

Fun Facts about Functions with Mr C

ESC101: Fundamentals of Computing

Purushottam Kar

Announcements

- Last date for dropping Advanced Track October 12
 - Application must be an email to instructor, mentors, teammates
- Last date for dropping ESC101 course October 12
 - Application must be on standard DoAA course drop form – no email!
- Joint tutorial for B1 and B14 on October 12
 - 12 – 1 PM (same time), L19 - just an arrangement for this week ☺



Mr C takes a Math Lesson

3



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Mathematics is full of functions - we define more powerful functions using simple functions



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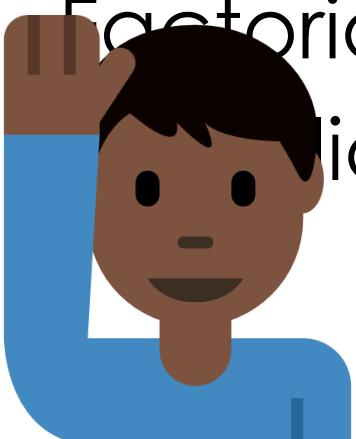


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Helps us write much cleaner math expressions,
as well as we do not make mistakes very often

Multiplication ☺
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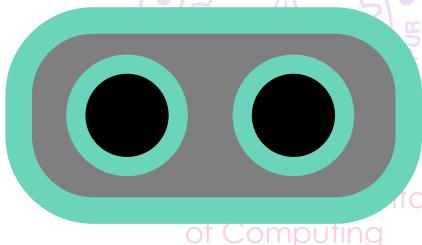
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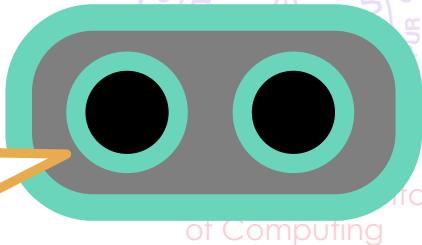
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I too allow you to write your own functions
for your comfort and to make your code
easier to read and easier to debug!



The Anatomy of a C Function

4



The Anatomy of a C Function

4

HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER



The Anatomy of a C Function

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int isUpperAlpha(char x){  
    int a = (x >= 'A') && (x <= 'Z');  
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Please output the value of a to whomever used this function



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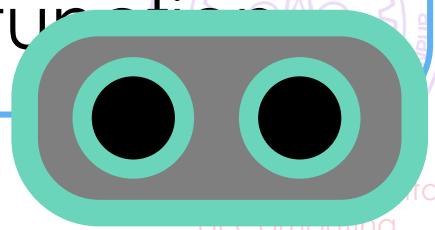
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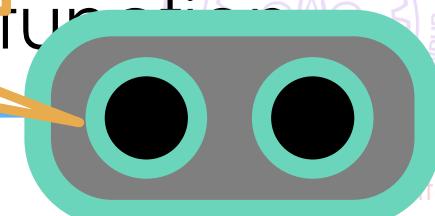
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Inputs to a function are called its *arguments*

A function *returns* its output

whenever

value of a to
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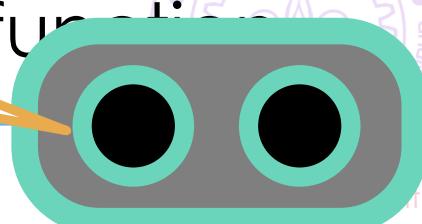
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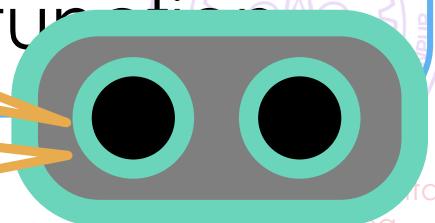
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A function may have many inputs but only one output



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parameters: one char

return type: integer

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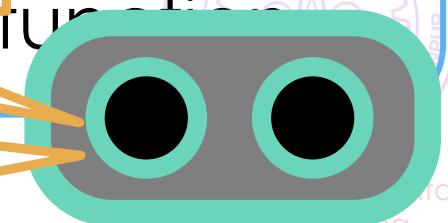
Upon receiving input, please

Programmers often call the process of giving inputs to a function as *passing arguments to the function*. If input is upper case, store 1 in a variable a else store 0 in a variable b.

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The Anatomy of a C Function

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Name of

elements:

type: integer

ಠ_ಠ So I can't write a function
that returns 2 integers –
say x and y coordinates?

