**2.7 Python Input statements**

Input statements are the instructions in python to input data from the keyboard to the computer. The most common formats of input statements are the following.

*mark = input()*

*mark = input(‘Enter the mark ‘)*

When this statement is executed, the cursor will wait for an entry from the keyboard. User must know what to do when the cursor blinks during the execution of the programme. Giving a message on the message board is the better way of solving it.

*mark = input(‘Enter the mark’)*

We can receive more than one data using a single input instruction using split function.

*x,y = input (‘Enter the x-value and y-value’ ).split()*

The general syntax of these instructions are the following,

*identifier* = input (*message within quotes which is optional*)

*identifier list separated by comma* = input (*message within quotes which is optional*).split()

The number of variables in the list must match with the number of data typed through the keyboard. During data entry, data must be separated by space.

In interactive mode the allocation of data type for each variable is automatic. As we type python recognize the data type, means whether it is float or integer or complex etc. But in script mode, all data is received as string, which we can convert to any type by casting operators, *like x=float(y), x=int(x).* Anyhow, there is no need of variable declarations at the starting. So, we can say that Python is a ***dynamic data type*** language.

In the older versions (2.x) there was an another type of input in which, the computer will accept the data without any type of specification.

For example, *x,y=raw\_input(“enter x and y values “)*. After this instruction, we can convert the data into any data type. If we are not specifying the type, the computer will treat it as a string.