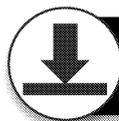


# Python Programming for GCSE

## Third Edition

Third Edition, September 2025



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# Teacher's Introduction



The digital files for this resource are provided on the ZigZag Education Support Files system, which can be accessed via [zzed.uk/productsupport](http://zzed.uk/productsupport)

This resource provides a thorough introduction to the practical problem-solving and programming skills that students will need to develop for GCSE/IGCSE Computer Science. The resource introduces each topic using clear examples and annotated code snippets and a range of exercises for students to practise, with answers provided for each exercise.

As students develop their knowledge of Python, the tasks set become more challenging and demonstrate possible methods of approaching programming project-style tasks, with an emphasis on how to make the code both efficient and robust at every opportunity.

This resource also includes five stand-alone practical programming problems to stretch the most able students; suggested solutions are included for all problems together with any additional files required to attempt each task. In addition to a digital copy of the task solutions, this resource also includes a collection of 24 lesson starters in a PowerPoint presentation, with solutions.

With a range of starters and exercises available providing both stretch and challenge, this is the ideal resource for delivering GCSE programming in Python. Digital copies of all task solutions provide teachers with the option to customise and develop tasks if necessary. Students can use this resource independently, either to work through systematically or to refer to on an ad hoc basis when required; helping them to develop confidence and competence in their programming skills.

**For information about the key conventions used, including PEP 8 guidelines and more, refer to the *Introductory Notes*.**

## Digital format

All of the activities are provided electronically on the ZigZag Education support files system, which can be accessed via [zzed.uk/productsupport](http://zzed.uk/productsupport) To use on a school network:

- Download the .zip folder
- Locate the .zip folder in your downloads folder
- Right-click on the .zip folder > click 'Extract all' > select a destination > click 'Extract'. **This step is essential as the files will not function properly without it.**

Access to the activities is via the following user interfaces:

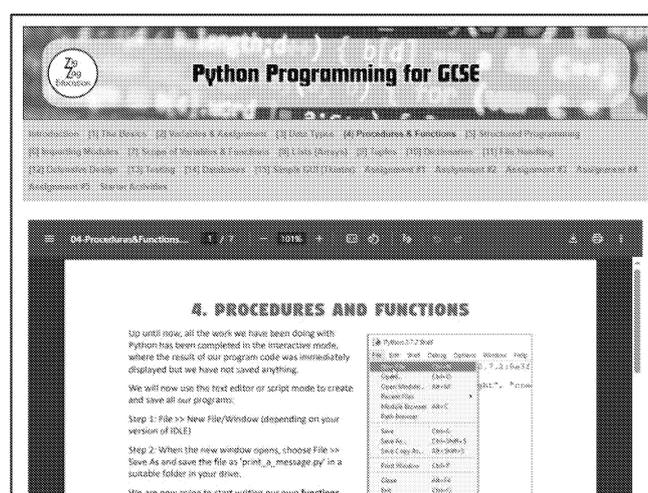
- **index.html**  
This the main user interface for the resource; the one that your students will use.

All of the topic notes/exercises, practice assignments and starter activities can be selected using the horizontal navigation bar.

There are controls enabling zoom in/out, jump to page, table of contents and print.

- **solutions**  
Worked solutions for every exercise in the resource are located inside the *teacher* subfolder.

**Note:** there is no link to any of the solutions from the main interface. If you wish for students to be able to access this page, you will need to provide them with a link or shortcut to it.



**To use on a *secure* school network:** copy the *PythonProgramming* folder to a location that your students can access, and provide them with a link or shortcut to *index.html*. Repeat for the *teacher/solutions* folders to give access to the worked solutions.

## **Selected Pages Only**

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This sample shows a limited selection of pages.

# INTRODUCTORY NOTES

## WELCOME

*Python Programming* provides a comprehensive introduction to the problem-solving and programming skills that you will need for GCSE/IGCSE Computer Science.

There are 15 topic areas, each with explanations, examples and annotated range of exercises for you to practise.

As you develop your knowledge of Python, the tasks set become more challenging. You will explore various possible methods of approaching and solving programming project-style tasks, with an aim to make the code both efficient and robust at every opportunity.

In addition to the exercises, there are five stand-alone practical programming problems designed to test your ability, as well as 24 starter activities.

## KEY CONVENTIONS

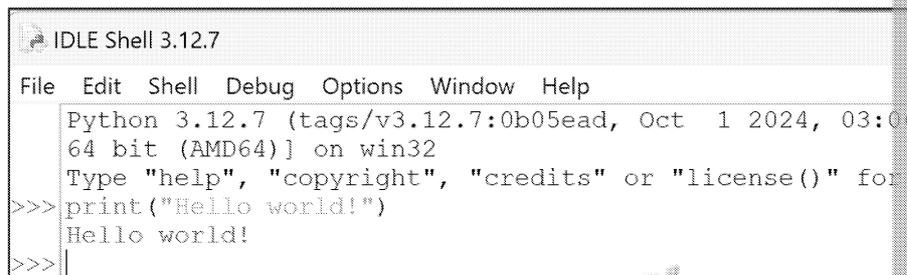
### VERSION OF PYTHON

The version of Python that is used in all examples in this resource is version 3.12.7.

### PYTHON MODES

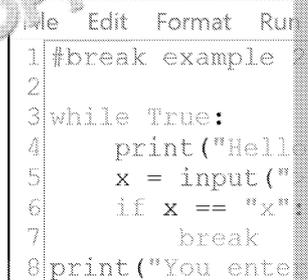
Python has two modes: *interactive* and *script*.

