**Welcome!**

Python is an easy to learn programming language. You can use it to create web apps, games, even a search engine!

**script.py**

print “Welcome to Python!”

**Output:**

Welcome to Python!

None

**Variables**

Creating web apps, games, and search engines all involve storing and working with different types of data. They do so using **variables**. A **variable** stores a piece of data, and gives it a specific name.

For example:

spam = 5

The variable spam now stores the number 5.

1. Set the variable my\_variable equal to the value 10.
2. Click the Save & Submit button to run your code.

**Script.py**

# Write your code below!

my\_variable = 10

**Output:**

None

You will notice that the window says "None" in it when you run the code. This is the "result" of your code, but you can generally ignore it.

**Booleans**

Great! You just stored a number in a variable. Numbers are one data type we use in programming. A second data type is called a **boolean**.

A **boolean** is like a light switch. It can only have two values. Just like a light switch can only be on or off, a boolean can only be True or False.

You can use variables to store booleans like this:

a = True

b = False

Set the following variables to the corresponding values:

1. my\_int to the value 7
2. my\_float to the value 1.23
3. my\_bool to the value True

**Script.py**

# Set the variables to the values listed in the instructions!

my\_int = 7

my\_float = 1.23

my\_bool = True

**Output:**

None

**You've Been Reassigned**

Now you know how to use variables to store values.

Say my\_int = 7. You can change the value of a variable by "reassigning" it, like this:

my\_int = 3

**script.py**

# my\_int is set to 7 below. What do you think

# will happen if we reset it to 3 and print the result?

my\_int = 7

# Change the value of my\_int to 3 on line 8!

my\_int = 3

# Here's some code that will print my\_int to the console:

# The print keyword will be covered in detail soon!

print my\_int

**Output:**

3

None

**Whitespace**

In Python, whitespace is used to structure code. Whitespace is important, so you have to be careful with how you use it.

Instructions

The code on the right is badly formatted. Hit "Save & Submit Code" to see what happens.

You should see an error message. We'll fix it in the next exercise!

**Script.py**

def spam():

eggs = 12

return eggs

print spam()

**Output:**

File "python", line 2  
    eggs = 12  
       ^  
IndentationError: expected an indented block

**Whitespace Means Right Space**

Now let's examine the error from the last lesson:

IndentationError: expected an indented block

You'll get this error whenever your whitespace is off.

Instructions

Properly indent the code with four spaces before eggs on [line 2](javascript:void(0)) and another four before return on [line 3](javascript:void(0)).

You should indent your code with four spaces.

**Script.py**

def spam():

eggs = 12

return eggs

print spam()

**Output:**

12

None

**A Matter of Interpretation**

The window in the top right corner of the page is called the interpreter. The interpreter runs your code line by line, and checks for any errors.

cats = 3

In the above example, we create a variable cats and assign it the value of 3.

Instructions

1. Create a variable called spam and assign it the value of True.
2. Create a variable called eggs and assign it the value of False.

**Script.py**

spam = True

eggs = False

**Output:**

None

**Single Line Comments**

You probably saw us use the # sign a few times in earlier exercises. The # sign is for comments. A comment is a line of text that Python won't try to run as code. It's just for humans to read.

Comments make your program easier to understand. When you look back at your code or others want to collaborate with you, they can read your comments and easily figure out what your code does.

Instructions

Write a comment on [line 1](javascript:void(0)). Make sure it starts with #. It can say anything you like.

**Script.py**

# This is what a comment looks like.

mysterious\_variable = 42

**Output:**

None

**Multi-Line Comments**

The # sign will only comment out a single line. While you could write a multi-line comment, starting each line with #, that can be a pain.

Instead, for multi-line comments, you can include the whole block in a set of triple quotation marks:

"""Sipping from your cup 'til it runneth over,

Holy Grail.

"""

Instructions

Write a multi-line comment in the editor. It can be any text you'd like!

**Math**

Great! Now let's do some math. You can add, subtract, multiply, divide numbers like this

addition = 72 + 23

subtraction = 108 - 204

multiplication = 108 \* 0.5

division = 108 / 9

Instructions

Set the variable count\_to equal to the sum of two big numbers.

**Script.py**

# Set count\_to equal to the sum of two big numbers

count\_to = 25 + 2500

print count\_to

**Output:**

2525

None

**Exponentiation**

All that math can be done on a calculator, so why use Python? Because you can combine math with other data types (e.g. **booleans**) and commands to create useful programs. Calculators just stick to numbers.

Now let's work with exponents.

eight = 2 \*\* 3

In the above example, we create a new variable called eight and set it to 8, or the result of 2 to the power to 3 (2^3).

Notice that we use \*\* instead of \* or the multiplication operator.

Instructions

Create a new variable called eggs and use exponents to set eggs equal 100.

Try raising 10 to the power of 2.

**Script.py**

#Set eggs equal to 100 using exponentiation on line 3!

eggs = 10 \*\* 2

print eggs

**Output:**

100

None

**Modulo**

Our final operator is **modulo**. **Modulo** returns the remainder from a division. So, if you type 3 % 2, it will return 1, because 2 goes into 3 evenly once, with 1 left over.

Instructions

Use modulo to set spam equal to 1. You can use any two numbers that will leave a remainder of 1 to do this.

**Script.py**

#Set spam equal to 1 using modulo on line 3!

spam = 5 % 2

print spam

**Output:**

1

None

**Bringing It All Together**

Nice work! So far, you've learned about:

* **Variables**, which store values for later use
* **Data types**, such as numbers and booleans
* **Whitespace**, which separates statements
* **Comments**, which make your code easier to read
* **Arithmetic operations**, including +, -, \*, /, \*\*, and %

Instructions

Let's put our knowledge to work.

1. Write a single-line comment on [line 1](javascript:void(0)). It can be anything! (Make sure it starts with #)
2. Set the variable monty equal to True.
3. Set another variable python equal to 1.234.
4. Set a third variable monty\_python equal to python squared.

**Script.py**

# Let's start this!

monty = True

python = 1.234

monty\_python = python \*\* 2

**Output:** None

**Tip Calculator**

**The Meal**

Now let's apply the concepts from the previous section to a real world example.

You've finished eating at a restaurant, and received this bill:

* **Cost of meal**: $44.50
* **Restaurant tax**: 6.75%
* **Tip**: 15%

You'll apply the tip to the overall cost of the meal (including tax).

Instructions

First, let's declare the variable meal and assign it the value 44.50.

**Script.py**

# Assign the variable meal the value 44.50 on line 3!

meal = 44.50

**Output:**

None

**The Tax**

Good! Now let's create a variable for the tax percentage.

The tax on your receipt is 6.75%. You'll have to divide 6.75 by 100 in order to get the decimal form of the percentage. (See the Hint if you would like further explanation.)

Instructions

Create the variable tax and set it equal to the decimal value of 6.75%

**Script.py**

meal = 44.50

tax = 6.75/100

**Output:** None

**The Tip**

Nice work! You received good service, so you'd like to leave a 15% tip on top of the cost of the meal, including tax.

