

Exercise 1.1: Getting Started with Python

Learning Goals

- Summarize the uses and benefits of Python for web development
- Prepare your developer environment for programming with Python

Reflection Questions

1. In your own words, what is the difference between frontend and backend web development? If you were hired to work on backend programming for a web application, what kinds of operations would you be working on?

- Frontend development focuses on the client side of a web application, whereas backend development focuses on the server side of an application. If I were hired as a backend developer, I would be working on things such as APIs, databases, security, and server maintenance.

2. Imagine you're working as a full-stack developer in the near future. Your team is asking for your advice on whether to use JavaScript or Python for a project, and you think Python would be the better choice. How would you explain the similarities and differences between the two languages to your team? Drawing from what you learned in this Exercise, what reasons would you give to convince your team that Python is the better option?

(Hint: refer to the Exercise section "The Benefits of Developing with Python")

- Python is a readable, versatile backend language. It's easier to import packages due to it being a well kept, open source language. Python's frameworks also have built-in and easy to use operations, such as form handling and URL routing. In short, Python was literally made for the backend, so it makes it easier to implement backend functions.

3. Now that you've had an introduction to Python, write down 3 goals you have for yourself and your learning during this Achievement. You can reflect on the following questions if it helps you. What do you want to learn about Python? What do you want to get out of this Achievement? Where or what do you see yourself working on after you complete this Achievement?

- Goal 1: learn Python. Goal 2: create a cool project using Python. Goal 3: expand my backend skills. I know these goals sound facetious, but I would like to learn as much about Python as I can. I've noticed a lot of companies use Python/Django in their tech stack, so I think it's a good and marketable language to learn. I've already done a mini tic-tac-toe project that runs in the Terminal in Python, so I suppose I'd like to learn how to implement Python in real-world apps.