

Write a function that reads a file and return the word count of the file

```
def num_words(file_name):
    try:
        with open(file_name, 'r') as file:
            content = file.read()
            words = content.split()
            return len(words)
    except FileNotFoundError:
        print(f"{file_name} not found.")
        return 0

word_count = num_words('/content/sample_data/myfirstprogram')
print(f"Word count: {word_count}")

word_count = num_words('/content/sample_data/myfirstprogra')
print(f"Word count: {word_count}")

Word count: 6
/content/sample_data/myfirstprogra not found.
Word count: 0
```

In Python to create a method/function it should start with “**def**”.

Created a function named num_words, passing the file_name as parameter.

First tried to open the file using the with open() statement, which automatically closes the file after the block of code is executed. We read the contents of the file into the content variable using the read() method, and then split the contents into a list of words using the split() method and the separator is white space.

Used the try: except block to handle errors while reading the file.

On the above code snippet tested happy path scenario and error scenario as well.

Happy Path scenario called the function num_words with a valid file path and got the result “6”.

myfirstprogram – “This is My first Python Program”

error scenario entered the file name with spelling error, resulted in **except block of FileNotFoundError** printing myfirstprogra not found and word count as “0”.

https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1C0hDA8CP_sEEq4q9b0hgIpEwyl4wYUVJ?usp=sharing

Reference: <https://docs.python.org/3/library/exceptions.html>