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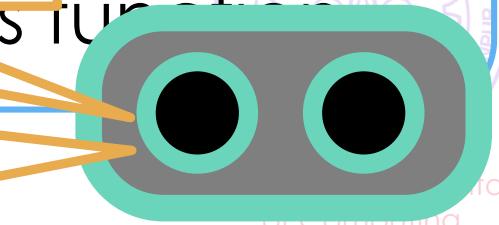
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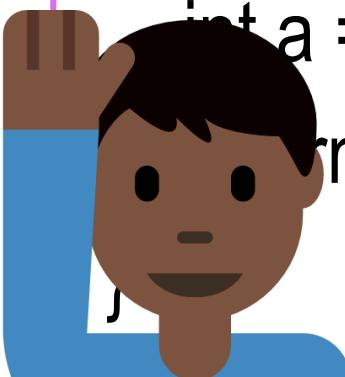


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Name of
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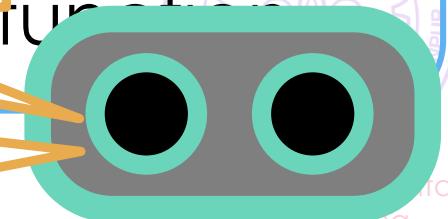
A function may have many inputs but only one output

if input is upper case else store 0 in a

variable a

value of a to another variable b

and so on



The Anatomy of a C Function

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HOW WE MUST SPEAK TO MR. COMPILER

int isUpperAlpha(char c){

Yes you can! But you have to
 be a bit clever about doing so

int a = 'A';
 cout << isUpperAlpha(a);

cout << endl;

name of

Programmers often call the process of giving inputs
 to a function as *passing arguments to the function*

arguments: one char

Inputs to a function are called its *arguments*

return type: integer

A function *returns* its output

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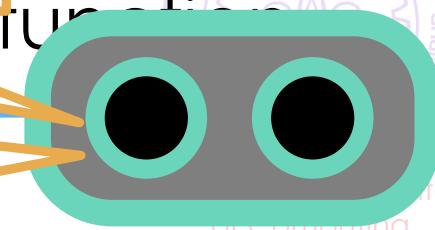
Upon receiving input, please

if input is upper
 store 1 in a
 else store 0 in a

value of a to

this function

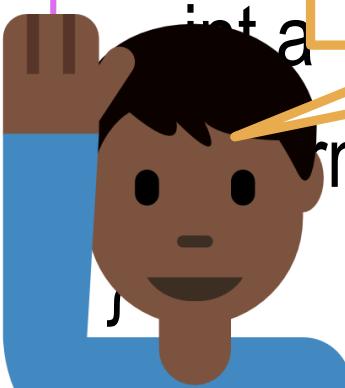
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int a = 'A';

We will teach you 3 ways to return more integer as output
than one output in this course 😊

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HOW WE USUALLY SPEAK TO A HUMAN

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that character x) as input and

return a value as output. 😊

Receiving input, please

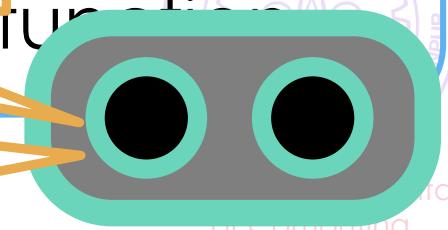
give variable a value if input is upper
case else store 0 in a

variable b.

Value of a to be used in this function

and value of b to be used in this function

A function may have many
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Functional Terminology

5



ESC101: Fundamentals
of Computing

Functional Terminology

Function Name: must be a valid identifier abc, a124, _ab1



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Return type: what does the function *return*

When you use a function, we say you have *called* that function. If the function outputs something, we say the function *returned* that output back to you



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The English word return has two meanings

I returned from the ESC101 lab at 5PM

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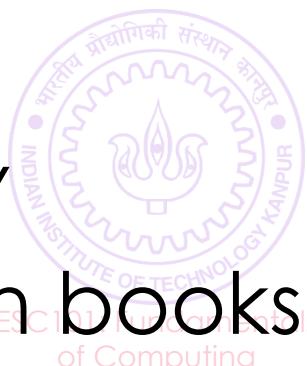
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Functions return back values to you just as you return books



