

PHP Syntax and Printing Notes

1. Introduction to PHP:

- PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor) is a widely-used open source server-side scripting language.
- It is especially suited for web development and can be embedded into HTML.
- PHP scripts are executed on the server, and the result is returned to the browser as plain HTML.
- A PHP file usually has the extension .php.

Basic Example:

```
<?php  
echo "My first PHP script!";  
?>
```

2. PHP Basic Syntax:

- A PHP script starts with <?php and ends with ?>.
- Statements in PHP end with a semicolon (;).
- PHP code can be placed anywhere in the document.

Example:

```
<?php  
echo "Hello World!";  
ECHO "Hello Again!";  
EcHo "Case insensitive keywords.";  
?>
```

Case Sensitivity:

- Variable names are case-sensitive (\$var and \$VAR are different).
- Function names are not case-sensitive.

3. Printing in PHP:

PHP provides two main ways to output data: echo and print.

Using echo:

- Can output multiple strings separated by commas.
- Does not return any value.
- Faster than print.

Example:

```
<?php  
echo "This ", "string ", "was ", "made ", "with multiple parameters.";  
?>
```

Using print:

- Can output only one string.
- Always returns 1, so it can be used in expressions.

Example:

```
<?php  
print "Hello World!";  
?>
```

4. String Handling in PHP:

Strings are sequences of characters enclosed in quotes.

Single Quotes:

- Variables are not parsed inside single quotes.

- Example:

```
<?php  
$name = "John";  
echo 'Hello $name'; // Output: Hello $name  
?>
```

Double Quotes:

- Variables and escape sequences are parsed.

- Example:

```
<?php  
$name = "John";  
echo "Hello $name"; // Output: Hello John  
?>
```

Common String Functions:

- `strlen($str)`: Returns length of string.
- `strtoupper($str)`: Converts to uppercase.
- `strtolower($str)`: Converts to lowercase.
- `str_replace("find","replace",$str)`: Replace words in a string.

5. Example Program:

```
<?php  
$greeting = "Welcome to PHP!";  
echo $greeting;  
print " - This was printed using print.";  
  
$text = "Learning PHP is fun!";  
echo "<br>Length of text: " . strlen($text);  
echo "<br>Uppercase: " . strtoupper($text);  
?>
```

Summary:

- PHP syntax starts with <?php and ends with ?>.
- Use echo for fast and multiple outputs.
- Use print when you need a return value.
- Strings can be handled using single or double quotes.
- PHP provides many built-in string functions for manipulation.

Note:

Understanding printing and string handling is the first step in learning PHP programming for web development.