list as an item, which is called a nested list.

• Slicing is an extended version of the indexing operator and can be used to grab sublists.

```
mylist[start:end] # items start to end-1
mylist[start:] # items start to end of the list
mylist[:end] # items from beginning to end-1
mylist[:] # a copy of the whole list
```



• If we skip the start number then it starts from 0 index:.

```
nums = [10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90]
print(nums[:5])
[10, 20, 30, 40, 50]
```

• Negative indexes allow us to easily take n-last elements of a list:

```
nums = [10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90]
print(nums[-3:])
[70, 80, 90]
```

• You may also provide a step argument with any of the slicing constructions above.

```
mylist[start:end:step] # start to end-1, by step
nums = [10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90]
nums[::2] # a copy of the list with step 2
[10, 30, 50, 70, 90]
```

• We can use a negative step to obtain a **reversed list**:

```
nums = [10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90]

print(nums[::-1])

[90, 80, 70, 60, 50, 40, 30, 20, 10]
```

•

#### **Inserting/Removing Elements**

• To add an element to an existing list, use the **append()** method.

```
mylist = [34, 56, 29, 73, 19, 62]
mylist.append(47)
print(mylist)
[34, 56, 29, 73, 19, 62, 47]
```

• Use the extend() method to add all of the items from another list.

```
mylist = [34, 56, 29, 73, 19, 62]
mylist.extend([47,81])
print(mylist)
[34, 56, 29, 73, 19, 62, 47, 81]
```

# **Inserting/Removing Elements**

• Use the **insert**(*pos*, *item*) method to insert an item at the given position. Positive or negative indexing may be used to indicate the position.

```
mylist = [34, 56, 29, 73, 19, 62]
mylist.insert(2,47)
print(mylist)
[34, 56, 47, 29, 73, 19, 62]
mylist.insert(-1,47)
print(mylist)
[34, 56, 47, 29, 73, 19, 47, 62]
```

## **Inserting/Removing Elements**

• Use the **remove()** method to remove the first occurrence of a given item. An exception will be raised if there is no matching item in the list.

```
mylist = [34, 56, 29, 73, 29, 62]
mylist.remove(29)
mylist
[34, 56, 73, 29, 62]
```

## **Operations on Lists - Add**

■to combine lists together use **concatenation**, + operator, which returns a new list

L1 = [2,1,3] L2 = [4,5,6] L3 = L1 + L2

10: [0.1.0.4.5.6]

L3is [2,1,3,4,5,6] L1, L2 unchanged

## **Convert Strings to Lists**

•convert string to list with list(s), returns a list with every character from string element in L

```
s = "I<3 cs" → s is a string
list(s) → returns ['I','<','3',' ','c','s']
```

## **Other List Operations**

- sort(): function of a object, object.sort()
- sorted(): built-in function
- reverse(): function of a object, object.reverse()

#### When to use Lists

- When you need a **non-homogeneous** collection of elements.
- When you need the ability to **order** your elements.
- When you need the ability to **modify** or add to the collection.
- When you don't require elements to be **indexed by a custom value**.
- When your elements are **not necessarily unique**.