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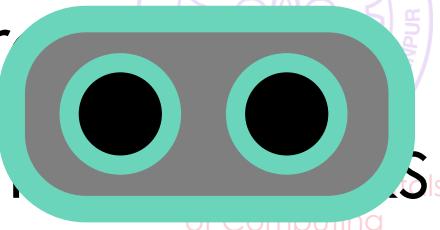
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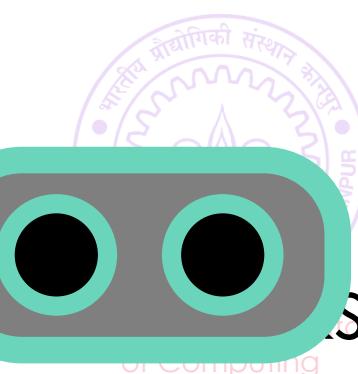
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The English word You must define the function **before** using the
I returned from the function (within main or your own functions)

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Functions return back values to you just as you re



Some Functional Exercises

6



Some Functional Exercises

6

Define a function to input two integers, output their max



Some Functional Exercises

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Define a function to input two integers, output their max

Define a function to print Hello World



Some Functional Exercises

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Define a function to input two integers, output their max

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Define a function to output 1 if input is prime else 0



Some Functional Exercises

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Define a function to input two integers, output their max

Define a function to print Hello World

Define a function to output 1 if input is prime else 0

Define a function to input two integers and print Hello
World if their max is prime



Some Functional Exercises

6

Define a function to input two integers, output their max

Define a function to print Hello World

Define a function to output 1 if input is prime else 0

Define a function to input two integers and print Hello
World if their max is prime

Define a function to print the max of 3 numbers



Some Functional Exercises

Define a function to input two integers, output their max

Define a function to print Hello World

Define a function to output 1 if input is prime else 0

Define a function to input two integers and print Hello
World if their max is prime

Define a function to print the max of 3 numbers

Define a function to input a character, output its upper
case version if lower case else output the character itself



Arguments and Return types

7



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You can define a function that takes
in no input and gives no output



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void print(void){  
    printf("Hello World");  
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Even void print(){ ... } works

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    printf("Hello World");  
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void sum(int a, int b){  
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Arguments and Return types

You can define a function that takes in no input and gives no output

Even `void print(){ ... }` works

You can define a function that takes inputs but gives no output

You can define a function that takes no input but gives an output

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Arguments and Return types

7

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More on Arguments

8



ESC101: Fundamentals
of Computing

More on Arguments

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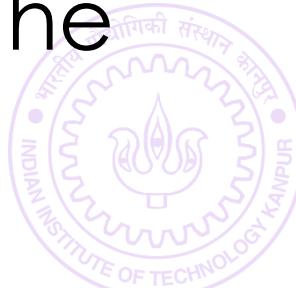
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Will see more about this “cloning” behaviour tomorrow



More on Arguments

9



ESC101: Fundamentals
of Computing

More on Arguments

If you have promised to give a function two integers,
please give it two integers



More on Arguments

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If you give it only one or three integers, compilation error



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Be careful to not make typecasting errors



More on Return



More on Return

10

May write return statement many times inside a function



More on Return

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When Mr C (his clone actually) sees a return statement,
he immediately generates the output and function
execution stops there.



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More on Return

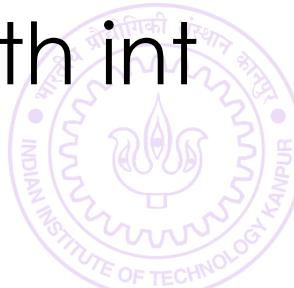
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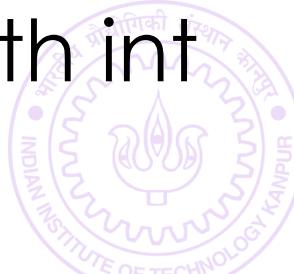
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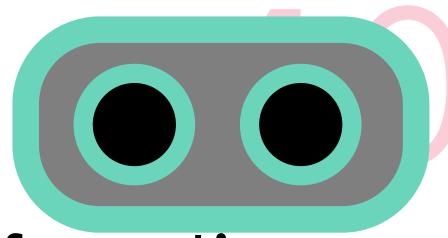
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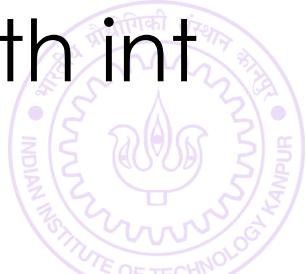
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More on Functions

May write return statements in a function

For functions that do not need to return anything i.e. void return type, you can either say return; or else not write return at all inside the function body in which case the entire body will get executed

