25 February 2019 09:38

Lesson Objectives

Demonstrate the use of pseudocode to write code

Pseudocode is a way of expressing an algorithm in a structured way without having to worry much about the exact syntax or whether or not the code will compile - with pseudocode all we're interested in is being able to clearly explain how to solve a particular problem.

There is no formal way of writing pseudocode but we tend to use the following constructs.

Structure	Pseudocode	Python
Variable creation & initialisation	x AS INTEGER x ← 0	x = 0
Assignment	x ← 4	x = 4
Arithmetic operations	y ← x * 7	y = x * 7
Output	OUTPUT x	print(x)
Input	INPUT x	x = input()
Selection: If statement	IF x = 4 THEN y = 8 ELSE y = 6 END IF	if x == 4: y = 8 else: y = 6
Selection: Select-case	SELECT x CASE 1: OUTPUT a CASE 2: OUTPUT b CASE 3: OUTPUT c CASE ELSE: OUTPUT d END SELECT	if x == 1: print(a) elif x == 2: print(b) elif x == 3: print(c) else: print(d)
Iteration: While loop	WHILE x > 4 DO x ← x - 1 END WHILE	while x > 4: x = x -1
Iteration: For loop	FOR x = 1 TO 5 y ← y + x END FOR	for x in range(1,5): y = y + x
Procedure	PROCEDURE square (x AS INTEGER) x \leftarrow x * x OUTPUT x END PROCEDURE	def square(x): x = x * x print(x)
Function	FUNCTION square (x AS INTEGER) x ← x * x RETURN x END FUNCTION	def square(x): x = x * x return x

ExamplesTry to code the following examples in Python:

1. Multiplier

OUTPUT "Choose a number to multiply."
INPUT num AS INTEGER
OUTPUT "Multiply it by?"
INPUT mult AS INTEGER
ans AS INTEGER
ans F. num * mult
OUTPUT ans

Code Screenshot

2. Adder

total AS INTEGER
total ← 0
OUTPUT "How many numbers to add?"
INPUT nums as INTEGER
FOR x = 1 TO nums
INPUT num AS INTEGER
total ← total + num
END FOR
OUTPUT total

Code

3. Driving

age AS INTEGER
age + 0
WHILE age <= 0 OR age > 100
OUTPUT "How old are you?"
INPUT age
IF age <= 0 OR age > 100 THEN
OUTPUT "That is not a valid age"
END IF
END WHILE

OUTPUT "You are " + age + " years old."

IF age >= 18 THEN
OUTPUT "You can drive."
ELSE
OUTPUT "You cannot drive."

Code Screenshot

4. Random Number Game

MyNum AS INTEGER
MyNum ← RANDOM NUMBER 1-10

YourGuess AS INTEGER YourGuess ← 0

WHILE YourGuess != MyNum

OUTPUT "Guess my number" INPUT MyGuess

IF YourGuess > MyNum THEN
OUTPUT "Too big"
ELSE IF YourGuess < MyNum THEN
OUTPUT "Too small"
ELSE
OUTPUT "You win"
END IF

END WHILE

OUTPUT "Game Over"

Code Screenshot

5. Factorial Function

FUNCTION factorial(n AS INTEGER)
IF n = 0 THEN
RETURN 1
ELSE
RETURN factorial(n * (n - 1))
END FUNCTION

OUTPUT "Enter a number"
INPUT x AS INTEGER
OUTPUT "The factorial of that number is"
OUTPUT factorial(x)

Code Screenshot