Tuples

Tuples Are Like Lists

Tuples are another kind of sequence that functions much like a list - they have elements which are indexed starting at 0

```
>>> x = ('Glenn', 'Sally', 'Joseph')
>>> print(x[2])
Joseph
>>> y = ( 1, 9, 2 )
>>> print(y)
(1, 9, 2)
>>> print(max(y))
9
```

```
>>> for iter in y:
...     print(iter)
...
1
9
2
>>>
```

but... Tuples are “immutable”

Unlike a list, once you create a tuple, you cannot alter its contents - similar to a string

```
>>> x = [9, 8, 7]
>>> x[2] = 6
>>> print(x)
>>>[9, 8, 6]
>>>
```

```
>>> y = 'ABC'
>>> y[2] = 'D'
Traceback:'str' object does
not support item
Assignment
>>>
```

```
>>> z = (5, 4, 3)
>>> z[2] = 0
Traceback:'tuple' object does
not support item
Assignment
>>>
```

Things not to do With Tuples

```
>>> x = (3, 2, 1)
>>> x.sort()
Traceback:
AttributeError: 'tuple' object has no attribute 'sort'
>>> x.append(5)
Traceback:
AttributeError: 'tuple' object has no attribute 'append'
>>> x.reverse()
Traceback:
AttributeError: 'tuple' object has no attribute 'reverse'
>>>
```

A Tale of Two Sequences


```
>>> l = list()
>>> dir(l)
['append', 'count', 'extend', 'index', 'insert', 'pop', 'remove', 'reverse', 'sort']

>>> t = tuple()
>>> dir(t)
['count', 'index']
```

Tuples are More Efficient

Since Python does not have to build tuple structures to be modifiable, they are simpler and more efficient in terms of memory use and performance than lists

So in our program when we are making “temporary variables” we prefer tuples over lists

Tuples and Assignment

We can also put a tuple on the left-hand side of an assignment statement

We can even omit the parentheses

```
>>> (x, y) = (4, 'fred')
>>> print(y)
fred
>>> (a, b) = (99, 98)
>>> print(a)
99
```

Tuples and Dictionaries

The items() method in dictionaries returns a list of (key, value) tuples

```
>>> d = dict()
>>> d['csev'] = 2
>>> d['cwen'] = 4
>>> for (k,v) in d.items():
...     print(k, v)
...
csev 2
cwen 4
>>> tups = d.items()
>>> print(tups)
dict_items([('csev', 2), ('cwen', 4)])
```

Tuples are Comparable

The comparison operators work with tuples and other sequences. If the first item is equal, Python goes on to the next element, and so on, until it finds elements that differ.

```
>>> (0, 1, 2) < (5, 1, 2)
True
>>> (0, 1, 2000000) < (0, 3, 4)
True
>>> ( 'Jones', 'Sally' ) < ('Jones', 'Sam')
True
>>> ( 'Jones', 'Sally') > ('Adams', 'Sam')
True
```