SYSTEMS PROGRAMMING PROJECT

TEXT EDITOR

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SUBMITTED TO

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OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE

The objective of our project is to create and develop a text editor. We have used various tools and programming applications in the development of this text editor. Our primary scope is to develop a tool which can perform most of the basic functions of any other text editor and some other advanced features.

WHAT IS A TEXT EDITOR

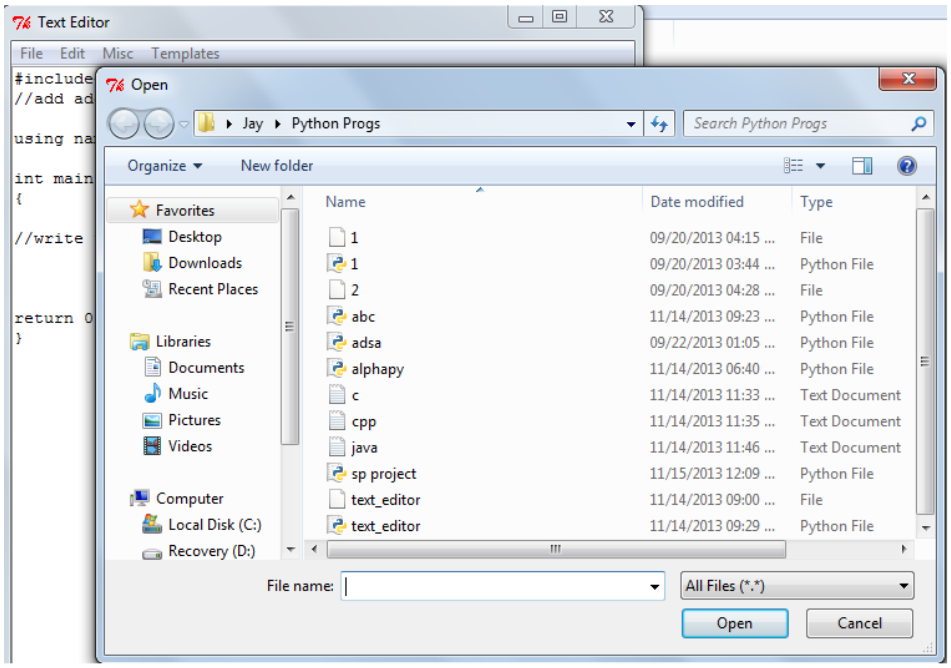
Text editors generally are tools provided along with Operating Systems to complete basic text editing functions, change configuration files and basic programming languages. Some text editors are small and simple, while others offer broad and complex functions. For example, UNIX and Unix-like operating systems have the VI editor (or a variant), but many also include the Emacs editor. Microsoft Windows systems come with the simple Notepad, though many people—especially programmers—prefer another Windows text editor with more features. Under Apple Macintosh's classic Mac OS there was the native SimpleText, which was replaced under Mac OS X by TextEdit, which merges features of a text editor with

those of a word processor such as rulers, margins and multiple font selection. Some editors, such as WordStar, have dual operating modes allowing them to be either a text editor or a word processor. A text editor written or customized for a specific use can sense what the user is editing and assist the user, often by providing simple ways to retrieve related information. Many text editors for software developers include source code syntax highlighting and automatic completion to make programs easier to read and write. Programming editors often let the user select the name of a subprogram or variable, and then jump to its definition and back.

SALIENT FEATURES AND DESIGN OF OUR TEXT EDITOR

- **Open**

This is used to open a saved file in the file-system.

