10/11/13 Type list

Type list

Overview

Our programs will often work with collections of data. One way to store these collections of data is using Python's type list.

The general form of a list is:

```
[expr1, expr2, ..., exprN]
```

For example, here is a list of three grades:

```
grades = [80, 90, 70]
```

List Operations

Like strings, lists can be indexed:

```
>>> grades[0]
80
>>> grades[1]
90
>>> grades[2]
70
```

Lists can also be sliced, using the same notation as for strings:

```
>>> grades[0:2] [80, 90]
```

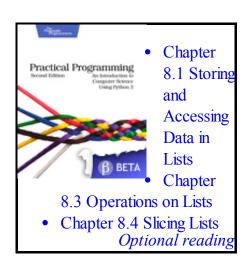
The in operator can also be applied to check whether a value is an item in a list.

```
>>> 90 in grades
True
>>> 60 in grades
False
```

Several of Python's built-in functions can be applied to lists, including:

- len(list): return the length of list.
- min(list): return the smallest element in list.
- max(list): return the largest element in list.
- sum(list): return the sum of elements of list (where list items must be numeric).

For example, here are some calls to those built-in functions:



10/11/13 Type list

```
>>> len(grades)
3
>>> min(grades)
70
>>> max(grades)
90
>>> sum(grades)
240
```

Types of list elements

Lists elements may be of any type. For example, here is a list of str:

```
subjects = ['bio', 'cs', 'math', 'history']
```

Lists can also contain elements of more than one type. For example, a street address can be represented by a list of [int, str]:

```
street_address = [10, 'Main Street']
```

for loops over list

Similar to looping over the characters of a string, it is possible to iterate over the elements of a list. For example:

```
>>> for grade in grades:
    print(grade)
80
90
70
```

The general form of a for loop over a list is:

```
for variable in list:
    body
```

Jennifer Campbell • Paul Gries University of Toronto