

Introduction:

Learn how to use lists, to store lots of data in 1 variable.

Step 1: It's nice to be nice

In this project, you'll make a program to give the user a randomly generated compliment!



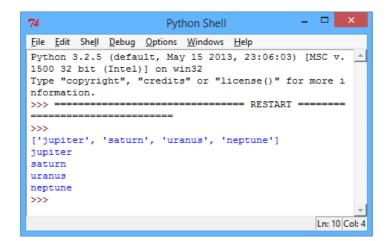
Activity Checklist

In your projects so far, you've used a variable to store a single piece of data, such as a name or a score. But what if you want to store lots of data? In Python, you can use a *list* to store lots of data in 1 variable:

```
bigPlanets = [ "jupiter" , "saturn" , "uranus" , "neptune"]
```

This list of text is also known as an *array* of text. To access items in the list, you just need to know the position of the item. Run this program to give yourself a better idea of how lists work:

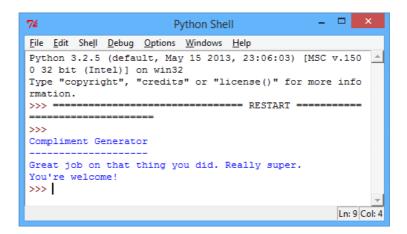
```
bigPlanets = [ "jupiter" , "saturn" , "uranus" , "neptune"]
print( bigPlanets[0] )
print( bigPlanets[1] )
print( bigPlanets[2] )
print( bigPlanets[3] )
```



screenshot

As you can see, positions start at 0 and not 1, so bigPlanets[1] is "saturn" (the second item) and not "jupiter".

You can use a list called compliments to store all of the possible compliments for your compliment generator program, and then use choice(compliments) to choose a random compliment for the user:



screenshot

You could make your compliments a little more interesting, by combining random items from 2 different lists:

```
from random import *

print("Compliment Generator")
print("------")

adjectives = [ "amazing" , "above-average" , "excellent" ]
hobbies = [ "riding a bike" , "programming" , "making a cup of tea" ]

name = input("What is your name?: ")
print( "Here is your compliment" , name , ":" )

#get a random item from both lists, and add them to the compliment
print( name , "you are" , choice(adjectives) , "at" , choice(hobbies) )
print( "You're welcome!" )
```



Challenge: Adding more compliments

Try to think of some more compliments, and add them to your program! Remember that you need to add a comma (,) between the items in your lists.



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Step 2: Endless compliments



Using what you know about while loops and if statements, you could modify your program to keep giving out compliments until the user decides to quit:

```
from random import *
#the program loops as long as this variable is 'True'
running = True
adjectives = [ "amazing" , "above-average" , "excellent" ]
hobbies = [ "riding a bike" , "programming" , "making a cup of tea" ]
print("Compliment Generator")
print("----")
name = input("What is your name?: ")
print("
c = get compliment
 q = quit
while running == True:
  menuChoice = input("\n>_").lower()
  #'c' for a compliment
  if menuChoice == 'c':
    print( "Here is your compliment" , name , ":" )
     #get a random item from both lists, and add them to the compliment
    print( name , "you are" , choice(adjectives) , "at" , choice(hobbies) )
    print( "You're welcome!" )
  #'q' to quit
  elif menuChoice == 'q':
    running = False
  else:
    print("Please choose a valid option!")
```

```
Python Shell
<u>File Edit Shell Debug Options Windows Help</u>
Python 3.2.5 (default, May 15 2013, 23:06:03) [MSC v.1500
32 bit (Intel)] on win32
Type "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more infor
mation.
>>> ====
       ----- RESTART ------
Compliment Generator
What is your name?: Dylan
 c = get compliment
  q = quit
Here is your compliment Dylan :
Dylan you are excellent at making a cup of tea
You're welcome!
Here is your compliment Dylan :
Dylan you are amazing at riding a bike
You're welcome!
>_q
>>>
                                                    Ln: 25 Col: 4
```

Remember that the the while loop continues to run as long as the variable running is set to True. If the user inputs q to quit, running is set to False.