In *interactive* mode, any code we type into the code window will immediately execute and display the results in the shell.



```
IDLE Shell 3.12.7
File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help
Python 3.12.7 (tags/v3.12.7:0b05ead, Oct 1 2024, 03:00:00)
64 bit (AMD64) on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more
>>> print("Hello world!")
Hello world!
>>>
```

In *script* mode, there is no immediate response to our code. To view the results we must save our file and execute the program by pressing F5 or clicking Run >> Run. Modifying the code and running it again will update the output.



```
File Edit Format Run Shell Debug Options Window Help
1 #break example 2
2
3 while True:
4     print("Hello world!")
5     x = input("Enter a character: ")
6     if x == "x":
7         break
8 print("You entered: ", x)
```

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## IDE (INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT)

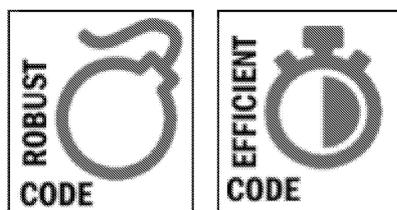
There are many different IDEs which students can use to understand how to solve problems within their code. This resource uses IDLE, the integrated development environment written in Python and Tkinter, as it is freely available and easy to use.

## PYTHON AND SQL

In topic **14: Databases**, the method of connecting to a simple database application which is imported as a module into Python 3. The SQLite browser is also used as a visual method of interacting with a simple database. This open source software is available here: <https://sqlitebrowser.org/>

## EFFICIENT AND ROBUST CODE

The ability to write efficient and robust code is an important part of learning to structure effective programs. Specific examples of efficient and robust code and these icons appear on the page:



## WRITING READABLE CODE – USING PEP 8 GUIDELINES

Readability involves the use of consistent styles and layout to make your code easier for others to read and understand.

### VARIABLE AND FUNCTION NAMES

The key points to follow are the consistent use of lower case and underscores for variable and function names easier to read and make the purpose of the variable clearer.

#### Example 1:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 n1 = int(input("Please enter your first number: "))
2 n2 = int(input("Please enter your second number: "))
3 a = (n1 + n2)/2
4 print(f"The average of {n1} and {n2} is {a}")
```

Following PEP 8 guidelines:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 first_num = int(input("Please enter your first number: "))
2 second_num = int(input("Please enter your second number: "))
3 average = (first_num + second_num)/2
4 print(f"The average of {first_num} and {second_num} is {average}")
```

The exception to this rule is the naming of variables which are constants, i.e. variables whose value remains unchanged when the program is executed.

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**Example 2:**

Constant names should be all upper case, separating words using an underbar. The number of points for winning, losing or drawing a football game does not change and so are constant values.

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 def footyResults():
2     ''' this function requests the name of 2 football teams and then
3     for each team. It then calculates the points: 3 for a win, 1 for a draw
4     and 0 for a loss and display the team points
5     '''
6     WIN = 3
7     DRAW = 1
8     LOSE = 0
9     hTeam = input('Please enter the name of the home team >>> ')
10    aTeam = input('Please enter the name of the away team >>> ')
11    hScore = int(input(f'Please enter the score for {hTeam} >>> '))
12    aScore = int(input(f'Please enter the score for {aTeam} >>> '))
13    if hScore > aScore:
14        print(f'The points gained are: {hTeam}:{WIN} points and {aTeam}:{LOSE} points')
15    elif hScore == aScore:
16        print(f'The points gained are: {hTeam}:{DRAW} points and {aTeam}:{DRAW} points')
17    else:
18        print(f'The points gained are: {hTeam}:{LOSE} point and {aTeam}:{WIN} points')
19
20 def main():
21     '''runs all functions'''
22     footyResults()
23
24 main()
```

**USE OF WHITESPACE IN EXPRESSIONS AND STATEMENTS**

The key points to follow here are ensuring that there is a space either side of a symbol that indicates a **mathematical operation** is to be performed, e.g. 'result=a+b'. Make sure that the space bar is used, NOT the TAB key as this will affect the way the code is executed. The use of whitespace by leaving a line space between lines of code also improve the readability of the code, as will leaving two lines space between longer sections of code.

**Example:**

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # return values and re-use functions
2
3 def get_student_name():
4     ''' Requests name string and returns'''
5     student_name = input("Please enter your name: ")
6     return student_name
7
8 def get_teacher_name():
9     ''' Requests teacher name string and returns'''
10    teacher_name = input("Please enter your Computer Science teacher's name: ")
11    return teacher_name
12
13 def get_marks():
14    '''asks for 4 values and returns average'''
15    m1 = int(input("Please enter the mark for the first HW task: "))
16    m2 = int(input("Please enter the mark for the second HW task: "))
17    m3 = int(input("Please enter the mark for the third HW task: "))
18    m4 = int(input("Please enter the mark for the final HW task: "))
19    avg = (m1+m2+m3+m4)/4
20    return avg
21
22 def comment(a,t,s):
23     '''Its comment based on variable value.'''
24
25     if a >= 8:
26         print(f"well done, (s). (t) is very pleased with your effort.")
27     elif a >= 6 and a < 8:
28         print(f"A good effort, (s) ,(t) thinks you should check your work carefully.")
29     else:
30         print(f"(s) this is not an acceptable level of effort.(t) has asked you to try harder.")
31
32 def main():
33     ''' runs all functions'''
34     student_name = get_student_name()
35     teacher_name = get_teacher_name()
36     avg = get_marks()
37     teacher_comment(avg,teacher_name,student_name)
38
39 main()
```

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Following PEP 8 guidelines:

```
3 def get_student_details():
4     """ Requests name string and returns"""
5     student_name = input("Please enter your name: ")
6     return student_name
7
8
9 def get_teacher_details():
10    """ Requests teacher name string and returns"""
11    teacher_name = input("Please enter your Computer Science teacher's name: ")
12    return teacher_name
13
14
15 def get_marks():
16    """asks for 4 values and returns average"""
17    hw1_mark = int(input("Please enter the mark for the first HW task: "))
18    hw2_mark = int(input("Please enter the mark for the second HW task: "))
19    hw3_mark = int(input("Please enter the mark for the third HW task: "))
20    hw4_mark = int(input("Please enter the mark for the final HW task: "))
21    avg = (hw1_mark+hw2_mark+hw3_mark+hw4_mark)/4
22    return avg
23
24
25 def teacher_comment(a, b):
26    """ Prints out a variable value."""
27
28    if a >= 6 and b <= 6:
29        print("Well done, (s). (t) is very pleased with your effort.")
30    elif a < 6 and a <= 0:
31        print(f"A good effort, (s) ,(t) thinks you should check your work carefully.")
32    else:
33        print(f"(s) this is not an acceptable level of effort.(t) has asked you to")
34
35
36 def main():
37    """ runs all functions"""
38    student_name = get_student_details()
39    teacher_name = get_teacher_details()
40    avg = get_marks()
41    teacher_comment(avg,teacher_name,student_name)
42
43 main()
```

The function names used in the first example were also too close to the variables. These were amended as well. Looking at the two improved versions, it is clear that the second version is clearer and easier to read.