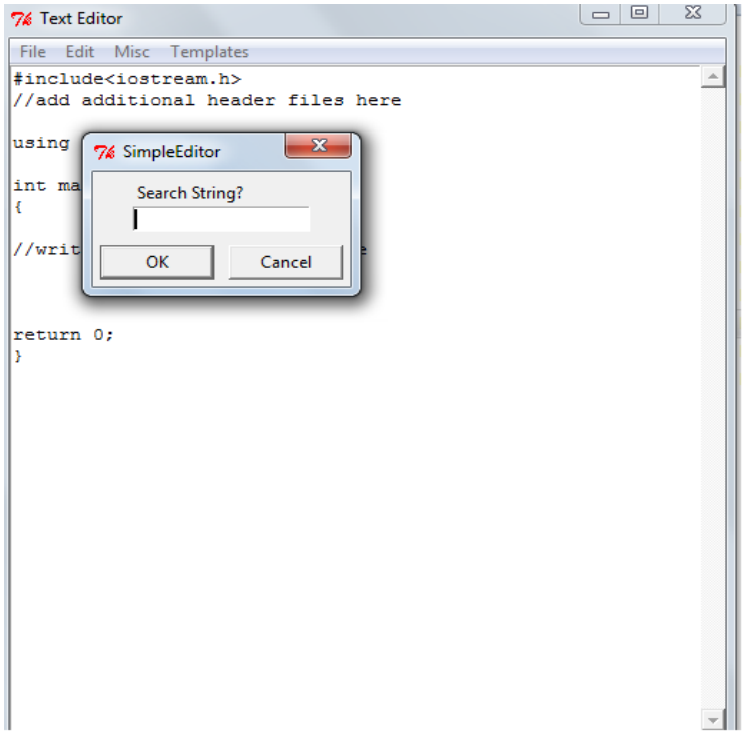


- **Save as**

This feature can be used to save any open file.

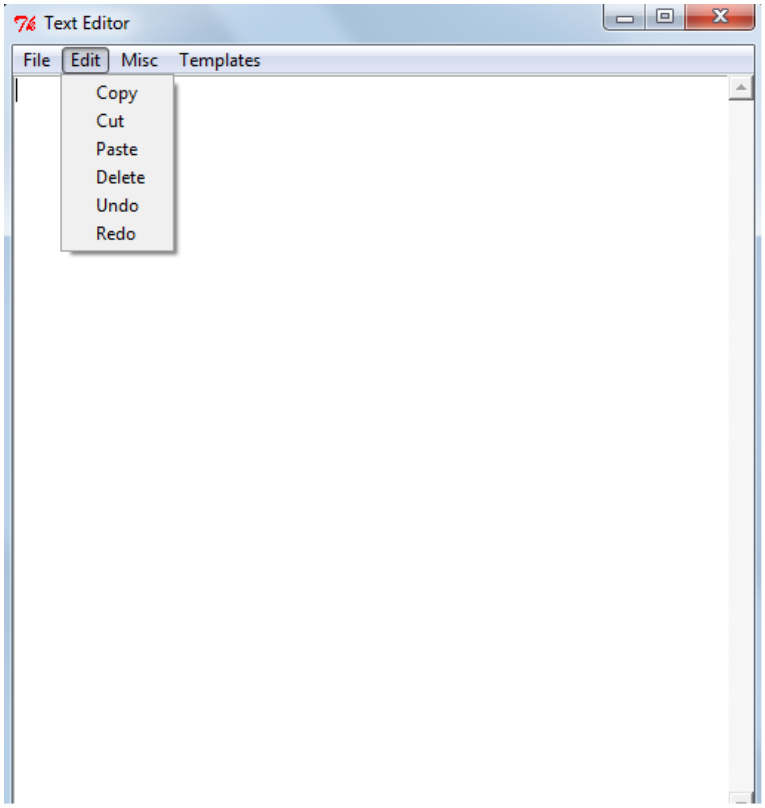
- **Find**

This feature is used to find any string from the text currently in the text box.



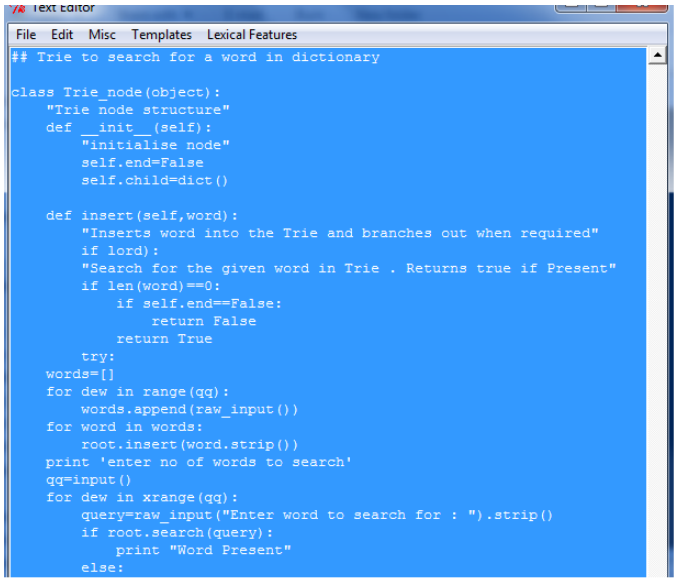
- **Copy, Cut, Paste**

These features can be used to copy or cut any text on the screen. The paste features pastes any copied text onto the screen. There are screen shortcuts for all these three functions.