Before we compute the tip for your bill, let's set a variable for the tip. Again, we need to get the decimal form of the tip, so we divide 15.0 by 100.

Instructions

Set the variable tip to decimal value of 15% on [line 5](javascript:void(0)).

**Script.py**

# You're almost there! Assign the tip variable on line 5.

meal = 44.50

tax = 0.0675 # 6.75/100

tip = 15.0/100

**Output:**

None

**Reassign in a Single Line**

Okay! We've got the three variables we need to perform our calculation, and we know some arithmetic operators that can help us out.

We saw in Lesson 1 that we can reassign variables. For example, we could say spam = 7, then later change our minds and say spam = 3.

Instructions

On [line 7](javascript:void(0)), reassign meal to the value of itself + itself \* tax. And yes, you're allowed to reassign a variable in terms of itself!

We're only calculating the cost of meal and tax here. We'll get to the tip soon.

**Script.py**

# Reassign meal on line 7!

meal = 44.50

tax = 0.0675

tip = 0.15

meal = meal + meal \* tax

**Output:**

None

**The Total**

Now that meal has the cost of the food plus tax, let's introduce on [line 8](javascript:void(0)) a new variable, total, equal to the new meal + meal \* tip.

The code on [line 10](javascript:void(0)) formats and prints to the console the value of total with exactly two numbers after the decimal. (We'll learn about string formatting, the console, and print in Unit 2!)

Instructions

Assign the variable total to the sum of meal + meal \* tip on [line 8](javascript:void(0)). Now you have the total cost of your meal!

**Script.py**

# Assign the variable total on line 8!

meal = 44.50

tax = 0.0675

tip = 0.15

meal = meal + meal \* tax

total = meal + meal \* tip

print("%.2f" % total)

**Output:**

54.63

None

**Strings & Console Output**

**Strings**

Another useful data type is the **string**. A **string** can contain letters, numbers, and symbols.

name = "Ryan"

age = "19"

food = "cheese"

1. In the above example, we create a variable name and set it to the string value "Ryan".
2. We also set age to "19" and food to "cheese".

Strings need to be within quotes.

Instructions

Create a new variable brian and assign it the string "Hello life!".

**Script.py**

# Set the variable brian on line 3!

brian = "Hello life!"

**Output:**

None

**Practice**

Excellent! Let's get a little practice in with strings.

Instructions

Set the following variables to their respective phrases:

1. Set caesar to "Graham"
2. Set praline to "John"
3. Set viking to "Teresa"

**Script.py**

# Assign your variables below, each on its own line!

caesar = "Graham"

praline = "John"

viking = "Teresa"

# Put your variables above this line

print caesar

print praline

print viking

**Output:**

Graham

John

Teresa

None

**Escaping characters**

There are some characters that cause problems. For example:

'There's a snake in my boot!'

This code breaks because Python thinks the apostrophe in 'There's' ends the string. We can use the backslash to fix the problem, like this:

'There\'s a snake in my boot!'

Instructions

Fix the string in the editor!

'This isn't flying, this is falling with style!'

**Script.py**

# The string below is broken. Fix it using the escape backslash!

'This isn\'t flying, this is falling with style!'

**Output:**

None

**Access by Index**

Great work!

Each character in a string is assigned a number. This number is called the **index**. Check out the diagram in the editor.

c = "cats"[0]

n = "Ryan"[3]

1. In the above example, we create a new variable called c and set it to "c", the character at index zero of the string "cats".
2. Next, we create a new variable called n and set it to "n", the character at index three of the string "Ryan".

In Python, we start counting the index from zero instead of one.

Instructions

On [line 13](javascript:void(0)), assign the variable fifth\_letter equal to the fifth letter of the string "MONTY".

Remember that the fifth letter is not at index 5. Start counting your indices from zero.

**Script.py**

"""

The string "PYTHON" has six characters,

numbered 0 to 5, as shown below:

+---+---+---+---+---+---+

| P | Y | T | H | O | N |

+---+---+---+---+---+---+

0 1 2 3 4 5

So if you wanted "Y", you could just type

"PYTHON"[1] (always start counting from 0!)

"""

fifth\_letter = "MONTY"[4]

print fifth\_letter

**Output:**

Y

None

**String methods**

Great work! Now that we know how to store strings, let's see how we can change them using **string methods**.

**String methods** let you perform specific tasks for strings.

We'll focus on four string methods:

1. len()
2. lower()
3. upper()
4. str()

Let's start with len(), which gets the length (the number of characters) of a string!

Instructions

1. On [line 1](javascript:void(0)), create a variable named parrot and set it to the string "Norwegian Blue". On [line 2](javascript:void(0)), type len(parrot) after the word print, like so: print len(parrot). The output will be the number of letters in "Norwegian Blue"!

**Script.py**

len = "Norwegian Blue"

print len(parrot)

**Output:**

14

None

**lower()**

Well done!

You can use the lower() method to get rid of all the capitalization in your strings. You call lower() like so:

"Ryan".lower()

which will return "ryan".

Instructions

Call lower() on parrot (after print) on [line 3](javascript:void(0)) in the editor.

**Script.py**

parrot = "Norwegian Blue"

print parrot.lower()

**Output:**

norwegian blue

None

**upper()**

Now your string is 100% lower case! A similar method exists to make a string completely upper case.

Instructions

Call upper() on parrot (after print on [line 3](javascript:void(0))) in order to capitalize all the characters in the string!

**Script.py**

parrot = "norwegian blue"

print parrot.upper()

**Output:**

NORWEGIAN BLUE

None

**str()**

Now let's look at str(), which is a little less straightforward. The str() method turns non-strings into strings! For example:

str(2)

would turn 2 into "2".

Instructions

1. Create a variable pi and set it to 3.14 on [line 4](javascript:void(0)).
2. Call str(pi) on [line 5](javascript:void(0)), after print.

**Script.py**

"""Declare and assign your variable on line 4,

then call your method on line 5!"""

pi = 3.14

print str(pi)

**Output:**

3.14

None

**Dot Notation**

Let's take a closer look at why you use len(string) and str(object), but dot notation (such as "String".upper()) for the rest.

lion = "roar"

len(lion)

lion.upper()

Methods that use dot notation only work with strings.

On the other hand, len() and str() can work on other data types.

Instructions

1. On [line 3](javascript:void(0)), call the len() function with the argument ministry.
2. On [line 4](javascript:void(0)), invoke the ministry's .upper() function.

**Script.py**

ministry = "The Ministry of Silly Walks"

print len(ministry)

print ministry.upper()

**Output:**

27

THE MINISTRY OF SILLY WALKS

None

**Printing Strings**

The area where we've been writing our code is called the **editor**.

The **console** (the window in the upper right) is where the results of your code is shown.

print simply displays your code in the console.

Instructions

Print "Monty Python" to the console.

**Script.py**

"""Tell Python to print "Monty Python"

to the console on line 4!"""

print "Monty Python"

**Output:**

Monty Python

None

**Printing Variables**

Great! Now that we've printed strings, let's print variables

Instructions

1. Declare a variable called the\_machine\_goes and assign it the string value "Ping!" on [line 5](javascript:void(0)).
2. Go ahead and print the\_machine\_goes in [line 6](javascript:void(0)).