Using these guidelines will help you and your teacher understand what you return to it each lesson.

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# 1. THE BASICS

Your first program: "Hello world!"

We are going to use the `print()` function to write our first program. Python will enter in the brackets and print out a text **string** OR the result of a mathematical operation.

Open IDLE and type this into the interpreter or 'shell' and press ENTER:

You should get this response from the 'shell':

```
Python 3.7.2 Shell
File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help
Python 3.7.2 (tags/v3.7.2:9a3ff - 4.1.2018, Dec 23 2018, 22:20:52)
[Intel)] on win32
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license()" for more
>>> print("Hello world")
Hello world
>>>
```

All the interpreter is doing is printing to the screen the string of characters that you entered inside the brackets. The `print()` function is a ready-made function to print to the screen.

There are many more **built-in functions** in Python that you will learn about in the next chapter.

## USING PYTHON AS A CALCULATOR

When we use numbers in Python, normal mathematical operators apply. Below are the commonly used operators.

Command	Name	Example
+	Addition	4+5
-	Subtraction	8-5
*	Multiplication	4*5
/	Division	19/3
%	Remainder	19%3
**	Exponent	2**4
//	Whole Number Division (Floored Quotient)	7//2 (rounded down)

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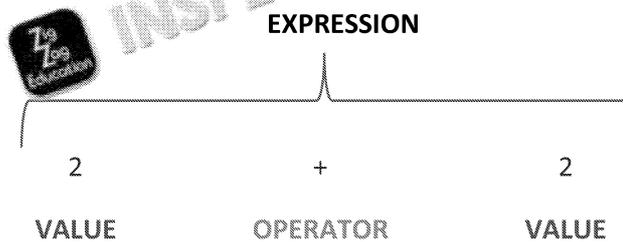
## PSEUDO NUMBERS - WHAT ARE THEY?

These are numbers that are not meant for calculation, like a telephone or a security number, so we must use a STRING data type to record them, rather than a numeric data type.

You will learn more about what a data type is in the next few pages.

## EXPRESSIONS

In mathematics, an expression means the number, symbols and operators together to show the value of something. In Python, if we type an expression in a window, the 'shell', Python will interpret the answer and display it:



```
>>> 4+5
9
>>> 8-3
5
>>> 4*5
20
>>> 19/3
6.333333333333333
>>> 19%3
1
>>> 2**4
16
>>> 7//2
3
```

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## 1.1 ORDER OF OPERATION

Python automatically understands the order of operation of any mathematical expression, but you should remember this as BIDMAS or BODMAS from your Mathematics lessons:

<b>B</b> rackets	<b>B</b> rackets
<b>I</b> ndices	<b>O</b> der
<b>D</b> ivision	<b>D</b> ivision
<b>M</b> ultiplication	<b>M</b> ultiplication
<b>A</b> ddition	<b>A</b> ddition
<b>S</b> ubtraction	<b>S</b> ubtraction

Example:

$$7 + (6 \times 5^2 + 3)$$

- Evaluate the part of the calculation inside the brackets
  - Inside the brackets the first part to calculate is  $5^2 = 25$
  - Next, multiply  $6 \times 25 = 150$
  - Add  $3 = 153$
- Now evaluate the part of the calculation outside the brackets
  - $7 + 153 = 160$

```
>>> 7+(6*5**2+3)
160
>>>
```

### EXERCISE 01: CALCULATE USING PYTHON

Use the Python interpreter 'shell' and the print() function to complete these calculations:

- $50-5*6$
- $(50-5*6)/4$
- $8/5$
- $4*3$
- $12/3$
- $21\%6$
- $17//5$
- $5*3+2$
- $5**2$
- $1//2$

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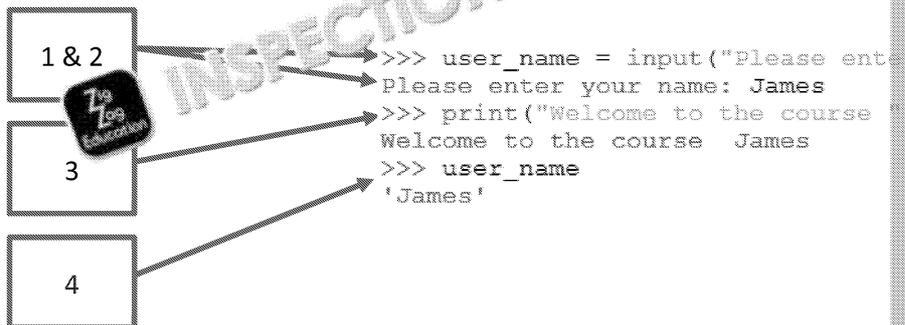
## 2. VARIABLES AND ASSIGNMENT

In computer programming, a LITERAL is any type of data that represents a value or text. Variables are reserved memory locations to store values. **This means that every variable you reserve some space in memory.**

The data used in a program **must be stored** in main memory while the program is running. We give names for these areas in memory so we can refer to them in our programs.

- When we create a variable, the name we use refers to the location of the data in memory.
- Each variable will have a data type (see Data Types). The data type determines the type of data and how much space it needs in memory.

We can create a variable, store the data entered and use that data again. Look at the following code:



1. A variable 'user\_name' is created and the value entered from the input is stored in the variable.
2. The value of 'user\_name' is now James.
3. The print() statement uses the variable to output a message to screen.
4. The value of the variable can be checked by typing it and pressing the enter key.

