



Loops and lists

Motivation - What does this code do?

```
x = 5
if x > 0:
    print(x)
    x = x - 1
print("Done!")
```

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if x > 0:
```



Do we enter this if
statement?

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    print(x)
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    x = x - 1
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Output:

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if x > 0:  Do we enter this if  
    print(x) statement? Yep!
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Output:

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Do we enter this if
statement? Yep!

```
    print(x)
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```
    x = x - 1
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print("Done!")
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Output:

10

Done!

In the end, the value of x is 4

Making a *small change*

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if x > 0:
    print(x)
    x = x - 1
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if statements mean “if this condition is met,
run the code inside one time”

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if statements mean “if this condition is met, run the code inside one time”

While loops mean “keep running the code inside as long as the condition is still True”

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if statements mean “if this condition is met, run the code inside one time”

While loops mean “keep running the code inside as long as the condition is still True”

Check the condition of the loop (here $x > 0$)
Execute the code inside
Go back to the top and check the condition again

Following the flow

```
x = 5
```

First time through the loop, is $x > 0$?

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while x > 0:
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```
    print(x)
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    x = x - 1
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Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

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First time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

Second time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

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```
x = 5
```

```
while x > 0:
```

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    print(x)
```

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    x = x - 1
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print("Done!")
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First time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

Second time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$?

Following the flow

```
x = 5
```

```
while x > 0:
```

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    print(x)
```

```
    x = x - 1
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```
print("Done!")
```

First time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

Second time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 3, decrement x (x is now 2)

Following the flow

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    print(x)
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Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

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Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 3, decrement x (x is now 2)

Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$?

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x = 5
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First time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

Second time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 3, decrement x (x is now 2)

Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 2, decrement x (x is now 1)

Following the flow

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x = 5
```

```
while x > 0:
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```
    print(x)
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```
    x = x - 1
```

```
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First time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

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Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 3, decrement x (x is now 2)

Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 2, decrement x (x is now 1)

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Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 2, decrement x (x is now 1)

Fifth time through the loop, is $x > 0$?

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x = 5
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while x > 0:
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```
    print(x)
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Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 3, decrement x (x is now 2)

Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 2, decrement x (x is now 1)

Fifth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 1, decrement x (x is now 0)

Following the flow

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while x > 0:
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    print(x)
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```
    x = x - 1
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Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 3, decrement x (x is now 2)

Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 2, decrement x (x is now 1)

Fifth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 1, decrement x (x is now 0)

Sixth time through the loop, is $x > 0$?

Following the flow

```
x = 5
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```
while x > 0:
```

```
    print(x)
```

```
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```
print("Done!")
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First time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 5, decrement x (x is now 4)

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Print 4, decrement x (x is now 3)

Third time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 3, decrement x (x is now 2)

Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 2, decrement x (x is now 1)

Fifth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 1, decrement x (x is now 0)

Sixth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? No!

Following the flow

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x = 5
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while x > 0:
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    print(x)
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Fourth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 2, decrement x (x is now 1)

Fifth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? Yep!

Print 1, decrement x (x is now 0)

Sixth time through the loop, is $x > 0$? No!

Exit loop, print "Done!"

Why?

It can be *very* useful to repeat the same thing over and over again in code

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Examples?

Why?

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Examples?

- Counting
- Main loop of a game
- Asking for user input *until they get it right*
- Search

Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

A)

```
correct = False
x = -1
while not correct:
    x += 1
    correct = check_answer(x)
print(x)
```

B)

```
while True:
    print("hi!")
```

C)

```
command = input()
while command != "quit":
    run_command(command)
```


Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

A)

```
correct = False
```

```
x = -1
```

```
while not correct:
```

```
    x += 1
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```
    correct = check_answer(x)
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```
print(x)
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A)

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correct = False
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```
x = -1
```

```
while not correct:
```

```
    x += 1
```

```
    correct = check_answer(x)
```

```
print(x)
```

Increments x until we hit a value that causes check_answer to return True

Note: check_answer is a custom function

Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

B)

```
while True:  
    print("hi!")
```

Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

Prints “hi!” **FOREVER**

B)

```
while True:  
    print(“hi!”)
```

Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

Prints “hi!” **FOREVER**

This is an infinite loop!

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How do we stop code that is running forever?

Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

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How do we stop code that is running forever?

Click in terminal and press Ctrl + C

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while True:  
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```

How do we stop code that is running forever?

