**Server-side
Web Development**

Unit 02. PHP basics.

Practice 02 Solution

1 PRACTICE 02 SOLUTIONS

1.1 Exercise 01

First and last character of a string.

Write a PHP script to obtain the first and the last character of a string. Then, show them on the screen.

Solve de exercise in two different ways.

1.2 Exercise 02

First and last character of a special string

Write a PHP script to obtain the first and the last character of a string that ends with a "." symbol. We don't want to get the "." char, so we need to take as last character of the string the one before the last.

For instance, the last character of the string **"Hello, world."** would be the "d".

Solve the exercise in two different ways.

1.3 Exercise 03

First and last character of any string

Write a PHP script to obtain the first and the last character of any string that might or not end with a special character symbol.

For instance, the last character of the string **"Hello, world."** would be the "d".

And the last character of the string **"Hello, world"** would be the "d" as well.

Solution

```php
1  <h1 style="color:blue;">Practice 02</h1>
2  <h2 style="color:red;">First and last characters in a string</h2>
3  <?php
4  $mainString="Hello, world";
5  $firstChar=substr($mainString,0,1);
6  echo "First character of $mainString is $firstChar<br/>";
7  $lastChar=substr($mainString,strlen($mainString)-1,1);
8  echo "Last character of $mainString is $lastChar<br/>";
9  // second way
10 $lastChar=substr($mainString,-1,1);
```

```php
11  echo "Last character of $mainString is $lastChar<br/>";
12  // third way
13  $reversedString=strrev($mainString);
14  $lastChar=substr($reversedString,0,1);
15  echo "Last character of $mainString is $lastChar<br/>";
16  $mainString="Hello,world.";
17  // first
18  $lastChar=substr($mainString,strlen($mainString)-2,1);
19  echo "Last character of $mainString is $lastChar<br/>";
20  // second
21  $lastChar=substr($mainString,-2,1);
22  echo "Last character of $mainString is $lastChar<br/>";
23  // we don't know if the last character is a . or not
24  $mainString1="Hello,world";
25  $mainString2="Hello,world.";
26  $newString1=str_replace(".","",$mainString1);
27  $newString2=str_replace(".","",$mainString2);
28  $lastChar=substr($newString2,-1,1);
29  echo "Last character of $mainString1 is $lastChar<br/>";
30  ?>
```