### 2.1 VARIABLE NAMES

When we create variables and choose names for them there are some basic rules to follow:

1. Variable names must NOT have spaces  
e.g. my name  myName  my\_name  my\_Name
2. Variable names must not use any reserved keywords (see below)
3. Choose a consistent naming style (and stick to it!)
4. Must begin with a letter (a-z, A-Z) or underscore ('\_')
5. Other characters can be letters, numbers or underscores
6. Variable names are case-sensitive (this means you must use the same name wherever you use the variable name)
7. Use a name that makes sense (in the context of the program)  
e.g. student\_name NOT sn



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## ASSIGNING MULTIPLE VALUES

Python also allows us to make our code more **efficient** by allowing multiple to variables:

```
>>>
>>> shoe_size,height = 5,157.8
>>> print("My shoe size is ",shoe_size,"and I am ",height)
My shoe size is 5 and I am 157.8 cms tall
>>>
>>> shoe_size,height = height,shoe_size
>>> print("My shoe size is ",shoe_size,"and I am ",height)
My shoe size is 157.8 and I am 5 cms tall
>>>
```

The variable names are separated by commas; as you can see they print in second **assignment statement** these have been swapped around.

There are three different DATA TYPES shown in the example above:

1. The variable **shoe\_size** is an INTEGER data type. This is a whole number.
2. The variable **height** is a REAL or FLOAT data type. This is a number with a decimal point.
3. The text surrounded by speech marks inside the brackets of the print function is a STRING data type.

Look at *Chapter 3: Data Types* for more information.

## EXERCISE 02: VARIABLES AND ASSIGNMENT

1. Which of these variable names and assignment statements will NOT cause an error?

```
# variable names and assignment statements

continue_list = 15           #(a)
red Counter = True          #(b)
154.2 = length              #(c)
_1234 = 'password'          #(d)
my_best_friend = "Thomas"   #(e)
```

2. Write a program to calculate the area of a circle with a radius of 6.7 cm. Show the calculation.
  - a. Set the value of  $\Pi = 3.142$
  - b. The area of a circle is  $\Pi \times \text{radius squared}$
3. Write a program to store the following variables.
  - a. Forename
  - b. Surname
  - c. Age
  - d. Height



e. Use a print function to display the information in a sentence.

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## 3. DATA TYPES

The data types you will be using are predefined in the Python programming language. The correct data type to use is important because it determines what actions we can perform on the data, e.g. we cannot divide a text string by an integer. Every value you store in memory is of one of the following data types:

### STRING

- A string is a combination of characters that can include letters, numbers, and symbols. It can be within single or double quotes.
- We can add them together, e.g. 'birth' + 'day' would give you 'birthday'.
- Used to represent pseudo-numbers, e.g. a phone number.

### INTEGER

- An Integer is a whole number, it can be positive or negative.
- We can use a range of mathematical operators (+ - \* / etc.) on integers.

### REAL

- This enables us to store a number with a fractional part.
- A real number is sometimes called a float or single or double.

### BOOLEAN

- A Boolean value can be True or False.
- Many questions have the answer 'Yes' or 'No'.
- We want to find out whether things are true or not in our programs.

I can check what data type a variable is by using: `type (variable_name)`.

```
>>> sunny = "sunny"
>>> type(sunny)
<class 'str'>
>>> weather = 12.5
>>> type(weather)
<class 'float'>
```

### Why is this important?

You might use this to ensure that the result of a calculation is shown as a decimal as this may affect the rest of your program and give a false result.

You may want to compare values which are not the same data type, e.g. you might want to compare a string and then needs to be converted to an integer to check whether the string is less than a numeric value.

Look at this example, which causes a Type Error when the code is executed

```
>>> legal_age = 17
>>> student_age = input("Enter your age: ")
Enter your age: 18
>>> if student_age >= legal_age:
    print("You are old enough to drive")
else:
    print("You cannot drive yet, you are too young")

Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<pyshell#13>", line 1, in <module>
    if student_age >= legal_age:
TypeError: unorderable types: str() >= int()
>>>
```

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### 3.1 CASTING DATA TYPES

Python assumes that all data entered using the `input()` built-function is a `STR` type is CAST into a different data type. This means telling Python to treat the data as an `INTEGER` or a `FLOAT`.

In the improved version, the data input is CAST to an `INTEGER` when the input is a number. This could also be done like this:

```
>>> student_age = input("Enter your age: ")
Enter your age: 18
>>> student_age = int(student_age)
>>> type(student_age)
<class 'int'>
```

*Used to show the data type has changed.*

The example above is more **efficient** as only one line of code has been used to cast the data to an integer rather than two lines of code as shown above.

Efficient code:

```
>>> legal_age = 17
>>> student_age = int(input("Enter your age: "))
Enter your age: 18
>>> if student_age >= legal_age:
    print("You are old enough to drive")
else:
    print("You cannot drive yet, you are not old enough to drive")

You are old enough to drive
```

More examples of casting data types:

```
>>> student_age = '16'
>>> type(student_age)
<class 'str'>
>>> type(int(student_age))
<class 'int'>
>>> type(float(student_age))
<class 'float'>
>>> type(str(int(student_age)))
<class 'str'>
```

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### 3.2 GETTING DATA INPUT

We have already seen examples of the built-in function `input()` being used. The efficient code example above shows how the input from the user can be converted to a data type by putting the `input()` code inside a data type.

```
>>> name = input("Please enter your name: ")
Please enter your name: Adam
>>> age = int(input("Please enter your age: "))
Please enter your age: 15
>>> print("Hello", name, ", you are", age, "years old")
Hello Adam , you are 15 years old
```

### 3.3 STRINGS

As all other data types mentioned in Data Types, strings are sequences of characters enclosed by single quotes, double quotes or three quotes of either type. The output from each version is the same.

```
#These are all the same

my_string = 'Hello world'
print(my_string)
my_string = "Hello world"
print(my_string)
my_string = '''Hello world'''
print(my_string)
my_string = """Hello world"""
print(my_string)

#triple quotes allow the string to cover several lines

my_string = """
The string "Hello world" is the
first text that people learning
to code output to screen"""
print(my_string)
```

```
>>>
Hello world
Hello world
Hello world
Hello world

The string "Hello world" is the
first text that people learning
to code output to screen
```

Which one should I use?

- Using single quotes means that you need to use escape characters in the string to use characters like a backslash, an apostrophe or double quotes.
- Using double quotes means that you do not need to use escape characters for single quotes.

Using triple quotes means that text can span several lines, although these are not valid Python functions; see Docstring and Comments for more information.

