**Perl 6**

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Perl 6 is a scripting programming language as opposed to a compiled language (and it's cross-platform).  
  
Programming language popularity (varies considerably):

<http://sogrady-media.redmonk.com/sogrady/files/2015/01/lang.rank_.plot_.q1152.png>  
<http://redmonk.com/sogrady/2015/01/14/language-rankings-1-15/>  
<http://www.tiobe.com/index.php/content/paperinfo/tpci/index.html>  
  
Why I don't like Python: white space format, see this article:

<http://hype-free.blogspot.com/2008/06/hard-edges-of-python.html>  
  
Letter to editor ACM ref Python vs Perl:

[http://mags.acm.org/communications/may\_2015/?CFID=509057495&CFTOKEN=31267950#pg10](http://mags.acm.org/communications/may_2015/?CFID=509057495&CFTOKEN=31267950%23pg10)  
  
Perl 5 speed and other attributes compared to other languages:  
  
   <http://raid6.com.au/~onlyjob/posts/arena>  
  
Perl was invented by Larry Wall and was released to the internet on December 18, 1987 via newsgroup "comp.sources.misc" (source: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perl>)  
  
Later Perl versions and release dates (wikipedia):  
 2 1988

3 1989

4 1991 (I started using it in 1993)

5.0 October 17, 1994  
 5.001 (March 13. 1995) through 5.21 (2015-01-20)

Perl 6 is nearing release, maybe by the end of 2015, but it is usable now  
  
Web site: <http://perl6.org/>  
  
My experience with Perl (I love it):

very C like (uses curly braces to set off code blocks)

much more rapid development than C

speedy enough for most needs, call C if needed

CPAN: user submitted modules for all kind of programming needs  
  
  
What I wanted to be improved:

compilation to byte code like Python

better class handling

better namespace handling

better typing when needed  
  
What does Perl 6 offer? All I wanted and more! From the web site:

<http://design.perl6.org/S02.html>  
  
Brief examples  
  
 a one liner:

$ perl6 -e 'say "Hello, World!"'  
  
 executable script:

$ ./hello-world.pl  
  
Some Perl links

Perl Weekly (<http://perlweekly.com/>)

CPAN (<http://www.cpan.org/>)  
  
Summary

Perl 6 is Perl 5 on steroids! I highly recommend it as your scripting language of choice.