**Script.py**

"""Assign the string "Ping!" to

the variable the\_machine\_goes on

line 5, then print it out on line 6!"""

the\_machine\_goes = "Ping!"

print the\_machine\_goes

**Output:**

Ping!

None

**String Concatenation**

You know about strings, and you know about arithmetic operators. Now let's combine the two!

print "Life " + "of " + "Brian"

This will print out the phrase Life of Brian.

The + operator between strings will 'add' them together, one after the other. Notice that there are spaces inside the quotation marks after Life and of so that we can make the combined string look like 3 words.

Combining strings together like this is called **concatenation**. Let's try concatenating a few strings together now!

Instructions

Let's give it a try. Print the concatenated strings "Spam ", "and ", "eggs" on [line 3](javascript:void(0)), just like the example above.

Make sure you include the spaces after "Spam " and "and ".

**Script.py**

# Print the concatenation of "Spam and eggs" on line 3!

print "Spam " + "and " + "eggs"

**Output:**

Spam and eggs

None

**Explicit String Conversion**

Sometimes you need to combine a string with something that isn't a string. In order to do that, you have to convert the non-string into a string.

print "I have " + str(2) + " coconuts!"

This will print I have 2 coconuts!.

The str() method converts non-strings into strings. In the above example, you convert the number 2 into a string and then you concatenate the strings together just like in the previous exercise.

Now try it yourself!

Instructions

1. Run the code as-is. You get an error!
2. Use str() to turn 3.14 into a string. Then run the code again.

**Script.py**

# Turn 3.14 into a string on line 3!

print "The value of pi is around " + str(3.14)

**Output:**

The value of pi is around 3.14

None

**String Formatting with %, Part 1**

When you want to print a variable with a string, there is a better method than concatenating strings together.

name = "Mike"

print "Hello %s" % (name)

The % operator after a string is used to combine a string with variables. The % operator will replace a %s in the string with the string variable that comes after it.

Instructions

Take a look at the code in the editor. What do you think it'll do? Click Save & Submit when you think you know.

**Script.py**

string\_1 = "Camelot"

string\_2 = "place"

print "Let's not go to %s. 'Tis a silly %s." % (string\_1, string\_2)

**Output:**

Let's not go to Camelot. 'Tis a silly place.

None

**String Formatting with %, Part 2**

Remember, we used the % operator to replace the %s placeholders with the variables in parentheses.

name = "Mike"

print "Hello %s" % (name)

You need the same number of %s terms in a string as the number of variables in parentheses:

print "The %s who %s %s!" % ("Knights", "say", "Ni")

# This will print "The Knights who say Ni!"

Instructions

Now it's your turn! We have \_\_\_ in the code to show you what you need to change!

1. Inside the string, replace the three \_\_\_ with %s.
2. After the string but before the three variables, replace the final \_\_\_ with a %.
3. Hit *Save & Submit Code*.
4. Answer the questions in the console as they pop up! Type in your answer and hit Enter.

**Script.py**

name = raw\_input("What is your name?")

quest = raw\_input("What is your quest?")

color = raw\_input("What is your favorite color?")

print "Ah, so your name is %s, your quest is %s, " \

"and your favorite color is %s." % (name, quest, color)

**Output:** (asks and answer questions)

What is your name? Matt

What is your quest? Work

What is your favorite color? Black

Ah, so your name is Matt, your quest is Work, and your favorite color is Black.

None

**And Now, For Something Completely Familiar**

Great job! You've learned a lot in this unit, including:

Three ways to create strings

'Alpha'

"Bravo"

str(3)

String methods

len("Charlie")

"Delta".upper()

"Echo".lower()

Printing a string

print "Foxtrot"

Advanced printing techniques

g = "Golf"

h = "Hotel"

print "%s, %s" % (g, h)

Instructions

Let's wrap it all up!

1. On [line 3](javascript:void(0)), create the variable my\_string and set it to any string you'd like.
2. On [line 4](javascript:void(0)), print the length of my\_string.
3. On [line 5](javascript:void(0)), print the .upper() case version of my\_string.

**Script.py**

# Write your code below, starting on line 3!

my\_string = "Hello Everybody"

print len(my\_string)

print my\_string.upper()

**Output:**

15

HELLO EVERYBODY

None

**Date and Time**

**The datetime Library**

A lot of times you want to keep track of when something happened. We can do so in Python using datetime.

Here we'll use datetime to print the date and time in a nice format.

**Script.py**

from datetime import datetime

**Output:**

None

**Getting the Current Date and Time**

We can use a function called datetime.now() to retrieve the current date and time.

from datetime import datetime

print datetime.now()

The first line imports the datetime library so that we can use it.

The second line will print out the current date and time.

Instructions

1. Create a variable called now and store the result of datetime.now() in it.
2. Then, print the value of now.

**Script.py**

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print now

**Output:**

2016-03-14 12:00:05.989585

None

**Extracting Information**

Notice how the output looks like 2013-11-25 23:45:14.317454. What if you don't want the entire date and time?

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

current\_year = now.year

current\_month = now.month

current\_day = now.day

You already have the first two lines.

In the third line, we take the year (and only the year) from the variable now and store it in current\_year.

In the fourth and fifth lines, we store the month and day from now.

Instructions

1. On a new line, print now.year. Make sure you do it after setting the now variable!
2. Then, print out now.month.
3. Finally, print out now.day.

**Script.py**

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print now.year

print now.month

print now.day

**Output:**

2016

3

14

None

**Hot Date**

What if we want to print today's date in the following format? mm/dd/yyyy. Let's use string substitution again!

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print '%s-%s-%s' % (now.year, now.month, now.day)

# will print: 2014-02-19

Remember that the % operator will fill the %s placeholders in the string on the left with the strings in the parentheses on the right.

In the above example, we print 2014-02-19 (if today is February 19th, 2014), but you are going to print out 02/19/2014.

**Script.py**

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print '%s-%s-%s' % (now.year, now.month, now.day)

print '%s/%s/%s' % (now.month, now.day, now.year)

**Output:**

2016-3-14

3/14/2016

None

**Pretty Time**

Nice work! Let's do the same for the hour, minute, and second.

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print now.hour

print now.minute

print now.second

In the above example, we just printed the current hour, then the current minute, then the current second.

We can again use the variable now to print the time.

Instructions

Similar to the last exercise, print the current time in the pretty form of hh:mm:ss.

1. Change the string that you are printing so that you have a : character in between the %s placeholders.
2. Change the three things that you are printing from month, day, and year to now.hour, now.minute, and now.second.

**Script.py**

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print '%s-%s-%s' % (now.year, now.month, now.day)

print '%s/%s/%s' % (now.month, now.day, now.year)

print '%s:%s:%s' % (now.hour, now.minute, now.second)

**Output:**

2016-3-14

3/14/2016

12:11:31

None

**Grand Finale**

We've managed to print the date and time separately in a very pretty fashion. Let's combine the two!

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print '%s/%s/%s' % (now.month, now.day, now.year)

print '%s:%s:%s' % (now.hour, now.minute, now.second)

The example above will print out the date, then on a separate line it will print the time.