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## Escape characters

Some useful escape characters are shown below.

Escape character	What it does
\\	Allows the use of a backslash inside a single quote
\'	Allows the use of an apostrophe inside a single quote
\"	Allows the use of double quotes inside a single quote
\n	ASCII linefeed-newline
\t	Horizontal tab (indents your text string)

### Example

```
>>> print("The quick brown \nfox jumped over\nthe lazy dog")
The quick brown
fox jumped over
the lazy dog
>>>
>>> print("Please choose from\n\t1)Play Game\n\t2)Quit")
Please choose from
    1)Play Game
    2)Quit
```

```
>>> print('Don't open that door!')

SyntaxError: invalid syntax
>>> print('Don\t open that door!')
Don't open that door!
>>> print('This is a backslash \')

SyntaxError: EOL while scanning string literal
>>> print('This is a backslash \\')
This is a backslash \
>>> print("Everyone says \"hello\" ")
SyntaxError: invalid syntax
>>> print("Everyone says \"hello\"")
Everyone says "hello"
>>>
```

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## STRING OPERATIONS

Strings are immutable; this means that once we have created a string variable

There are a number of string operations we can perform on a string variable while writing your code. Here are some common examples:

- `len(myString)` – returns the number of characters in the string, including spaces.
- `myString.upper()` – returns the string in upper case.
- `myString.lower()` – returns the string in lower case.
- `myString.capitalize()` – returns the string with the first letter of the string in upper case.
- `myString.title()` – returns the string with the first letter of each word in upper case.
- `myString.replace(x, y)` – replaces all the characters represented by `x` with the characters represented by `y`.
- `myString[x:y]` – returns a substring of the original string starting at character `x` and ending at character `y`.

Examples of use:

```
>>> my_string = 'Homer Simpson'
>>> len(my_string)
13
>>> my_char = my_string[6]
>>> my_char
's'
>>> print(my_string[0:5])
Homer
>>> print(my_string.upper())
HOMER SIMPSON
>>> title = 'this is my title'
>>> print(title.capitalize())
This is my title
>>> print(title.replace('i', 'z'))
thzs zs my tztle
>>>
```

Why is this important?

Look at this example; I am trying to test whether the two strings are the same using the equality operator.

```
>>> text_1 = "Paris"
>>> text_2 = "PARIS"
>>> text_1 == text_2
False
>>> text_1.upper() == text_2
True
>>>
```

If I test equality WITHOUT converting the first string to upper case, the result is false; Python does not recognise that the strings are the same.

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## FORMATTING STRINGS

When we need to use variables inside a print statement there are a number of ways we can do this:

```
>>> teacher = input("Please enter your teacher's name: ")
Please enter your teacher's name: Mr Jones
>>> print("Hello ", teacher)
Hello Mr Jones
>>> print("Hello "+ teacher)
Hello Mr Jones
>>> print("Hello {}".format(teacher))
Hello Mr Jones
>>> print(f"Hello {teacher}")
Hello Mr Jones
```

1.  Concatenate the variable into the print statement  Avoid this method
2. Concatenate the string with the variable inside the print statement
3. Use the string method .format()  
\* This is outdated from Python 3.6  Depending on Python version
4. The f-string method  Depending on Python version

Note: If you are using a version of Python before 3.6, then you would use the .format() string method used from Python 3.6 is f-strings.

The .format() method allows the flexible use of combining strings with a variable needing concatenation.

Example:

```
>>> euro = 1.39
>>> cash = 250.0
>>> print("{} will buy {} Euros at today's rate: {}".format(cash, euro, euro))
£250.0 will buy 347.5 Euros at today's rate: 1.39
>>>
```

The f-string method allows the same level of flexibility but is more efficient than the script above with this version:

```
>>> euro = 1.39
>>> cash = 250
>>> print(f"£{cash} will buy {euro*cash} Euros at today's rate of {euro}")
£250 will buy 347.5 Euros at today's rate of 1.39
```

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### String alignment tricks:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 #30 spaces are reserved for the string output
2 #This is printed on the left side
3
4 print(f"{'Left- aligned' : <30}")
5
6 #30 spaces are reserved for the string output
7 #This is printed on the right side
8
9 print(f"{'Right- aligned' : >30}")
10
11 #This text is centred
12 print(f"{'centred' : ^30}")
```

Left aligned Right- aligned  
Centred

Character	Alignment
<	left alignment
^	centre alignment
>	right alignment

We can also use additional 'control characters' to improve the way any variable is printed.

The code in this screenshot has been created in script mode. This means it is run by pressing F5; the file name must have the file extension .py

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 #student test results
2
3 Students = ['Max', 'Chloe', 'Tom', 'Emily']
4 Results = [60, 74, 72, 59]
5
6
7 print("Student Test ")
8 print(f"{Students[0], Results[0]}")
9 print(f"{Students[1], Results[1]}")
10 print(f"{Students[2], Results[2]}")
11 print(f"{Students[3], Results[3]}")
12 print("\nImproved version:")
13
14 # example {0:<10} means left aligned, 10 spaces available
15 print(f"{'Student':<12} {'Test':<5}")
16 print(f"{Students[0]:<12} {Results[0]:<5}")
17 print(f"{Students[1]:<12} {Results[1]:<5}")
18 print(f"{Students[2]:<12} {Results[2]:<5}")
19 print(f"{Students[3]:<12} {Results[3]:<5}")
```

```
Student Test
('Max', 60)
('Chloe', 74)
('Tom', 72)
('Emily', 59)

Improved version:
Student Test
Max 60
Chloe 74
Tom 72
Emily 59
```

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## USING ORD() AND CHR()

These two built-in functions are commonly used when creating a simple Caesar Cipher program to encrypt a text string.

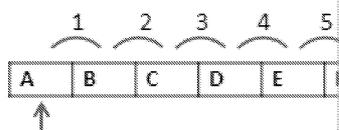
A Caesar Cipher simply substitutes the actual character in the string with another letter a certain number of spaces further on in the alphabet.

The ord() function allows us to represent each letter as an ordinal number. We can then add the required number of letters to shift by, which must be between 1 and 26, to find the value of the new number. The new number can be changed back to a letter by using the chr() function.

