**2.6 Python Variable (Identifier)**

In a programme, we must use many data, like values, constants, functions, arrays, lists etc. In a computer programme, each data must have a name. Names using for this purpose is known as ***variable*** or ***identifier***. Consider the following equations.

*a=b+c*

*per=mark \* 100/max\_mark*

In the above equations a, b, c, per, mark and max\_mark are the examples for variables.

**Rules of naming the variable.**

1. Any alphanumeric character combination is permitted.
2. A variable name must start with an alphabet.
3. White space is not permitted in the name.
4. Underscore (‘\_’) is permitted.
5. Variables are case sensitive. That means for a computer ‘mark’ and ‘Mark’ are two different quantities.
6. The permitted length of a variable name depends on the microprocessor type.
7. Even though any character combination can be used as a variable name, better to use some meaningful combinations of English alphabets for effective programming. Eg: - mark, reg\_no, ph\_mark etc.
8. Keyword (the words using in an instruction command) cannot be used as a variable name.

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| --- | --- |
| Valid variable names | Invalid variable names |
| mark  mark1  mark\_phy  no  m2k3  kk\_tho | def  1mark  Mark-phy  No.  Roll no  Else |