

J1:ELEMENTS

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So, my friend J(I wont say his name out of privacy respect) showed me a Python 3 program coding using *freecodecamp*.

The code in the file looked something like this:

```
-----  
text='hello world'  
  
shift=3  
alphabet='abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'  
encrypted_text = ''  
  
for char in text.lower():  
    if char==' ':  
        char += encrypted_text  
    index= alphabet.find(char)  
    new_index= index + shift  
    encrypted_text += alphabet[new_index]  
    print('char:', char, 'encrypted_text:', encrypted_text)  
-----
```

it prints out an encryption where the phrase in the base variable – (text="x") - every letter in it gets shifted forward 3 letters to decode it.

This thing has a few moving parts. Data types, saved variables, choices, and a for loop are used.

So *freecodecamp*'s big solution is if you get stuck, is use google or email a friend or otherwise get the answer from someone else. Look, I know this is conventional wisdom. ***But we shouldn't make it the solution to everything!***

No. **This creates a world where only a few people actually know how to code.** You have to learn the basics and how to use them. *You have to learn the hard way how to do the work.*

You have to learn all the moving parts, and how they fit together.

This is the end of the credibility of *freecodecamp* to me. The End.

My friend has decided not to take the easy path but to learn Python 3 the hard way.

I am very very proud of him and toast to to his future success.