Let's print them all on the same line in a single print statement!

Instructions

Print the date and time together in the form: mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm:ss.

To start, change the format string to the left of the % operator.

1. Ensure that it has 6 %s placeholders.
2. Put slashes and colons and a space between the placeholders so that they fit the format above.

Then, change the variables in the parentheses to the right of the % operator.

1. Place the variables so that now.month, now.day, now.year are before now.hour, now.minute, now.second. Make sure that there is a ( before the six and a ) after them.

**Script.py**

from datetime import datetime

now = datetime.now()

print '%s/%s/%s %s:%s:%s' % (now.month, now.day, now.year, now.hour, now.minute, now.second)

**Output:**

3/14/2016 12:15:4

None

**Conditionals & Control Flow**

**Go With the Flow**

Just like in real life, sometimes we'd like our code to be able to make decisions.

The Python programs we've written so far have had one-track minds: they can add two numbers or print something, but they don't have the ability to pick one of these outcomes over the other.

**Control flow** gives us this ability to choose among outcomes based off what else is happening in the program.

Instructions

Check out the code in the editor. You'll see the type of program you'll be able to write once you've mastered control flow. Click Save & Submit to see what happens!

**Script.py**

def clinic():

print "You've just entered the clinic!"

print "Do you take the door on the left or the right?"

answer = raw\_input("Type left or right and hit 'Enter'.").lower()

if answer == "left" or answer == "l":

print "This is the Verbal Abuse Room, you heap of parrot droppings!"

elif answer == "right" or answer == "r":

print "Of course this is the Argument Room, I've told you that already!"

else:

print "You didn't pick left or right! Try again."

clinic()

clinic()

**Output:**

You've just entered the clinic!

Do you take the door on the left or the right?

Type left or right and hit 'Enter'. l

This is the Verbal Abuse Room, you heap of parrot droppings!

None

**Compare Closely!**

Let's start with the simplest aspect of control flow: **comparators**. There are six:

1. Equal to (==)
2. Not equal to (!=)
3. Less than (<)
4. Less than or equal to (<=)
5. Greater than (>)
6. Greater than or equal to (>=)

Comparators check if a value is (or is not) equal to, greater than (or equal to), or less than (or equal to) another value.

Note that == compares whether two things are equal, and = assigns a value to a variable.

Instructions

Set each variable to True or False depending on what you think the result will be. For example, 1 < 2 will be True, because one is less than two.

1. Set bool\_one equal to the result of 17 < 328
2. Set bool\_two equal to the result of 100 == (2 \* 50)
3. Set bool\_three equal to the result of 19 <= 19
   1. Set bool\_four equal to the result of -22 >= -18
   2. Set bool\_five equal to the result of 99 != (98 + 1)

**Script.py**

# Assign True or False as appropriate on the lines below!

# Set this to True if 17 < 328 or to False if it is not.

bool\_one = True # We did this one for you!

# Set this to True if 100 == (2 \* 50) or to False otherwise.

bool\_two = True

# Set this to True if 19 <= 19 or to False if it is not.

bool\_three = True

# Set this to True if -22 >= -18 or to False if it is not.

bool\_four = False

# Set this to True if 99 != (98 + 1) or to False otherwise.

bool\_five = False

**Output:**

None

**Compare... Closelier!**

Excellent! It looks like you're comfortable with basic expressions and comparators.

But what about *extreme* expressions and comparators?

Instructions

Let's run through the comparators again with more complex expressions. Set each variable to True or False depending on what you think the result will be.

1. Set bool\_one to the result of (20 - 10) > 15
2. Set bool\_two to the result of (10 + 17) == 3\*\*16
3. Set bool\_three to the result of 1\*\*2 <= -1
4. Set bool\_four to the result of 40 \* 4 >= -4
5. Set bool\_five to the result of 100 != 10\*\*2

**Script.py**

# Assign True or False as appropriate on the lines below!

# (20 - 10) > 15

bool\_one = False # We did this one for you!

# (10 + 17) == 3\*\*16

# Remember that \*\* can be read as 'to the power of'. 3\*\*16 is about 43 million.

bool\_two = False

# 1\*\*2 <= -1

bool\_three = False

# 40 \* 4 >= -4

bool\_four = True

# 100 != 10\*\*2

bool\_five = False

**Output:**

None

**How the Tables Have Turned**

Comparisons result in either True or False, which are booleans as we learned before in [this exercise](http://www.codecademy.com/courses/introduction-to-python-6WeG3/0/3).

# Make me true!

bool\_one = 3 < 5

Let's switch it up: we'll give the boolean, and you'll write the expression, just like the example above.

Instructions

For each boolean value in the editor, write an expression that evaluates to that value.

Remember, comparators are: ==, !=, >, >=, <, and <=.

Use at least three different ones!

Don't just use True and False! That's cheating!

**Script.py**

# Create comparative statements as appropriate on the lines below!

# Make me true!

bool\_one = 3 < 5 # We already did this one for you!

# Make me false!

bool\_two = 50 == 23\*\*2

# Make me true!

bool\_three = 300 != 3

# Make me false!

bool\_four = 5 > 50

# Make me true!

bool\_five = 22 >= 2

**Output:**

None

**To Be and/or Not to Be**

**Boolean operators** compare statements and result in boolean values. There are three boolean operators:

1. and, which checks if both the statements are True;
2. or, which checks if at least one of the statements is True;
3. not, which gives the opposite of the statement.

We'll go through the operators one by one.

Instructions

Look at the truth table in the editor. Don't worry if you don't completely get it yet—you will by the end of this section!

Click Save & Submit to continue.

"""

Boolean Operators

------------------------ True and True is True

True and False is False

False and True is False

False and False is False

True or True is True

True or False is True

False or True is True

False or False is False

Not True is False

Not False is True

"""

**And**

The boolean operator and returns True when the expressions on both sides of and are true. For instance:

* 1 < 2 and 2 < 3 is True;
* 1 < 2 and 2 > 3 is False.

Instructions

Let's practice with and. Assign each variable to the appropriate boolean value.

1. Set bool\_one equal to the result of False and False
2. Set bool\_two equal to the result of -(-(-(-2))) == -2 and 4 >= 16\*\*0.5
3. Set bool\_three equal to the result of 19 % 4 != 300 / 10 / 10 and False
4. Set bool\_four equal to the result of -(1\*\*2) < 2\*\*0 and 10 % 10 <= 20 - 10 \* 2
5. Set bool\_five equal to the result of True and True

**Script.py**

bool\_one = 3 > 2 and 10 < 5

bool\_two = -(-(-(-2))) == -2 and 4 >= 16\*\*0.5

bool\_three = 19 % 4 != 300 / 10 / 10 and False

bool\_four = -(1\*\*2) < 2\*\*0 and 10 % 10 <= 20 - 10 \* 2

bool\_five = 40 < 50 and 1 != 0

**Output:**

None

**Or**

The boolean operator or returns True when at least one expression on either side of or is true. For example:

* 1 < 2 or 2 > 3 is True;
* 1 > 2 or 2 > 3 is False.