The numbers used to represent each upper or lower case letter in the alphabet are based on the ASCII character set. Computers only understand binary, so the ASCII codes represent text and other punctuation symbols. The diagram shows some of the letters and their numerical representations in binary, octal, decimal and hexadecimal.<sup>1</sup>

Example:

```
>>> ord('A')
65
>>> ord('a')
97
>>> letter = 'A'
>>> new_letter = ord(letter) + 10
>>> chr(new_letter)
'R'
>>>
```



This simple example shows how we can use these two built-in functions to create a Caesar Cipher. The key is 7 and z is 7 letters away from s in the alphabet.

```
password = "secret"
encrypted = '' # empty string for the encrypted password

# encrypt the password
key = 7 # the number of letters to the right
for each in password:
    new_letter = ord(each)+key
    encrypted += chr(new_letter) # each new letter is added

print(encrypted)
```

## EXERCISE 03: STRINGS

Complete these exercises in script mode in IDLE.

- Prompt the user to enter their name. Output a message: 'Hello (name)'. The name should be output on two lines using one print statement.
- Prompt the user to enter two whole numbers. Output a message 'The numbers, (number 1) and (number 2) is (average)'.
- Prompt the user to enter a string for encryption and a key value between 1 and 26. Output the original string and the encrypted string with a suitable message.

<sup>1</sup> Binary is Base 2; Octal is Base 8; Decimal is Base 10; Hexadecimal is Base 16



## 4. PROCEDURES AND FUNCTIONS

Up until now, all the work we have been doing with Python has been completed in the interactive mode, where the result of our program code was immediately displayed but we have not saved anything.

We will now use the text editor or script mode to create and save all our programs:

Step 1: File >> New File/Window (depending on your version of IDLE)

Step 2: When the new window opens, choose File >> Save As and save the file as 'print\_a\_message.py' in a suitable folder on your drive.

We are now going to start writing our own functions.

### 4.1 WHAT ARE FUNCTIONS?

Functions are blocks of organised code that perform specific tasks; we can write code more EFFICIENT. Python has many ready-made functions that we can use as built-in functions, and you will already have used the print() and input() functions.



#### Code Efficiency

What does this mean?

At GCSE level it means:

- using the most suitable variable names and data types
- reusing code wherever possible
  - NOT copying and pasting but using a function several times to complete a task
- avoiding unnecessary code
  - by using loops to perform tasks
  - by using IF/ELIF statements to test conditions

Why should we use functions?

- They make your code easier to read as you can see what tasks each block of code does (providing you use a suitable name).

Functions can be reused instead of repeating code.

- If changes are needed, they can be made to just one block of code.
- It is easier to organise the order in which the program runs.

### PROCEDURES VS FUNCTIONS

In Python, the blocks of code we write are ALL called functions. In programming, it is important to know the difference between a function and a procedure.

- A procedure is a self-contained block of code that performs a task, e.g. adding two numbers, printing out a list of numbers. The procedure MAY return a value or not have to.
- A function is also a self-contained block of code that performs a task, e.g. getting input from a user and checking that the input is valid. A function will ALWAYS return a value (Returning a value)

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## 4.2 WRITING A FUNCTION

Here is an example of a very simple function:

```
#simple function to print a message

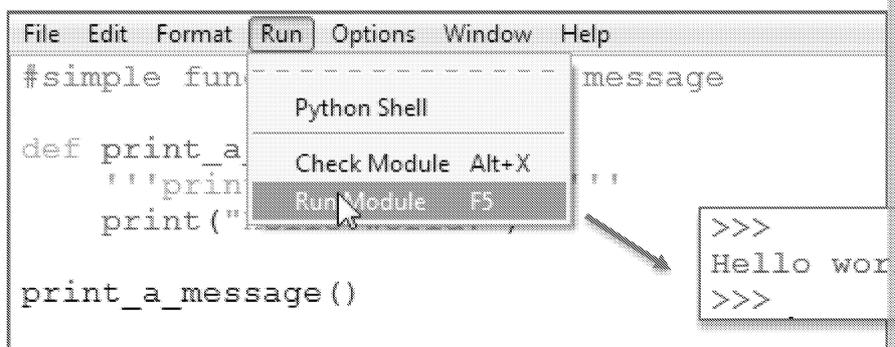
def print_a_message():
    '''prints out a string'''
    print("Hello world!")
```

- ▶ We use the 'def' statement to tell Python we are defining a function.
- ▶ The name should be what the function does – keep it simple and use clear words.
- ▶ The name is followed by two brackets (parentheses); this will hold any parameters we use. These are called the function parameters.
- ▶ After the brackets we add a colon.
- ▶ The body of the function, the code statements we want to execute, are indented usually by four spaces. Simply press enter after the colon and IDLE will

In order to execute or 'run' the function and see the result of the code in the shell, we must 'call' the function.

## 4.3 CALLING THE FUNCTION

The function will not run until we instruct Python to execute the code by 'calling' it. EITHER pressing the F5 key OR choosing Run >> Run Module.



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## 4.4 DOCSTRING AND COMMENTS

One of the most important parts of programming is making your code easy to understand at a later date. Using one-line comments and docstrings in your code helps with this.

Docstrings are used to explain what the function does and one-line comments provide additional explanation to your code.

