



## 16.2. Optional reverse parameter

The `sorted` function takes some optional parameters (see the [Optional Parameters](#) page). The first optional parameter is a key function, which will be described in the next section. The second optional parameter is a Boolean value which determines whether to sort the items in reverse order. By default, it is `False`, but if you set it to `True`, the list will be sorted in reverse order.

Save & Run

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```
1 L2 = ["Cherry", "Apple", "Blueberry"]
2 print(sorted(L2, reverse=True))
3
```

['Cherry', 'Blueberry', 'Apple']

Activity: 1 -- ActiveCode (ac18\_2\_1)

### Note

This is a situation where it is convenient to use the keyword mechanism for providing optional parameters. It is possible to provide the value `True` for the `reverse` parameter without naming that parameter, but then we would have to provide a value for the second parameter as well, rather than allowing the default parameter value to be used. We would have had to write `sorted(L2, None, True)`. That's a lot harder for humans to read and understand.

### Check Your Understanding

- Sort the list, `lst`, from largest to smallest. Save this new list to the variable `lst_sorted`.

Save & Run

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```
1
2 lst = [3, 5, 1, 6, 7, 2, 9, -2, 5]
3
4 lst_sorted = (sorted(lst, reverse = True))
5 print(lst_sorted)
```

[9, 7, 6, 5, 5, 3, 2, 1, -2]

Activity: 2 -- ActiveCode (ac18\_2\_2)

Result	Actual Value	Expected Value	Notes
Pass	[9, 7..., -2]	[9, 7..., -2]	Testing that <code>lst_sorted</code> value is assigned to correct values.

Expand Differences

You passed: 100.0% of the tests

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16.1. Introduction: Sorting with Sort and Sorted">

✓ Completed. Well Done! ➔

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