Instructions

Time to practice with or!

1. Set bool\_one equal to the result of 2\*\*3 == 108 % 100 or 'Cleese' == 'King Arthur'
2. Set bool\_two equal to the result of True or False
3. Set bool\_three equal to the result of 100\*\*0.5 >= 50 or False
4. Set bool\_four equal to the result of True or True
5. Set bool\_five equal to the result of 1\*\*100 == 100\*\*1 or 3 \* 2 \* 1 != 3 + 2 + 1

**Script.py**

bool\_one = 2\*\*3 == 108 % 100 or 'Cleese' == 'King Arthur'

bool\_two = len('hello') == 5 or 34 > 60

bool\_three = 100\*\*0.5 >= 50 or False

bool\_four = 2 \* 2 == 4 or 4 < 10

bool\_five = 1\*\*100 == 100\*\*1 or 3 \* 2 \* 1 != 3 + 2 + 1

**Output:**

None

**Not**

The boolean operator not returns True for false statements and False for true statements.

For example:

* not False will evaluate to True, while not 41 > 40 will return False.

Instructions

Let's get some practice with not.

1. Set bool\_one equal to the result of not True
2. Set bool\_two equal to the result of not 3\*\*4 < 4\*\*3
3. Set bool\_three equal to the result of not 10 % 3 <= 10 % 2
4. Set bool\_four equal to the result of not 3\*\*2 + 4\*\*2 != 5\*\*2
5. Set bool\_five equal to the result of not not False

**Script.py**

bool\_one = not True

bool\_two = not 3\*\*4 < 4\*\*3

bool\_three = not 10 % 3 <= 10 % 2

bool\_four = not 3\*\*2 + 4\*\*2 != 5\*\*2

bool\_five = not not False

**Output:**

None

**This and That (or This, But Not That!)**

Boolean operators aren't just evaluated from left to right. Just like with arithmetic operators, there's an order of operations for boolean operators:

1. not is evaluated first;
2. and is evaluated next;
3. or is evaluated last.

For example, True or not False and False returns True. If this isn't clear, look at the Hint.

Parentheses () ensure your expressions are evaluated in the order you want. Anything in parentheses is evaluated as its own unit.

Instructions

Assign True or False as appropriate for bool\_one through bool\_five.

1. Set bool\_one equal to the result of False or not True and True
2. Set bool\_two equal to the result of False and not True or True
3. Set bool\_three equal to the result of True and not (False or False)
4. Set bool\_four equal to the result of not not True or False and not True
5. Set bool\_five equal to the result of False or not (True and True)

**Script.py**

bool\_one = 1 > 100 or not 1 < 100 and 1 == 1

bool\_two = 3\*\*10 < 30 and not 3 < 4 or 20 == 10 \* 2

bool\_three = 1 + 1 < 4 and not (5 < 1 or 6 == 3 - 1 + 2)

bool\_four = not not 10 > 2 or 10 < 5 and not 11 == 1

bool\_five = 4 - 3 > 4 + 3 or not (1 == 2 - 1 and 3 > 2)

**Output:**

None

**Mix 'n' Match**

Great work! We're almost done with boolean operators.

# Make me false

bool\_one = (2 <= 2) and "Alpha" == "Bravo"

Instructions

This time we'll give the expected result, and you'll use some combination of boolean operators to achieve that result.

Remember, the boolean operators are and, or, and not. Use each one at least once!

**Script.py**

# Use boolean expressions as appropriate on the lines below!

# Make me false!

bool\_one = (2 <= 2) and "Alpha" == "Bravo" # We did this one for you!

# Make me true!

bool\_two = 4 \* 4 == 8 + 8 or 3 > 1

# Make me false!

bool\_three = not 5 + 5 >= 2 \* 5 and 666 == "awesome"

# Make me true!

bool\_four = "test" >= "good" and 4 > 1

# Make me true!

bool\_five = 1 + 1 < 3 or "stop" > "go"

**Output:**

None

**Conditional Statement Syntax**

if is a conditional statement that executes some specified code after checking if its expression is True.

Here's an example of if statement syntax:

if 8 < 9:

print "Eight is less than nine!"

In this example, 8 < 9 is the checked expression and print "Eight is less than nine!" is the specified code.

Instructions

If you think the print statement will print to the console, set response equal to 'Y'; otherwise, set response equal to 'N'.

**Script.py**

response = "Y" or "N"

answer = "Left"

if answer == "Left":

print "This is the Verbal Abuse Room, you heap of parrot droppings!"

# Will the above print statement print to the console?

# Set response to 'Y' if you think so, and 'N' if you think not.

**Output:**

This is the Verbal Abuse Room, you heap of parrot droppings!

None

**If You're Having...**

Let's get some practice with if statements. Remember, the syntax looks like this:

if some\_function():

# block line one

# block line two

# et cetera

Looking at the example above, in the event that some\_function() returns True, then the indented block of code after it will be executed. In the event that it returns False, then the indented block will be skipped.

Also, make sure you notice the colons at the end of the if statement. We've added them for you, but they're important.

Instructions

In the editor you'll see two functions. Don't worry about anything unfamiliar. We'll explain soon enough.

1. Replace the underline on [line 2](javascript:void(0)) with an expression that returns True.
2. Replace the underline on [line 6](javascript:void(0)) with an expression that returns True.

If you do it successfully, then both "Success #1" and "Success #2" are printed.

**Script.py**

def using\_control\_once():

if True:

return "Success #1"

def using\_control\_again():

if True:

return "Success #2"

print using\_control\_once()

print using\_control\_again()

**Output:**

Success #1

Success #2

None

**Else Problems, I Feel Bad for You, Son...**

The else statement complements the if statement. An if/else pair says: "If this expression is true, run this indented code block; otherwise, run this code after the else statement."

Unlike if, else doesn't depend on an expression. For example:

if 8 > 9:

print "I don't printed!"

else:

print "I get printed!"

Instructions

Complete the else statements to the right. Note the indentation for each line!

**Script.py**

answer = "'Tis but a scratch!"

def black\_knight():

if answer == "'Tis but a scratch!":

return True

else:

return False # Make sure this returns False

def french\_soldier():

if answer == "Go away, or I shall taunt you a second time!":

return True

else:

return False # Make sure this returns False

**Output:**

None

**I Got 99 Problems, But a Switch Ain't One**

"Elif" is short for "else if." It means exactly what it sounds like: "otherwise, if the following expression is true, do this!"

if 8 > 9:

print "I don't get printed!"

elif 8 < 9:

print "I get printed!"

else:

print "I also don't get printed!"

In the example above, the elif statement is only checked if the original if statement if False.

Instructions

1. On [line 2](javascript:void(0)), fill in the if statement to check *if* answer is greater than 5.
2. On [line 4](javascript:void(0)), fill in the elif so that the function outputs -1 if answer is less than 5.