- **Select All**

This function selects all the text in the text box.



- **Delete**

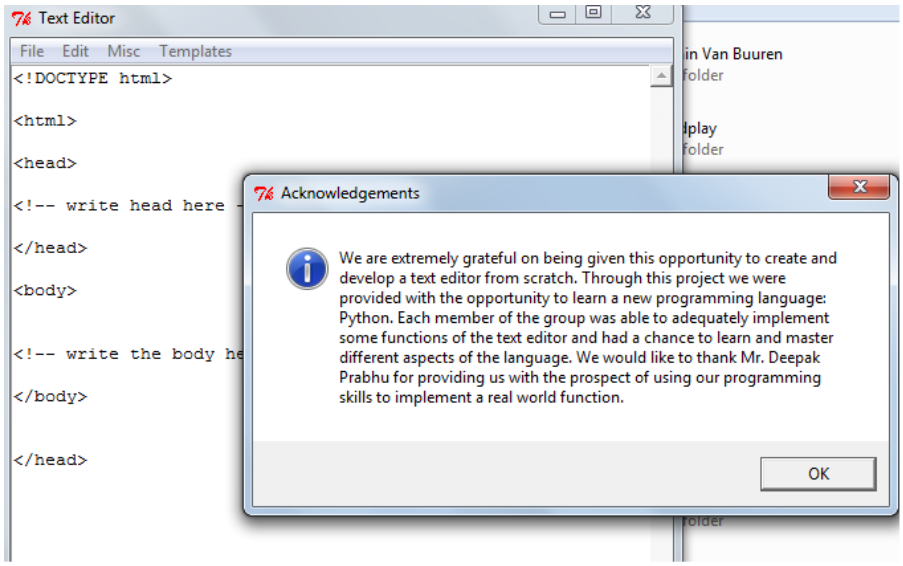
The delete function deletes all selected text from the text box.

- **Undo, Redo**

The undo and redo functions rollback to the previous made changes. There is a screen shortcut for undo.

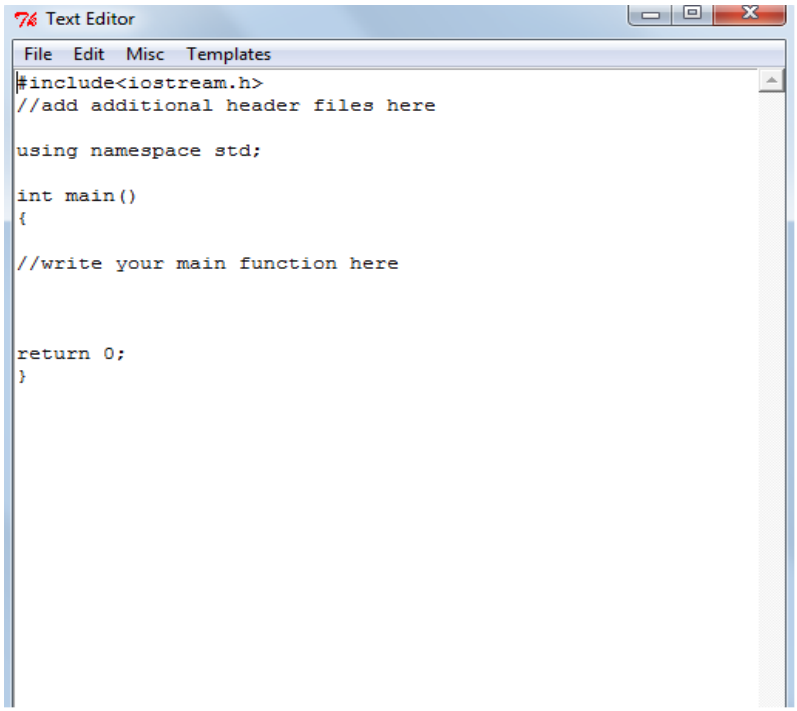
- **Team Members, Acknowledgements, References**

These functions are all in the miscellaneous tab in the menu bar. The team members tab shows the team members who worked on the project. The acknowledgement tab opens up a dialog box showing the acknowledgements. The references tab shows all the references.