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Step 3: Personalising compliments



Your compliment generator is starting to take shape, but it has a problem: what if your user can't ride a bike or make a cup of tea? In that case, your compliments won't be true, and won't cheer them up!

Let's modify your program, so that the user can choose to add or remove items from the hobbies list, to allow them to personalise the compliments they receive:

```
from random import *
running = True
adjectives = [ "amazing" , "above-average" , "excellent" ]
hobbies = [ "riding a bike", "programming", "making a cup of tea"]
print("Compliment Generator")
print("----")
name = input("What is your name?: ")
print("
Menu
c = get compliment
a = add hobby to list
d = delete hobby from list
p = print hobbies
q = quit
while running == True:
  menuChoice = input("\n>_").lower()
  #'c' for a compliment
  if menuChoice == 'c':
    print( "Here is your compliment" , name , ":" )
    #get a random item from both lists, and add them to the compliment
    print( name , "you are" , choice(adjectives) , "at" , choice(hobbies) )
    print( "You're welcome!" )
  #'a' to add a hobby
  elif menuChoice == 'a':
    itemToAdd = input("Please enter the hobby to add: ")
    hobbies.append(itemToAdd)
  #'d' to delete a hobby
  elif menuChoice == 'd':
    itemToDelete = input("Please enter the hobby to remove: ")
    hobbies.remove(itemToDelete)
  #'p' to print the hobbies list
  elif menuChoice == 'p':
    print(hobbies)
  #'q' to quit
  elif menuChoice == 'q':
    running = False
  else:
    print("Please choose a valid option!")
```

As you can see, you can use append() to add to a list, and remove() to remove an item. Run this program, and personalise the hobbies in the list to suit you. Ask the program for compliments until you're in a good mood!

When testing the program above, did you run into any problems? At the moment, your compliment generator crashes if you try and remove a compliment that isn't in the list:

```
['riding a bike', 'programming', 'making a cup of tea']
Please enter the hobby to remove: speaking spanish
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "C:/Desktop/comp.py", line 44, in <module>
   hobbies.remove(itemToDelete)
ValueError: list.remove(x): x not in list
>>>
                                                                               Ln: 26 Col: 4
```

screenshot

You can fix this problem, by first checking that the item to remove exists in the list. Replace your code to remove a hobby with this code:

```
#'d' to delete a hobby
elif menuChoice == 'd':
  itemToDelete = input("Please enter the hobby to remove: ")
  #only remove an item if it's in the list
  if itemToDelete in hobbies:
     hobbies.remove(itemToDelete)
     print("Hobby not in list!")
```

Now run the program and try to delete a hobby that isn't in the list:

```
['riding a bike', 'programming', 'making a cup of tea']
Please enter the hobby to remove: speaking spanish
Hobby not in list!
>_
                                                                              Ln: 24 Col: 2
```

screenshot



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Challenge: Duplicate hobbies

Another problem with the program is that it is possible to add the same hobby more than once:

```
Please enter the hobby to add: programming
['riding a bike', 'programming', 'making a cup of tea', 'programming']
>_
                                                                              Ln: 23 Col: 2
```

Can you fix this problem, so that a hobby can only be added if it isn't already in the list:

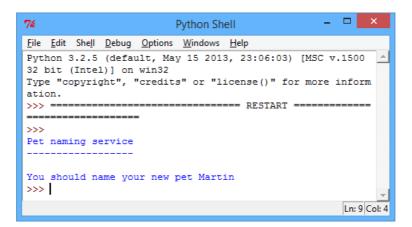
if itemToAdd not in hobbies:

#add code here...



Challenge: Pet naming service

Write a program to help a new pet owner to name their pet:



screenshot

Your program could: + allow the user to add and remove names from the list; + give different names for male and female pets, or different types of animal; + ask the user how many names they need, in case they have more than 1 pet to name.



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