Click in terminal and press Ctrl + C

Or “kill terminal” in VSCode with the trash can

Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

Keeps asking the user for input

C)

```
command = input()
while command != "quit":
    run_command(command)
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Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

Keeps asking the user for input

Does *something* with normal inputs

C)

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command = input()
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Ends when it encounters “quit”

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Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

Keeps asking the user for input

Does *something* with normal inputs

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But I lied!

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command = input()
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Thinking through it - What do these examples do?

Keeps asking the user for input

Does *something* with normal inputs

Ends when it encounters “quit”

But I lied!

This is an infinite loop because we
only pull input once!

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    command = input()
```

Live coding: Average of N numbers

Imagine I want to take the average of some numbers

Live coding: Average of N numbers

Imagine I want to take the average of some numbers

How can I accept an arbitrary number of inputs from the user?

New keywords

`break` - stop the loop

`continue` - stop this iteration, jump back to top of loop and try again

What does this code do?

```
counter = 0
while counter < 5:
    counter += 1
    if counter == 3:
        break
    print(counter)
```

What does this code do?

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counter = 0
while counter < 5:
    counter += 1
    if counter == 3:
        continue
    print(counter)
```

What does this code do?

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counter = 0
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    print(counter)
```

Iterating over a string

```
my_str = input()
```

Iterating over a string

```
my_str = input()  
idx = 0
```

Iterating over a string

```
my_str = input()  
idx = 0  
while idx < len(my_str):
```

Iterating over a string

```
my_str = input()
idx = 0
while idx < len(my_str):
    print(my_str[idx])
    idx += 1
```


Reminder: while loops

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Keep looping until condition is False (or we break out)

For loops

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We iterate over a sequence so often, we have a loop that does exactly that!

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Syntax:

```
for variable in container:  
    # do stuff!  
# outside of loop
```

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Syntax:

This is the variable we are looping through (e.g., a string)



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for variable in container:
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```
    # do stuff!
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# outside of loop
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For loops

We iterate over a sequence so often, we have a loop that does exactly that!

New variable to hold the current item (we choose the var name)


Syntax:  This is the variable we are looping through (e.g., a string) 

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for variable in container:  
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# outside of loop
```


For loops

We iterate over a sequence so often, we have a loop that does exactly that!

New variable to hold the current item (we choose the var name)

Syntax:  This is the variable we are looping through (e.g., a string)

```
for variable in container:
```

```
    # do stuff!  Body of the loop executes once for each  
# outside of loop item in container
```


Comparing our loops

Comparing our loops

while

```
my_str = input()
idx = 0
while idx < len(my_str):
    print(my_str[idx])
    idx += 1
```

Comparing our loops

while

```
my_str = input()
idx = 0
while idx < len(my_str):
    print(my_str[idx])
    idx += 1
```

for

```
my_str = input()
for symbol in my_str:
    print(symbol)
```

What's the point?

- You can build a for and a while loop to do the same thing
 - But usually one is cleaner than the other for your scenario
 - e.g., you do not need to increment variables in a for loop
- General rules:
 - Iterating over a container -> For loop
 - You know the number of loops right before looping -> For loop
 - Looping an unknown number of times -> While loop

range

Remember wanting to count from 1 to 100 with a while loop?

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For loops can do this easily using the range function

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For loops can do this easily using the range function

`range(n)`

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`range(n)` -> go from 0 to $n - 1$

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`range(n)` -> go from 0 to $n - 1$

`range(n, k)`

range

Remember wanting to count from 1 to 100 with a while loop?

For loops can do this easily using the range function

`range(n)` -> go from 0 to $n - 1$

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For loops can do this easily using the range function

`range(n)` -> go from 0 to $n - 1$

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`range(n, k, z)`

range

Remember wanting to count from 1 to 100 with a while loop?

For loops can do this easily using the range function

`range(n)` -> go from 0 to $n - 1$

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`range(n)` -> go from 0 to $n - 1$

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`range(n, k, z)` -> go from n to k (don't include k), step by z

Can use a negative z to go backward!

range example - What will it print?

```
for i in range(10):  
    print(i)
```

range example - What will it print?

```
for i in range(10):  
    print(i)
```

Prints 0 through 9 (does not print 10)

range example 2 - What will it print?

```
username = "lou1960"  
for i in range(len(username)):  
    print(f"{i}, {username[i]}")
```


range example 2 - What will it print?

```
username = "lou1960"  
for i in range(len(username)):  
    print(f"{i}, {username[i]}")
```

```
0, l  
1, o  
2, u  
3, 1  
4, 9  
5, 6  
7, 0
```

range example 3 - What will it print?

```
username = "lou1960"  
for i in range(len(username)):  
    if username[i].isdigit():  
        print(f"First digit detected at index {i}")  
        break
```

range example 3 - What will it print?