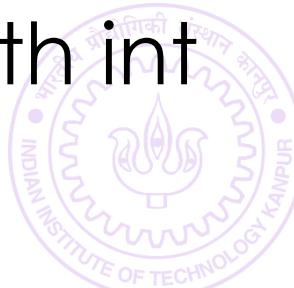
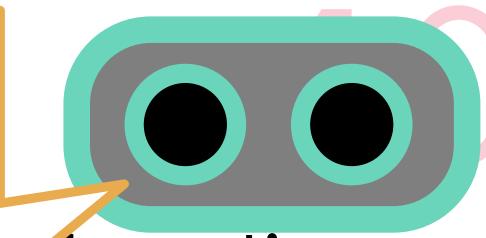
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11



More on Return

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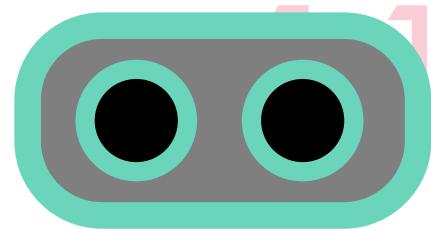
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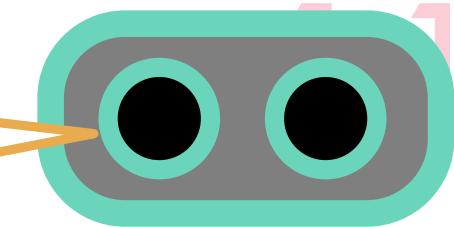
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More on Return

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More on Return

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The value that is returned by main() is like a reserved function name. Just as a normal variable of type int cannot have type

Cannot name your function main

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Benefits of writing functions

12



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Allows you to think very clearly



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E.g. if you want to do something if the integer n is a prime number or if it is divisible by 11



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```
if(isPrime(n) || isDivby11(n)){
```

...

```
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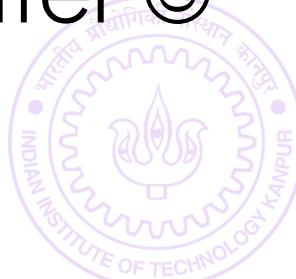
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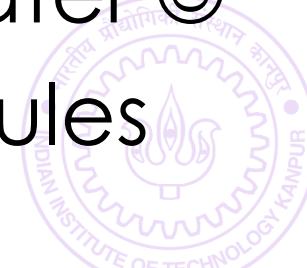
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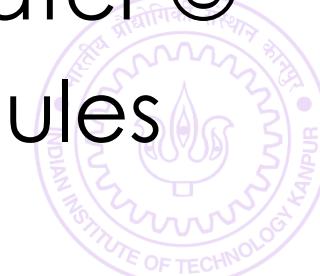
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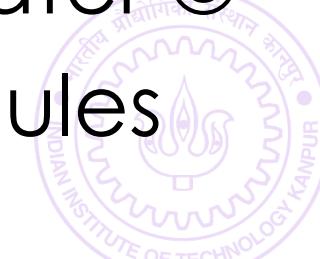
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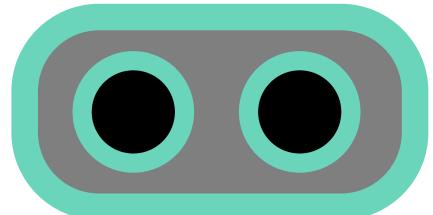
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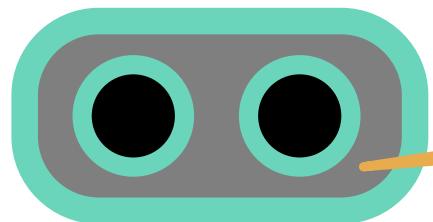
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```
    ...
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```
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Writing code that has modules is a type of *modular programming* – it is the industry standard!

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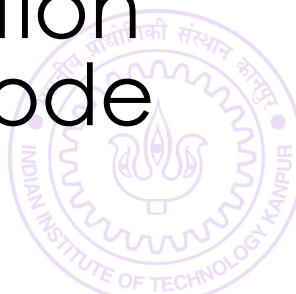
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Rest of code need not be touched, only faulty function needs to be fixed – again the industry standard of code maintenance.



Benefits of writing functions

14



Benefits of writing functions

14

Functions allow you to reuse code



Benefits of writing functions

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We are so grateful some one wrote functions like `sqrt()`, `abs()` in `math.h` that we are able to use again and again ☺



Benefits of writing functions

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We reused code in today's codes – didn't have to rewrite code – may make mistakes if you write same code again