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
#simple function to print a message

def print_a_message():
    '''prints out a message'''
    print("Hello world!")

print_a_message()
```

Comments are shown by using a hash symbol at the start; these can be added to your code to explain what it does. The docstrings should be added on the first line of a function and enclosed by three single OR three double quotation marks.

More guidance on how to maintain your code can be found in *Chapter 12*.

### EXERCISE 04: BASIC FUNCTION

We are now saving each exercise.

1. Open IDLE and choose New File/Window and save as BasicFunction1.py
2. Write separate functions to do the following:

<b>Function 1</b>	Write a function to add two numbers together and print the result. Use the following variable names and values:  x = 17 y = 22
<b>Function 2</b>	Write a function to multiply x and y together and divide the result by z. Use the following variables in your function:  x = 6 y = 4 z = 8

For each function:

- a. Ensure each function has a docstring
  - b. Add at least one one-line comment
3. Call each function and ensure that it works



## 4.5 EXTENDING THE BASIC FUNCTION

So far the functions we have written are very basic; we will now look at extending them to use parameters or arguments.

Look at this example:

```
def add_numbers(x, y):  
    '''Add variables x& y, print the result'''  
    result = x + y # this produces the result  
    print(result)  
  
add_numbers(15, 22)  
add_numbers(37, 20)
```

Functions are 'called' with arguments supplied instead of placeholders

Parameters are the 'placeholders' used when the function is defined. In this example, `x` and `y` are the parameters.

Arguments are the actual values we use when we 'call' the function. In this example, `15`, `22`, `37`, and `20` are the arguments.

### EXERCISE 05: EXTEND BASIC FUNCTION

1. Develop Function 2 from the previous exercise to use parameters and arguments:

```
x = 15  
y = 13  
z = 5
```

2. Write a function that will take in any string and print it out followed by "There are only 10 types of people in the world."

'There are only 10 types of people in the world.'

The next step is to develop our function to RETURN values. A function with or without parameters or not, it can also return a value or not.

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## 4.6 RETURNING A VALUE

When we return a value from a function we do this so we can use that value in another function or part of the program code.

Look at this example using two more built-in functions:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # ask for the user name and print a welcome message
2
3 def get_name():
4     """ Ask for name and return """
5     name = input("Please enter your name: ")
6     return name
7
8 def print_greeting(n):
9     """ Print argument n and greeting """
10    print(f"Hello {n}, welcome to my greeting program")
11
12
13 name=get_name()
14 print_greeting(name)
```

This time when we call the `get_name()` function, we must tell Python where it was created *before* we use it as an argument in the `print_greeting()` function.

This example includes two more built-in functions:

- ▶ `input()` – this gets input from the user into our program.
  - Unless specifically instructed otherwise, Python treats the values entered as strings.
  - it is important to use the correct data types to avoid errors (see Chapter 5 more on this).
  - This means we must ‘cast’ the data type to the one we want to use.

```
shoe_size = float(input("Please enter your shoe size: "))
exam_mark = int(input("Please enter your exam mark: "))
```

- ▶ f-strings (formatted string literals) – this helps with the presentation of data.
  - We can use this method to include variables in our text string. Look at the example below for more information.

Simple example:

```
n_format = ['integer', 'float']
print(f"Python needs to know 2 types of number format:
      \n\t1. {n_format[0]}\n\t2. {n_format[1]}")
```



- Variables can be placed in the print statement using curly braces. In the example above, the variables in a list, ‘`n_format`’. The code uses square brackets to show the index of the variable in the variable list.
- The arguments are placed inside the f-string curly braces.

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## 4.7 RETURNING MULTIPLE VALUES

Sometimes you may write a function where you need to return more than one value. This can be achieved by using a data structure called a tuple (see *Chapter 9: Tuples*). A tuple is a sequence of values separated by commas. Tuples are sometimes surrounded by parentheses, but they don't have to be.

Look at this example:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # return multiple values
2
3 # this function will be called with a different parameter with a different
4
5
6 def get_name(p):
7     """asks for one string and returns"""
8     n = input("Please enter {}: ".format(p))
9     return n
10
11
12 def find_names():
13     """asks for two name string and returns"""
14     y_name = get_name("your name")
15     f_name = get_name("your first friend's name")
16     s_name = get_name("your second friend's name")
17     return y_name, f_name, s_name
18
19
20 def print_message(y, f, s):
21     """prints message using two name variables"""
22     print(f"Hello {y}, your best friends are {f} and {s}")
23
24
25 def main():
26     """ runs all programs"""
27     y_name, f_name, s_name = find_names()
28     print_message(y_name, f_name, s_name)
29
30
31 main()
```

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## 4.8 REUSING FUNCTIONS

One of the advantages of creating user-defined functions – writing your own – is that you can design them so that they can be reused.

In the example code on the previous page, there is a ‘helper’ function on line 13 that can pass different prompts to the function to ask for different names. Although the default return value is ‘n’, we can assign a different name to this variable each time we call the function on lines 14, 15 and 16. This makes the code much more efficient as we are reusing the function, supplying different **arguments** each time we **call** the function.

We are then using a tuple to return the three string variables on line 17, with the function on line 20 so they can be inserted into the printed message.

Finally, it is good practice to use a main function to control the order in which functions are called in your program. As you can see, the variables which are returned from the functions are listed in the same order as when they are returned in the design of the function.

A common error when passing several variables into a function is that they are passed in the wrong sequence.

Finally, the main function is called on line 31 so that the functions called inside it are in the **sequence** specified.

### EXERCISE 06: RETURNING VALUES

Write functions that will:

- a. Ask for the student name and return it.
- b. Ask for the name of their Computer Science teacher and return it.
- c. Ask for marks out of 10 for the last four homework tasks and return an average. *will need to calculate the average inside the function.*
- d. Display the following message, depending on the average mark:
  - i. average  $\geq 8$ . ‘Well done, X, Y is very pleased with your effort’
  - ii. average  $\geq 6 < 8$ . ‘A good effort, X .Y thinks you should check your work’
  - iii. average  $\leq 5$ . ‘X this is very poor. Y has asked you to try harder’

*Hint: X is the name of the student; Y is the name of the teacher. Remember to use variables correctly and declare variables being returned from each function.*

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## 5. STRUCTURED PROGRAMMING

When you create your own programs, it is important to structure them so that:

1. Easy to read
2. Easy to understand
3. Easy to maintain

Programming problems are easier to solve by breaking them down into a series of smaller problems which are easier to understand and solve. The total solution is created when all the smaller problems have been solved.

The three constructs that we use in structured programming are:

1. Sequence
2. Selection
3. Iteration

### 5.1 SEQUENCE

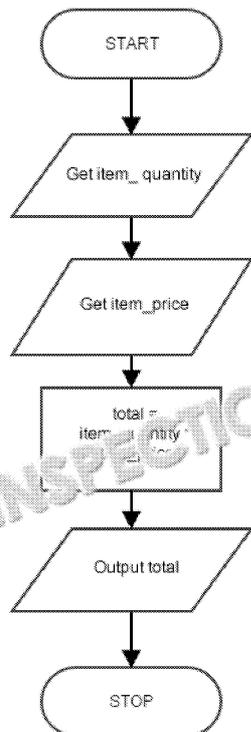
In structured programming, the SEQUENCE in which instructions are executed is the order in which they appear in the code:

