

## **Week Two Reading Notes**

Time to roll up your sleeves and get to work with your new friends: the Python Loop, Functions, Strings, and many others. After this week, nearly every program you will write will contain some loops and functions. In other words, Week Two is foundational, and everything covered will be used again later.

The best way to get to know your new friends is by playing with them, and that is where the finger exercises can help. As you attempt to solve the finger exercises, remember that you can modify and recheck your answers as often as you like. There is no penalty or cost in trying, and there is no limit in how many times you click check, so keep trying.

Answer all the questions in the finger exercises. If you don't know the answer, you may guess. Sometimes Guess-and-Check is the right strategy. After checking, go back and try again on the ones you got wrong.

The edX system keeps track of the last check for each exercise – your score will reflect your most recent submission. Once you get the answer right, it can be instructive to click on “Show Answer” to see the way that we solved the problem. We encourage you to review our solutions, especially if ours is much shorter than yours. Your goal should be to not simply write code that works, but code that is elegant, simple, and concise. It is often quite instructive to see how we have played with our old friends.

Good luck with this week's exercises, and be sure to check the forums when you get stuck!

- Larry, Sarina, and the 6.00x Staff