**Script.py**

def greater\_less\_equal\_5(answer):

if answer > 5:

return 1

elif answer < 5:

return -1

else:

return 0

print greater\_less\_equal\_5(4)

print greater\_less\_equal\_5(5)

print greater\_less\_equal\_5(6)

**Output:**

-1

0

1

None

**The Big If**

Really great work! Here's what you've learned in this unit:

**Comparators**

3 < 4

5 >= 5

10 == 10

12 != 13

**Boolean operators**

True or False

(3 < 4) and (5 >= 5)

this() and not that()

**Conditional statements**

if this\_might\_be\_true():

print "This really is true."

elif that\_might\_be\_true():

print "That is true."

else:

print "None of the above."

Let's get to the grand finale.

Instructions

Write an if statement in the\_flying\_circus(). It must include:

1. if, elif, and else statements;
2. At least one of and, or, or not;
3. A comparator (==, !=, <, <=, >, or >=);
4. Finally, the\_flying\_circus() must return True when evaluated.

Don't forget to include a : after your if statements!

**Script.py**

# Make sure that the\_flying\_circus() returns True

def the\_flying\_circus():

x = 1

if x < 100: # Start coding here!

return True # Don't forget to indent

# the code inside this block!

elif x > 300 \* 1 or x\*\*2 == 25:

return False # Keep going here.

# You'll want to add the else statement, too!

else:

return True

**Output;**

None

**PygLatin**

**Break It Down**

Now let's take what we've learned so far and write a Pig Latin translator.

Pig Latin is a language game, where you move the first letter of the word to the end and add "ay." So "Python" becomes "ythonpay." To write a Pig Latin translator in Python, here are the steps we'll need to take:

1. Ask the user to input a word in English.
2. Make sure the user entered a valid word.
3. Convert the word from English to Pig Latin.
4. Display the translation result.

**Ahoy! (or Should I Say Ahoyay!)**

Let's warm up by printing a welcome message for our translator users.

Instructions

1. Please print the phrase "Pig Latin".

**Script.py**

print "Pig Latin"

**Output:**

Pig Latin

**Input!**

Next, we need to ask the user for input.

name = raw\_input("What's your name?")

print name

In the above example, raw\_input() accepts a string, prints it, and then waits for the user to type something and press Enter (or Return).

In the interpreter, Python will ask:

What's your name? >

Once you type in your name and hit Enter, it will be stored in name.

Instructions

1. On [line 4](javascript:void(0)), use raw\_input("Enter a word:") to ask the user to enter a word. Save the results of raw\_input() in a variable called original.
2. Click Save & Submit Code
3. Type a word in the console window and press Enter (or Return).

**Script.py**

print 'Welcome to the Pig Latin Translator!'

# Start coding here!

original = raw\_input("Enter a word:")

print original

**Output:**

Welcome to the Pig Latin Translator!

Enter a word: Word

Word

None

**Check Yourself!**

Next we need to ensure that the user actually typed something.

empty\_string = ""

if len(empty\_string) > 0:

# Run this block.

# Maybe print something?

else:

# That string must have been empty.

We can check that the user's string actually has characters!

Instructions

Write an if statement that verifies that the string has characters.

1. Add an if statement that checks that len(original) is greater than zero. Don't forget the : at the end of the if statement!
2. If the string actually has some characters in it, print the user's word.
3. Otherwise (i.e. an else: statement), please print "empty".

You'll want to run your code multiple times, testing an empty string and a string with characters. When you're confident your code works, continue to the next exercise.

**Script.py**

print 'Welcome to the Pig Latin Translator!'

# Start coding here!

original = raw\_input("Enter a word:")

if len(original) > 0:

print original

else:

print "empty"

**Output:**

Welcome to the Pig Latin Translator!

Enter a word:

empty

None

**Check Yourself... Some More**

Now we know we have a non-empty string. Let's be even more thorough.

x = "J123"

x.isalpha() # False

In the first line, we create a string with letters and numbers.

The second line then runs the function isalpha() which returns False since the string contains non-letter characters.

Let's make sure the word the user enters contains only alphabetical characters. You can use isalpha() to check this! For example:

Instructions

Use and to add a second condition to your if statement. In addition to your existing check that the string contains characters, you should also use .isalpha() to make sure that it only contains letters.

Don't forget to keep the colon at the end of the if statement!

**Script.py**

print 'Welcome to the Pig Latin Translator!'

# Start coding here!

original = raw\_input("Enter a word:")

if len(original) > 0 and original.isalpha():

print original

else:

print "empty"

**Output:**

Welcome to the Pig Latin Translator!

Enter a word: dvdv1

empty

None

**Ay B C**

Now we can get ready to start translating to Pig Latin! Let's review the rules for translation:

You move the first letter of the word to the end and then append the suffix 'ay'.  
**Example**: python -> ythonpay

Let's create a variable to hold our translation suffix.

Instructions

Create a variable named pyg and set it equal to the suffix 'ay'.

**Script.py**

pyg = 'ay'

**Output:**

None

**Word Up**

Let's simplify things by making the letters in our word lowercase.

the\_string = "Hello"

the\_string = the\_string.lower()

The .lower() function does not modify the string itself, it simply returns a lowercase-version. In the example above, we store the result back into the same variable.

We also need to grab the first letter of the word.

first\_letter = the\_string[0]

second\_letter = the\_string[1]

third\_letter = the\_string[2]

Remember that we start counting from zero, not one, so we access the first letter by asking for [0].

Instructions

Inside your if statement:

1. Create a new variable called word that holds the .lower()-case conversion of original.
2. Create a new variable called first that holds word[0], the first letter of word.

**Script.py**

pyg = 'ay'

original = raw\_input('Enter a word:')

if len(original) > 0 and original.isalpha():

word = original.lower()

first = word[0]

second = word[1]

third = word[2]

print original

else:

print 'empty'

**Output:**

Enter a word: Awesome

awesome

None

**Move it on Back**

Now that we have the first letter stored, we need to add both the letter and the string stored in pyg to the end of the original string.

Remember how to concatenate (i.e. add) strings together?

greeting = "Hello "

name = "D. Y."

welcome = greeting + name

Instructions

On a new line after where you created the first variable:

Create a new variable called new\_word and set it equal to the concatenation of word, first, and pyg.

**Script.py**

pyg = 'ay'

original = raw\_input('Enter a word:')

if len(original) > 0 and original.isalpha():

word = original.lower()

first = word[0]

second = word[1]

third = word[2]

new\_word = word + first + pyg

print original

else:

print 'empty'

**Output:**

Enter a word: GREAT

great

None

**Ending Up**

Well done! However, now we have the first letter showing up both at the beginning and near the end.

s = "Charlie"

print s[0]

# will print "C"

print s[1:4]

# will print "har"

1. First we create a variable s and give it the string "Charlie"
2. Next we access the first letter of "Charlie" using s[0]. Remember letter positions start at 0.
3. Then we access a slice of "Charlie" using s[1:4]. This returns everything from the letter at position 1 up till position 4.

We are going to slice the string just like in the 3rd example above.

Instructions

Set new\_word equal to the slice from the 1st index all the way to the end of new\_word. Use [1:len(new\_word)] to do this.

