

## Lab 3 Text, if

### Learning Goals

1. Work with text.
2. Cope with quotes inside strings.
3. Define some text function that return a string.
4. Call those functions.

### Work with text

Assuming your name is Jan Smith, start each file you submit with

```
# Jan Smith
```

#### Lab3-1.py

**Assigning string values containing quotes and other "interesting" characters.**

Assign the phrases below to the variables `phrase1` and `phrase2`, using different mechanisms for each. For example, you might use `" "` double quotes for `phrase1` and an escape sequence for `phrase2`. For the next phrase, you might use some other techniques – some solutions might use several lines, assigning values to several variables.

- a. We'll be all right.
- b. "No way!" he said.
- c. Chris said "It's OK" and it was.
- d. Use `\n` for a "newline."

#### Lab3-2.py

**Print string and its length:**

- a. `"*" + 20 * "-"`
- b. `"VW\nBMW"`
- c. `"` (the empty string)

#### Lab-3-3.py

**Print a mix of text literals and variables**

Make these assignments to the variables `age` and `weight`

```
age = 2
weight = 11.5
```

Use the `print` function to print the following messages. When numbers appear in the messages, use the variables `age` and `weight`, not the numbers in your call to the `print` function.

- a. The beagle is 2 years old.
- b. 11.5 is the average weight.
- c. 11.5 - 2 is 9.5.

#### Lab-3-4.py

**Use the `input` function to get a price from the user and convert it to float, then print it.**

**Your prompt to the user should say something like "Enter the price: ".**

Round the price to 2 decimal places, then print it.

#### Lab-3-5.py

**Package the input code from 3-4 to define a `get_float(prompt)` function.**

**Call the function to get a floating point number from a user. Multiply the number by 2 and print it, rounded to 2 decimal places.**

### **Lab 3-6 Detect palindromes from user input typed in (ask for lower case letters only)**

#### **The issue**

You prompt a user to type in a phrase or sentence, using lower case letters only, and your program will correctly announce either "You typed a palindrome - reads the same forward as backward" or "You did not type a palindrome".

"stars rats" – this is a palindrome  
"a man, a plan, a canal, Panama!" – palindrome also  
"Olive live" – not a palindrome

#### **3-6 Part 1 A Plan**

- # Using comments,
- # sketch out how you will tackle
- # the problem. (Not python code,
- # just how you will break the problem
- # into smaller chunks).

You notice some issues to tackle:

- getting user input
- copying the input
- cleaning out non-letters
- creating a copy of the cleaned input,
- with letters in reversed order.

#### **3-6 Part 2 Write a couple of functions**

##### **# Create a "stub"**

```
def clean_letters(a_string):  
    print("clean_letters")  
    return "starrats"
```

As you run your program, you should see the result of calling your "stub" functions. If not, figure why not and fix.

#### **3-6 Part 3 Make a function useful**

##### **# Use a 'for' loop to run through**

**letters in your string. Use some form of if to decide which letters to keep.**

You might want to try a tiny program to get this logic

```
def clean_letters(a_string):  
    """ (str) -> str  
        return a cleaned-up copy of the input  
        string (letters only) no blanks etc.  
    """  
  
    clean_string = "" # start with empty string  
    for letter in a_string:  
        if ... You need to decide how to tell it's  
            good....  
            clean_string += letter  
    return clean_string
```

```
# call to test  
test = "nbc news"  
x = clean_letters(test)  
# for this example, should get 'nbcnews'  
print(x)
```

If you run into trouble, you can go to **pythontutor.com** and run the Python 3.3 **visualizer** to run your code one instruction at a time.

#### **3-6 Part 4 Make a function useful**

**# Use a 'for' loop to run through letters in your string to create a copy of the string in reverse order.**

```
'abc' -> 'cba'  
Hint: another 'for' loop.
```

**3-6 Part 5 All together, plus one more 'if' to compare a reversed clean string with a clean string. If equal. we have a palindrome.**

## Grading

### Lab 3-1 **4 points**

4 strings to create, 1 point each

### Lab 3-2 **3 points**

3 strings and their lengths to print each,

0.5 point for string

0.5 point for its length

### Lab 3-3 **3 points**

1 point for each printing using variables age and/or weight.

### Lab 3-4 **5 points**

1 call input function

1 call includes a prompt message;  
includes a  
trailing blank

2 convert return value from input  
from string to float

1 print the float value, rounded to  
2 decimals.

### Lab 3-5 **5 points**

**Create a get\_float(prompt) function**

1 def function

2 docstring included with function

1 function returns a float value

1 print the float value

Get this done by next Monday.

### Lab 3-6 **detect palindromes**

(phrases that read the same  
forward as well as backward:

'madam, I'm adam')

part 1 **5 points**

# comments note how

# you plan to tackle the issue

part 2 **5 points**

create def and return

but not a working body

for your functions

for loop to process each letter

**5 points**

compare cleaned-up string to its  
reverse (detecting a palindrome).

**5 points**

Start to work on the palindrome problem,  
but you will be able to submit this after  
Monday if you have not finished it.