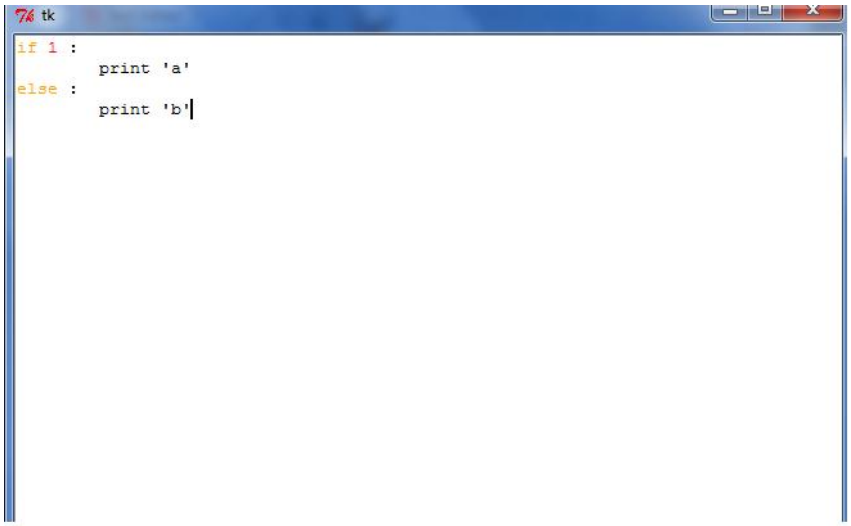
- **Templates**

The templates tab contains preloaded templates for four languages C, C++, JAVA, and HTML. Selecting any one of the templates opens up the text box containing a preloaded template for the selected language.



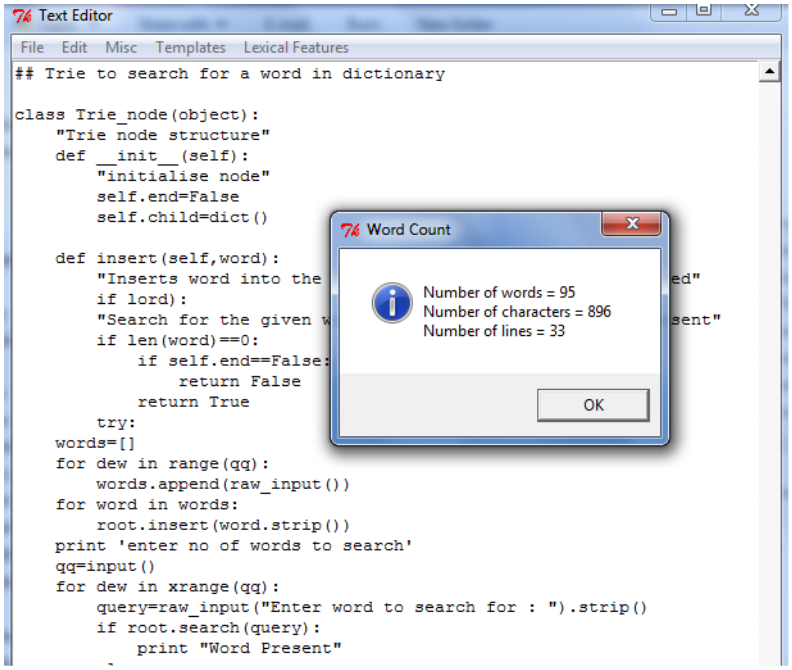
- **Python Syntax Highlighter**

This function opens up a new text box where inputted text is compared with all the keywords in python and integers and syntax is highlighted.