**Script.py**

pyg = 'ay'

original = raw\_input('Enter a word:')

if len(original) > 0 and original.isalpha():

word = original.lower()

first = word[0]

new\_word = word + first + pyg

new\_word = new\_word[1:len(new\_word)]

print new\_word

else:

print 'empty'

print 'original'

**Output:**

Enter a word: Acceptable

cceptableaay

None

**Testing, Testing, is This Thing On?**

Yay! You should have a fully functioning Pig Latin translator. Test your code thorougly to be sure everything is working smoothly.

You'll also want to take out any print statements you were using to help debug intermediate steps of your code. Now might be a good time to add some comments too! Making sure your code is clean, commented, and fully functional is just as important as writing it in the first place.

Instructions

When you're sure your translator is working just the way you want it, click Save & Submit Code to finish this project.

**Functions**

**What Good are Functions?**

You might have considered the situation where you would like to reuse a piece of code, just with a few different values. Instead of rewriting the whole code, it's much cleaner to define a **function**, which can then be used repeatedly.

Instructions

Check out the code in the editor. If you completed the [Tip Calculator][1] project, you'll remember going through and calculating tax and tip in one chunk of program. Here you can see we've defined two functions: tax to calculate the tax on a bill, and tip to compute the tip.

See how much of the code you understand at first glance (we'll explain it all soon). When you're ready, click Save & Submit to continue.

**Script.py**

def tax(bill):

"""Adds 8% tax to a restaurant bill."""

bill \*= 1.08

print "With tax: %f" % bill

return bill

def tip(bill):

"""Adds 15% tip to a restaurant bill."""

bill \*= 1.15

print "With tip: %f" % bill

return bill

meal\_cost = 100

meal\_with\_tax = tax(meal\_cost)

meal\_with\_tip = tip(meal\_with\_tax)

**Output:**

With tax: 108.000000

With tip: 124.200000

None

**Function Junction**

Functions are defined with three components:

1. The **header**, which includes the def keyword, the name of the function, and any **parameters** the function requires. Here's an example:
2. def hello\_world(): // There are no parameters
3. An optional **comment** that explains what the function does.
4. """Prints 'Hello World!' to the console."""
5. The **body**, which describes the procedures the function carries out. The body is *indented*, just like for conditional statements.
6. print "Hello World!"

Here's the full function pieced together:

def hello\_world():

"""Prints 'Hello World!' to the console."""

print "Hello World!"

Instructions

Go ahead and create a function, spam, that prints the string "Eggs!" to the console. Don't forget to include a comment of your own choosing (enclose it in triple quotes!).

**Script.py**

# Define your spam function starting on line 5. You

# can leave the code on line 11 alone for now--we'll

# explain it soon!

def spam():

""" Will Print out Eggs!"""

print "Eggs!"

# Define the spam function above this line.

spam()

**Output:**

Eggs!

None

**Call and Response**

After defining a function, it must be **called** to be implemented. In the previous exercise, spam() in the last line told the program to look for the function called spam and execute the code inside it.

Instructions

We've set up a function, square. Call it on the number 10 (by putting 10 between the parentheses of square()) on [line 9](javascript:void(0))!

**Script.py**

def square(n):

"""Returns the square of a number."""

squared = n\*\*2

print "%d squared is %d." % (n, squared)

return squared

# Call the square function on line 9! Make sure to

# include the number 10 between the parentheses.

square(10)

**Output:**

10 squared is 100.

None

**Parameters and Arguments**

Let's reexamine the first line that defined square in the previous exercise:

def square(n):

n is a **parameter** of square. A parameter acts as a variable name for a passed in **argument**. With the previous example, we called square with the argument 10. In this instance the function was called, n holds the value 10.

A function can require as many parameters as you'd like, but when you call the function, you should generally pass in a matching number of arguments.

Instructions

Check out the function in the editor, power. It should take two arguments, a base and an exponent, and raise the first to the power of the second. It's currently broken, however, because its parameters are missing.

Replace the \_\_\_s with the parameters base and exponent and call power on a base of 37 and a power of 4.

**Script.py**

def power(base, exponent): # Add your parameters here!

result = base\*\*exponent

print "%d to the power of %d is %d." % (base, exponent, result)

power(37,4) # Add your arguments here!

**Output:**

37 to the power of 4 is 1874161.

None

**Functions Calling Functions**

We've seen functions that can print text or do simple arithmetic, but functions can be much more powerful than that. For example, a function can call another function:

def fun\_one(n):

return n \* 5

def fun\_two(m):

return fun\_one(m) + 7

Instructions

Let's look at the two functions in the editor: one\_good\_turn (which adds 1 to the number it takes in as an argument) and deserves\_another (which adds 2).

Change the body of deserves\_another so that it always adds 2 to the output of one\_good\_turn.

**Script.py**

def one\_good\_turn(n):

return n + 1

def deserves\_another(n):

return one\_good\_turn(n) + 2

**Output:**

None

**Practice Makes Perfect**

Let's create a few more functions just for good measure.

def shout(phrase):

if phrase == phrase.upper():

return "YOU'RE SHOUTING!"

else:

return "Can you speak up?"

shout("I'M INTERESTED IN SHOUTING")

The example above is just there to help you remember how functions are structured.

Don't forget the colon at the end of your function definition!

Instructions

1. First, def a function called cube that takes an argument called number. Don't forget the parentheses and the colon!
2. Make that function return the cube of that number (*i.e.* that number multiplied by itself and multiplied by itself once again).
3. Define a second function called by\_three that takes an argument called number.
4. if that number is divisible by 3, by\_three should call cube(number) and return its result. Otherwise, by\_three should return False.

Don't forget that if and else statements need a : at the end of that line!

**Script.py**

def cube(number):

return number \*\*3

def by\_three(number):

if number % 3 == 0:

return cube(number)

else:

return False

**Output:**

None

**I Know Kung Fu**

Remember import this from the first exercise in this course? That was an example of **import**ing a **module**. A module is a file that contains definitions—including variables and functions—that you can use once it is imported.

Instructions

Before we try any fancy importing, let's see what Python already knows about square roots. On [line 3](javascript:void(0)) in the editor, ask Python to

print sqrt(25)

which we would expect to equal five.

**Script.py**

# Ask Python to print sqrt(25) on line 3.

print sqrt(25)

**Output:**

Traceback (most recent call last):  
  File "python", line 3, in <module>  
NameError: name 'sqrt' is not defined

**Generic Imports**

Did you see that? Python said: "NameError: name 'sqrt' is not defined." Python doesn't know what square roots are—yet.

There is a Python module named math that includes a number of useful variables and functions, and sqrt() is one of those functions. In order to access math, all you need is the import keyword. When you simply import a module this way, it's called a **generic import**.

Instructions

You'll need to do two things here:

1. Type import math on [line 2](javascript:void(0)) in the editor.
2. Insert math. before sqrt() so that it has the form math.sqrt(). This tells Python not only to import math, but to get the sqrt() function from within math.

Then hit Save & Submit to see what Python now knows.

**Script.py**

# Ask Python to print sqrt(25) on line 3.

import math

print math.sqrt(25)

**Output:**

5.0

None

**Function Imports**

Nice work! Now Python knows how to take the square root of a number.

