**Task 5**

**Week 5 Python**

**Objective:**  
The objective of this task is to help beginners practice Python programming fundamentals, including input, output, basic arithmetic operations, and using conditional statements to create a simple calculator.

**Assignment Instructions:**

1. **Program Requirements:**
   * Write a Python program that acts as a basic calculator.
   * The program should:
     + Ask the user to input two numbers.
     + Ask the user to select an operation: addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division.
     + Perform the selected operation and display the result.
2. **Input Validation:**
   * Ensure the user provides valid numeric input for the numbers.
   * Check for division by zero and handle it with an appropriate error message.
3. **User-Friendly Output:**
   * Display clear messages to guide the user, such as:
     + "Enter the first number:"
     + "Choose an operation (+, -, \*, /):"
     + "The result is: ..."
4. **Optional Extension (For Extra Practice):**
   * Allow the user to perform another calculation without restarting the program.
   * Use a loop to keep the program running until the user decides to exit.