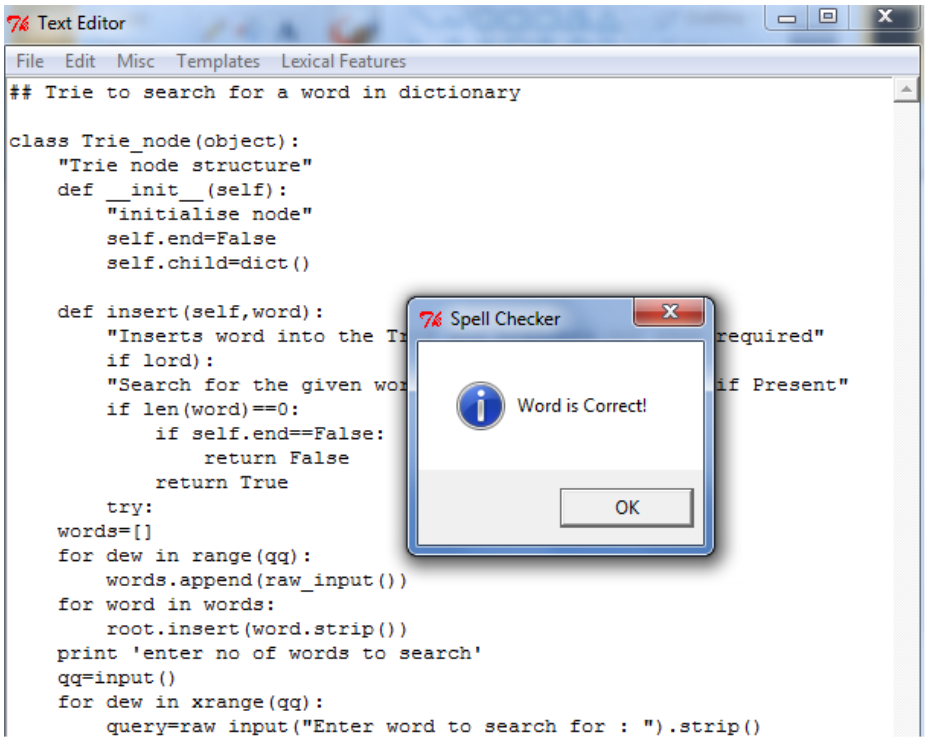
- **Word Count**

This function returns a count of all the words, lines, and characters in the text box.



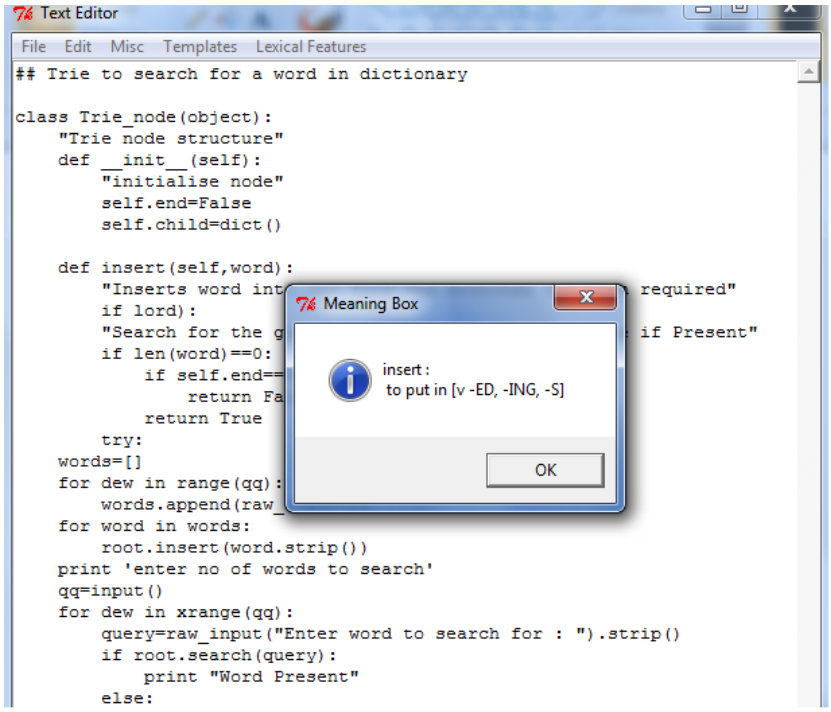
- **Word Check**

The word check function goes through a highlighted word in the text box and returns if the word is a valid word or not.



- **Meaning Check**

The meaning check function goes through a highlighted word in the text box and returns the meaning of the word from a dictionary.



SOFTWARE SPECIFICATIONS AND TOOLS

These are some of the tools we have used during the implementation of our project.

- Python 2.7
- IDLE Interface
- Various tkinter API functionalities like asksaveasfilename, askopenfilename, askstring, settext, gettext, pack, etc.

CHALLENGES FACED

During the course of this text editor project, we faced a lot of challenges, especially due to encapsulating our entire text editor by making use of the tkinter text widget. The choice of the GUI was another issue faced as it was the first step to starting the entire editor from scratch. Syntax highlighting was extremely difficult to implement as it was a new concept to us. Online documentation and coding forums helped us find many solutions to these problems.

CONCLUSION

We are extremely grateful on being given this opportunity to create and develop a text editor from scratch. Through this project we were provided with the opportunity to learn a new programming language: Python. Each member of the group was able to adequately implement some functions and had a chance to learn and master different aspects of the language. We would like to thank MR. Deepak Prabhu for providing us with the prospect of using our programming skills to implement a real world function. The different functions we have implemented are:

- Open
- Save as
- Find
- Cut, Copy, Paste
- Select All
- Delete
- Undo, Redo
- Team Members, Acknowledgements, References
- Templates
- Python Syntax Highlighter
- Word Check
- Meaning Check