```
username = "lou1960"  
for i in range(len(username)):  
    if username[i].isdigit():  
        print(f"First digit detected at index {i}")  
        break
```

Looks character by character to find a digit, the prints and breaks

range example 3 - What will it print?

```
username = "lou1960"  
for i in range(len(username)):  
    if username[i].isdigit():  
        print(f"First digit detected at index {i}")  
        break
```

Looks character by character to find a digit, the prints and breaks

Here, output would be: First digit detected at index 3

Going beyond strings

We can use for loops to loop through containers/sequences

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So far, we've only talked about strings, but there are others!

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What is a string?

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What is a string?

A sequence of characters

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What is a string?

A sequence of characters

A **list** is a sequence of *values*

Going beyond strings

We can use for loops to loop through containers/sequences

So far, we've only talked about strings, but there are others!

What is a string?

A sequence of characters

A **list** is a sequence of *values*

More options than just characters

Lists

Strings use “ “ or ‘ ’ to denote their boundaries

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Lists use [and]

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```
example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
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Why do we need commas here but not in strings?

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example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
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Why do we need commas here but not in strings?

Strings are *always* a sequence of characters

Lists

Strings use “ “ or ‘ ’ to denote their boundaries

Lists use [and]

```
example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
```

Why do we need commas here but not in strings?

Strings are *always* a sequence of characters

Lists need commas to separate values (e.g., 52 vs 5,2)

Lists

```
example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
```

Lists *can* hold different types at the same time (ints, strings, bools above)

Lists

```
example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
```

Lists *can* hold different types at the same time (ints, strings, bools above)

But often, we store one type (e.g., a list of ints)

Accessing lists

```
example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
```

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How can we access the first element in the list?

Accessing lists

```
example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
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How can we access the first element in the list?

```
example_list[0]
```

Accessing lists

```
example_list = [5, 2, "banana", True]
```

How can we access the first element in the list?

```
example_list[0]
```

We can access elements in all the same ways as accessing characters in a string! :D

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

How can I access the 87?

How can I access the 98?

What does `grades[3]` return?

How can I slice to return the last three grades?

How can I fetch the number of grades?

What does `grades[0:-1:2]` return?

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

How can I access the 87? `grades[2]`

How can I access the 98?

What does `grades[3]` return?

How can I slice to return the last three grades?

How can I fetch the number of grades?

What does `grades[0:-1:2]` return?

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

How can I access the 87? `grades[2]`

How can I access the 98? `grades[-1]`

What does `grades[3]` return?

How can I slice to return the last three grades?

How can I fetch the number of grades?

What does `grades[0:-1:2]` return?

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

How can I access the 87? `grades[2]`

How can I access the 98? `grades[-1]`

What does `grades[3]` return? `92`

How can I slice to return the last three grades?

How can I fetch the number of grades?

What does `grades[0:-1:2]` return?

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

How can I access the 87? `grades[2]`

How can I access the 98? `grades[-1]`

What does `grades[3]` return? `92`

How can I slice to return the last three grades? `grades[-3:]`

How can I fetch the number of grades?

What does `grades[0:-1:2]` return?

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

How can I access the 87? `grades[2]`

How can I access the 98? `grades[-1]`

What does `grades[3]` return? `92`

How can I slice to return the last three grades? `grades[-3:]`

How can I fetch the number of grades? `len(grades)`

What does `grades[0:-1:2]` return?

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

How can I access the 87? `grades[2]`

How can I access the 98? `grades[-1]`

What does `grades[3]` return? `92`

How can I slice to return the last three grades? `grades[-3:]`

How can I fetch the number of grades? `len(grades)`

What does `grades[0:-1:2]` return? `[100, 87, 90]`

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What does this line do?

```
grades[1] = 99
```

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What does this line do?

```
grades[1] = 99
```

It updates grades! `grades = [100, 99, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]`

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What does this line do?

```
grades[1] = 99
```

It updates grades! `grades = [100, 99, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]`

Strings are **immutable**, so this would fail.

Accessing lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What does this line do?

```
grades[1] = 99
```

It updates grades! `grades = [100, 99, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]`

Strings are **immutable**, so this would fail.

Lists are **mutable**, this is totally fine!

Recap (section 40)

What is the difference between
for and while?

What is a list?

What does range do?

Modifying lists

Modifying lists

We can create an empty list:

```
my_list = []
```

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Some list methods modify the list “in place”

Modifying lists

We can create an empty list:

```
my_list = []
```

We can add to lists with `.append()`

```
my_list.append(5) -> my_list is now [5]
```

Some list methods modify the list “in place”

We are NOT doing `my_list = my_list.append(5)` that would break!