However, we only really needed the sqrt function, and it can be frustrating to have to keep typing math.sqrt().

It's possible to import only certain variables or functions from a given module. Pulling in just a single function from a module is called a **function import**, and it's done with the from keyword:

from module import function

Now you can just type sqrt() to get the square root of a number—no more math.sqrt()!

Instructions

Let's import *only* the sqrt function from math this time. (You don't need the () after sqrt in the from math import sqrt bit.)

**Script.py**

# Import \*just\* the sqrt function from math on line 3!

from math import sqrt

**Output:**

None

**Universal Imports**

Great! We've found a way to handpick the variables and functions we want from modules.

What if we still want all of the variables and functions in a module but don't want to have to constantly type math.?

**Universal import** can handle this for you. The syntax for this is:

from module import \*

Instructions

Use the power of from module import \* to import everything from the math module on [line 3](javascript:void(0)) of the editor.

**Script.py**

# Import \*everything\* from the math module on line 3!

from math import \*

**Output:**

None

**Here Be Dragons**

Universal imports may look great on the surface, but they're not a good idea for one very important reason: they fill your program with a ton of variable and function names without the safety of those names still being associated with the module(s) they came from.

If you have a function of your very own named sqrt and you import math, your function is safe: there is your sqrt and there is math.sqrt. If you do from math import \*, however, you have a problem: namely, two different functions with the exact same name.

Even if your own definitions don't directly conflict with names from imported modules, if you import \* from several modules at once, you won't be able to figure out which variable or function came from where.

For these reasons, it's best to stick with either import module and type module.name or just import specific variables and functions from various modules as needed.

Instructions

The code in the editor will show you everything available in the math module.

Click Save & Submit Code to check it out (you'll see sqrt, along with some other useful things like pi, factorial, and [trigonometric functions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trigonometry)).

**Script.py**

import math # Imports the math module

everything = dir(math) # Sets everything to a list of things from math

print everything # Prints 'em all!

**Output:**

['\_\_doc\_\_', '\_\_name\_\_', '\_\_package\_\_', 'acos', 'acosh', 'asin', 'asinh', 'atan', 'atan2', 'atanh', 'ceil', 'copysign', 'cos', 'cosh', 'degrees', 'e', 'erf', 'erfc', 'exp', 'expm1', 'fabs', 'factorial', 'floor', 'fmod', 'frexp', 'fsum', 'gamma', 'hypot', 'isinf', 'isnan', 'ldexp', 'lgamma', 'log', 'log10', 'log1p', 'modf', 'pi', 'pow', 'radians', 'sin', 'sinh', 'sqrt', 'tan', 'tanh', 'trunc']

None

**On Beyond Strings**

Now that you understand what functions are and how to import modules, let's look at some of the functions that are built in to Python (no modules required!).

You already know about some of the built-in functions we've used with strings, such as .upper(), .lower(), str(), and len(). These are great for doing work with strings, but what about something a little more analytic?

Instructions

What do you think the code in the editor will do? Click Save & Submit Code when you think you have an idea.

**Script.py**

def biggest\_number(\*args):

print max(args)

return max(args)

def smallest\_number(\*args):

print min(args)

return min(args)

def distance\_from\_zero(arg):

print abs(arg)

return abs(arg)

biggest\_number(-10, -5, 5, 10)

smallest\_number(-10, -5, 5, 10)

distance\_from\_zero(-10)

**Output:**

10

-10

10

None

**max()**

The max() function takes any number of arguments and returns the largest one. ("Largest" can have odd definitions here, so it's best to use max() on integers and floats, where the results are straightforward, and not on other objects, like strings.)

For example, max(1,2,3) will return 3 (the largest number in the set of arguments).

Instructions

Try out the max() function on [line 3](javascript:void(0)) of the editor. You can provide any number of integer or float arguments to max().

**Script.py**

# Set maximum to the max value of any set of numbers on line 3!

maximum = max(2, .33, 25, -3)

print maximum

**Output:**

25

None

**min()**

min() then returns the smallest of a given series of arguments.

Instructions

Go ahead and set minimum equal to the min() of any set of integers or floats you'd like.

**Script.py**

# Set minimum to the min value of any set of numbers on line 3!

minimum = min(2, .35, 25, -3)

print minimum

**Output:**

-3

None

**abs()**

The abs() function returns the **absolute value** of the number it takes as an argument—that is, that number's distance from 0 on an imagined number line. For instance, 3 and -3 both have the same absolute value: 3. The abs() function always returns a positive value, and unlike max() and min(), it only takes a single number.

Instructions

Set absolute equal to the absolute value of -42 on [line 2](javascript:void(0)).

**Script.py**

absolute = abs(-42)

print absolute

**Output:**

42

None

**type()**

Finally, the type() function returns the **type** of the data it receives as an argument. If you ask Python to do the following:

print type(42)

print type(4.2)

print type('spam')

Python will output:

<type 'int'>

<type 'float'>

<type 'str'>

Instructions

Have Python print out the type of an int, a float, and a str string in the editor. You can pick any values on which to call type(), so long as they produce one of each.

**Script.py**

# Print out the types of an integer, a float,

# and a string on separate lines below.

print type(45)

print type(6.6)

print type('Hello')

**Output:**

<type 'int'>

<type 'float'>

<type 'str'>

None

**Review: Functions**

Okay! Let's review functions.

def speak(message):

return message

if happy():

speak("I'm happy!")

elif sad():

speak("I'm sad.")

else:

speak("I don't know what I'm feeling.")

Again, the example code above is just there for your reference!

Instructions

1. First, def a function, shut\_down, that takes one argument s. Don't forget the parentheses or the colon!
2. Then, if the shut\_down function receives an s equal to "yes", it should return "Shutting down"
3. Alternatively, elif s is equal to "no", then the function should return "Shutdown aborted".
4. Finally, if shut\_down gets anything other than those inputs, the function should return "Sorry"

**Script.py**

def shut\_down(s):

if s == "yes":

return "Shutting down"

elif s == "no":

return "Shutdown aborted"

else:

return "Sorry"

print shut\_down("yes")

**Output:**

Shutting down

None

**Review: Modules**

Good work! Now let's see what you remember about importing modules (and, specifically, what's available in the math module).

Instructions

Import the math module in whatever way you prefer. Call its sqrt function on the number 13689 and print that value to the console.

**Script.py**

from math import sqrt

print sqrt(13689)

**Output:**

117.0

None

**Review: Built-In Functions**

Perfect! Last but not least, let's review the built-in functions you've learned about in this lesson.

def is\_numeric(num):

return type(num) == int or type(num) == float:

max(2, 3, 4) # 4

min(2, 3, 4) # 2

abs(2) # 2

abs(-2) # 2

Instructions

1. First, def a function called distance\_from\_zero, with one argument (choose any argument name you like).
2. If the type of the argument is either int or float, the function should return the absolute value of the function input.
3. Otherwise, the function should return "Nope"

**Script.py**

def distance\_from\_zero(x):

if type(x) == int or type(x) == float:

return abs(x)

else:

return "Nope"

print distance\_from\_zero(20)

**Output:**

20

None