Exercise 29: What If

Here is the next script of Python you will enter, which introduces you to the `if-statement`. Type this in, make it run exactly right, and then we'll see if your practice has paid off.

```
people = 20
cats = 30
dogs = 15


if people < cats:
    print "Too many cats! The world is doomed!"

if people > cats:
    print "Not many cats! The world is saved!"

if people < dogs:
    print "The world is drooled on!"

if people > dogs:
    print "The world is dry!"


dogs += 5

if people >= dogs:
    print "People are greater than or equal to dogs."

if people <= dogs:
    print "People are less than or equal to dogs."


if people == dogs:
    print "People are dogs."
```

What You Should See

```
$ python ex29.py
Too many cats! The world is doomed!
The world is dry!
```

```
People are greater than or equal to dogs.
People are less than or equal to dogs.
People are dogs.
```

Study Drills

In this Study Drill, try to guess what you think the `if-statement` is and what it does. Try to answer these questions in your own words before moving on to the next exercise:

1. What do you think the `if` does to the code under it?
2. Why does the code under the `if` need to be indented four spaces?
3. What happens if it isn't indented?
4. Can you put other boolean expressions from Exercise 27 in the `if-statement`? Try it.
5. What happens if you change the initial variables for `people`, `cats`, and `dogs`?

Common Student Questions

What does `+=` mean?

The code `x += 1` is the same as doing `x = x + 1` but involves less typing. You can call this the "increment by" operator. The same goes for `-=` and many other expressions you'll learn later.

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