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98, 75]
```

What do you think this does?

```
grades.remove(75)
```

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What do you think this does?

```
grades.remove(75)
```

It removes the first instance of 75 in the list

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What do you think this does?

```
grades.remove(75)
```

It removes the first instance of 75 in the list

So now grades is [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 98]

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What do you think this does?

```
grades.remove(75)
```

It removes the first instance of 75 in the list

So now grades is [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 98]

What happens if we do this?

```
grades.remove(0)
```

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

What do you think this does?

```
grades.remove(75)
```

It removes the first instance of 75 in the list

So now grades is [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 98]

What happens if we do this?

```
grades.remove(0) Error! 0 not in list
```

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

We can also pop items out of the list!

```
grades.pop(0)
```

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
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grades.pop(0)
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This removes the element at that index, and returns it

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

We can also pop items out of the list!

```
grades.pop(0)
```

This removes the element at that index, and returns it

So `grades.pop(0)` returned 100, and `grades` is now:
`[95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]`

Modifying lists

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]
```

We can also pop items out of the list!

```
grades.pop(0)
```

This removes the element at that index, and returns it

So `grades.pop(0)` returned 100, and `grades` is now:
`[95, 87, 92, 90, 75, 98]`

`list.pop()` (no argument) pops the last element in list

Recap (section 30)

What is the difference between
for and while?

What is a list?

What does this code do?

```
my_list = []  
my_list.append(3)  
my_list.append(5)  
my_list.append(7)  
print(my_list)  
my_list.pop(1)  
print(my_list)  
my_list.remove(3)  
print(my_list)
```

List functions and methods

`len(list1)`

`list1 + list2`

`min(list1)`

`max(list1)`

`sum(list1)`

`list.index(value)`

`list.count(value)`

List functions and methods

`len(list)` Returns length of the list (# of items)

`list1 + list2`

`min(list)`

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List functions and methods

`len(list)` Returns length of the list (# of items)

`list1 + list2` Concatenates lists, produces a new list

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`len(list)` Returns length of the list (# of items)

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`len(list)` Returns length of the list (# of items)

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`min(list)` Returns minimum value in list

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`list.count(value)`

List functions and methods

`len(list)` Returns length of the list (# of items)

`list1 + list2` Concatenates lists, produces a new list

`min(list)` Returns minimum value in list

`max(list)` Returns maximum value in list

`sum(list)` Adds all items together (numbers only)

`list.index(value)` Returns index of first match of val, error if not found

`list.count(value)`

List functions and methods

`len(list)` Returns length of the list (# of items)

`list1 + list2` Concatenates lists, produces a new list

`min(list)` Returns minimum value in list

`max(list)` Returns maximum value in list

`sum(list)` Adds all items together (numbers only)

`list.index(value)` Returns index of first match of val, error if not found

`list.count(value)` Counts number of occurrences of val

Checking membership

We can use the `in` operator to check membership

Checking membership

We can use the `in` operator to check membership

```
if 100 not in grades:  
    print('No perfect grades? :(')  
if 0 in grades:  
    print('uh oh')
```

Lists and loops

You can use a for loop on lists just like strings:

```
grades = [100, 95, 87, 92, 25, 90, 75, 98, 12]
for score in grades:
    if score < 60:
        print(f"Failing grade detected: {score}")
```

An incredibly useful method

Imagine you have a string:

```
dest = "4.37 ly"
```

And you want the two separate parts.

An incredibly useful method

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Strings have a `.split()` method that will split into parts:

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And you want the two separate parts.

Strings have a `.split()` method that will split into parts:

```
dest.split() returns the list [ "4.37", "ly" ]
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An incredibly useful method

Imagine you have a string:

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Strings have a `.split()` method that will split into parts:

```
dest.split() returns the list [ "4.37", "ly" ]
```

An incredibly useful method

Imagine you have a string:

```
dest = "4.37 ly"
```

And you want the two separate parts.

Strings have a `.split()` method that will split into parts:

```
dest.split() returns the list [ "4.37", "ly" ]
```

You can also specify a different delimiter:

```
"this<AH>is<AH>a<AH>test".split("<AH>")
```

enumerate

Not sure if you want to use a range in your for loop or not?

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enumerate is cheat code: just do both!

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Not sure if you want to use a range in your for loop or not?

enumerate is cheat code: just do both!

```
my_str = "test"  
for index, symbol in enumerate(my_str):  
    print(f"Character at index {index}: {symbol}")
```