Example of a simple form and the perl script that processes it.

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"  
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">

<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xml:lang="en" lang="en">

<head>

<title>forms page</title>

</head>

<body>

<form method="post" action="test.pl">

<h3>A Simple Form</h3>

<p>Which course was your favorite?</p>

<p>  
<select name="fav">  
<option>CNIT 131</option>  
<option selected="selected">CNIT 132</option>   
<option>CNIT 133</option>   
</select>  
</p>

<p>Which course was your least favorite?</p>

<p><input type="radio" name="least" value="cnit131" checked="checked" />CNIT 131

<input type="radio" name="least" value="cnit132" />CNIT 132

<input type="radio" name="least" value="cnit133" />CNIT 133</p>

<p>Comments/Questions<br />

<textarea name="comments" rows="4" cols="40"></textarea></p>

<p><input type="submit"> <input type="reset" /></p>

</form>

</body>

</html>

Here is the perl script, named test.pl, that actually processes the submitted information from the form and returns the processed information as a web page.

#!/usr/local/bin/perl

do "cgi-lib.pl" ||die "Fatal Error: Can't load cgi library";

#calls subroutine in cgi-lib.pl library

&ReadParse;

# The above line reads the stream of name=value pairs from the form   
# and puts the values in a perl table called in

print "Content-type: text/html\n\n";

# in perl a \n is a "carriage return, next line"   
# NOTE: the text/html indicates the MIME type of  
# information that the   
# script is sending back to the browser thru the Web server

# The items within the braces below refer to the name contents found within the form.

# The next line says to output the following information, until   
# the statement \_END\_; is reached

print<<"\_END\_";

<html>

<head>

<title>Form Page</title>

</head>

<body>

<p>You indicated that your favorite class is $in{'fav'}</p>

<p>You indicated that your least favorite class is $in{'least'}</p>

<p>The value of comments is $in{'comments'}</p>

</body>

</html>

\_END\_  
;

Here is the above form [displayed](http://fog.ccsf.cc.ca.us/~srubin/simpform.html) and it's corresponding [perl script](http://fog.ccsf.edu/~srubin/cgi-bin/testpl.txt).

**Note that if your HTML file is in a sub-directory of public\_html**then the form action must go up one directory to correctly reference the cgi-bin directory.

Assuming that the sub-directory is cnit132, the URL would be:

http://fog.ccsf.cc.ca.us/~srubin/cnit132/simpform2.html

The form statement would then be:

<form method="post" action="../test.pl">

Here is the form [displayed](http://fog.ccsf.cc.ca.us/~srubin/cnit132/simpform2.html)

If your URL is

http://fog.ccsf.cc.ca.us/~srubin/hw8a/cnit132/simpform3.html

The form statement would then be:

<form method="post" action="../../test.pl">