

# Variables

- Dr. Junjie Zhang
- Huaxia Chinese School at Mason, OH

# Variables

A variable is a container/box for storing a data value.



# An Example

$x = 1$

- What does this mean? Any thoughts?
- What does "=" mean? Please clarify.

# "=" might be mind-blowing for kiddos

It was definitely mind-blowing for me when I was 18.

- In programming, "=" is for **assign**, NOT for **equal**
- Put the data from the right side to the left side

# A Few Examples

```
x = 1  
print(x)
```

```
x = 1  
y = x  
print(x)  
print(y)
```

```
x = 1  
y = x + 1  
print(x)  
print(y)
```

# A Few Examples

```
x = 1  
x = x + 1  
print(x)
```

```
name = input("please enter your name")  
print(name)
```

# Rules for Python Variables (Not Important. Just FYI)

- A variable name must start with a letter or the underscore character
- A variable name cannot start with a number
- A variable name can only contain alpha-numeric characters and underscores (A-z, 0-9, and \_)
- Variable names are case-sensitive (age, Age and AGE are three different variables)

# Why do we need variables?

Can't we just work on numbers?

```
x = 100  
y = 200  
z = x + y  
print(z)
```

Why bothering? I can simply write the following and I still rock!

```
z = 100 + 200  
print(x)
```



# Why do we need variables?

A math puzzle:

- The first number is 2345
- The second number 5432
- What is the result when you add these two numbers, their multiplication result, the first one times 12, and the second one times 50?

# Why do we need variables?

## Easy Peasy Lemon Squeazy!

```
result = 2345 + 5432 + 2345 * 5432 + 2345 * 12 + 5432 * 50  
print(result)
```

# Why do we need variables?

But I may have the same type puzzle with different values for the first number and second number.

Another one: The first number is 234; The second number 543; ....

Yet another one: The first number is 666; The second number 888; ....

Yet another one: The first number is 777; The second number 999; ....

# Why do we need variables?

What's the problem now?

```
result = 234 + 543 + 234 * 543 + 234 * 12 + 543 * 50  
print(result)
```

```
result = 666 + 888 + 666 * 888 + 666 * 12 + 888 * 50  
print(result)
```

```
result = 777 + 999 + 777 * 999 + 777 * 12 + 999 * 50  
print(result)
```



# Why do we need variables?

They help to isolate the pattern of calculation from the specific numbers for this example. **So that you can reuse your code!**

```
num1 = 2345
num2 = 5432
result = num1 + num2 + num1 * num2 + num1 * 12 + num2 * 50
print(result)
```

# And it eases your life!

```
num1 = 234
num2 = 543
result = num1 + num2 + num1 * num2 + num1 * 12 + num2 * 50
print(result)
```

```
num1 = 666
num2 = 888
result = num1 + num2 + num1 * num2 + num1 * 12 + num2 * 50
print(result)
```

```
num1 = 777
num2 = 999
result = num1 + num2 + num1 * num2 + num1 * 12 + num2 * 50
print(result)
```

# Questions?



# Quiz

## Quiz 1:

- The first number is 333
- The second number is 444
- The addition of 1) the first number times the second number, 2) the square of the first number, and 3) the square of the second number.
  - $333 * 444 + 333 * 333 + 444 * 444$
- Print the result

Quiz 2: Repeat Quiz 1 using two different numbers: 111 and 222

# Another Exercise

```
x = 111  
y = 888  
print(x)  
print(y)
```

*#write your code here*

```
print(x)  
print(y)
```

Complete the code here to swap values in *x* and *y*.

# Homework

```
x = 111
y = 222
z = 333
print(x)
print(y)
print(z)
#write your code here
print(x)
print(y)
print(z)
```

After your code executes, x will have y's value, y will have z's value, and z will have x's value.

# Questions?