```
# Sequence Example

item_quantity = int(input("Please enter the quantity of item: "))
item_price = float(input("Please enter the item price: "))
total = item_quantity * item_price
print("The total cost is £(0).".format(total))
```

When trying to solve problems we can also represent them using either pseudocode or a flow chart.

Flow chart:



Your programs use **sequencing** when instructions are executed one after another.

Pseudocode:

```
item_quantity ← INPUT
item_price ← INPUT
total ← item_quantity * item_price
OUTPUT 'The total cost is £(0).'
```

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## RELATIONAL OPERATORS

Operator	What it means
==	Equality operator; checks whether both values are the same
!=	Not equal to
>	Greater than
<	Less than
>=	Greater than or equal to
<=	Less than or equal to

## LOGICAL OPERATORS

Operator	What it means	Example
AND	Logical AND checks whether both conditions are true or false	<pre>&gt;&gt;&gt; x = 6 &gt;&gt;&gt; x &gt; 0 True</pre>
OR	Logical OR checks whether EITHER of the conditions is true	<pre>&gt;&gt;&gt; x = 5 &gt;&gt;&gt; y = 8 &gt;&gt;&gt; x/2 == 2.5 True</pre>
NOT	Logical NOT reverses a Boolean value. In the example, $x > y$ evaluates to False, using the logical NOT reverses the evaluation to true.	<pre>&gt;&gt;&gt; x = 5 &gt;&gt;&gt; y = 8 &gt;&gt;&gt; not (x &gt; y) True</pre>

## EXERCISE 07: RELATIONAL AND LOGICAL OPERATORS

Use print statements to find the answer to the following:

- Calculate the following (True or False)
  - $23 != 15$
  - $5 + 3 < 10$
  - $6 > 10 == 10 < 2$
- a and b = 8, what are the results of the following statements?
  - $a < b$
  - $6 >= a$
  - $b > a == \text{False}$
- If c = True and d = False, what are the results of the following statements?
  - c and d
  - not d or c
  - $c == d$  and True

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## 5.2 SELECTION

### IF STATEMENT

Selection or conditional statements execute a block of code based on the condition we have set in the code. We are testing to see whether the result can set different actions depending on the result of our test.

Example:

```
if 76 > 23:
    print("76 is greater than 23")

if 15 > 23:
    print("15 is greater than 23")
```

>>> 76 is greater than 23  
>>>

In this example the test in the first block of code evaluates to **true** so the print statement is executed. The test in the second block evaluates to **false** so the print statement is NOT executed.

*Note: Remember that it is important that your code is correctly indented to avoid syntax errors.*

This can be used in simple examples like this, where we are asking for input and checking this against a present condition in our code:

```
mark = int(input("Enter test score: "))
if mark >= 50:
    print("Pass")
else:
    print("Test failed, resit please")
```

Enter test score: 55  
Pass  
>>>

What happens if I enter a value below 50?

We need the code to be able to deal with BOTH **true** and **false** inputs.

### IF ELSE STATEMENT

Using an If Else statement, I can now include a false code block so that some condition does not evaluate to true.

Example:

```
mark = int(input("Enter test score: "))
if mark >= 50:
    print("Pass")
else:
    print("Test failed, resit please")
```

Enter test score: 55  
Pass  
>>>

I may want my code to check several conditions and proceed with the code based on the result. For example, a different score in the test used above will result in a different grade.

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## IF/ELIF STATEMENT

```
mark = int(input("Enter test score: "))

if mark <= 49:
    print("Grade D- Please attend resit")
elif mark > 50 and mark <56:
    print("Grade C-needs improvement")
elif mark >=56 and mark <65:
    print("Grade B-good work")
elif mark >=65 and mark <70:
    print("Grade A-well done")
else:
    print("Grade A+ excellent!")
```

The structure of the IF/ELIF statement should follow these rules:



```
If Condition 1 = True:
    execute Code 1
elif Condition 2 = True:
    execute Code 2
else:
    execute Code 3
```

You can test any number of conditions using this method; your code does not execute the ELSE but, if it does, it must be the last statement.

## NESTING IF STATEMENTS

We can also use IF/ELIF statements to check sub-conditions in a program:

```
x = 5
y = 8

if x == y:
    print("x and y are equal")
else:
    if x < y:
        print("x is less than y")
    else:
        print("x is greater than y")
```

```
>>>
x is less
>>>
```

In this example, condition 1 evaluates to false so the else part of the IF statement is executed. Condition 2, in the first part of the nested IF statement, evaluates to true, and the print statement is executed.



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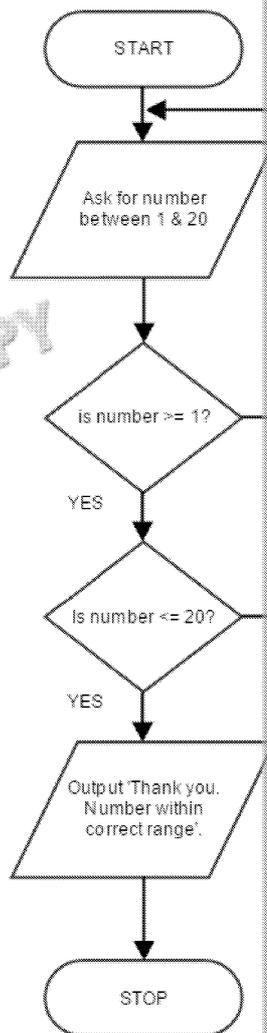


## EXERCISE 08: IF/ELIF STATEMENTS

1. Complete the program shown in the flow chart.
2. Write a **program** which asks for the names of two football teams playing against each other and their scores.

Your program should calculate how many points each team gets (3 for a win, 1 for a draw, 0 if they lose).

*Hint: you will need to determine the points to use in calculating the score. Remember, one team will be the HOME team, the other the AWAY team.*



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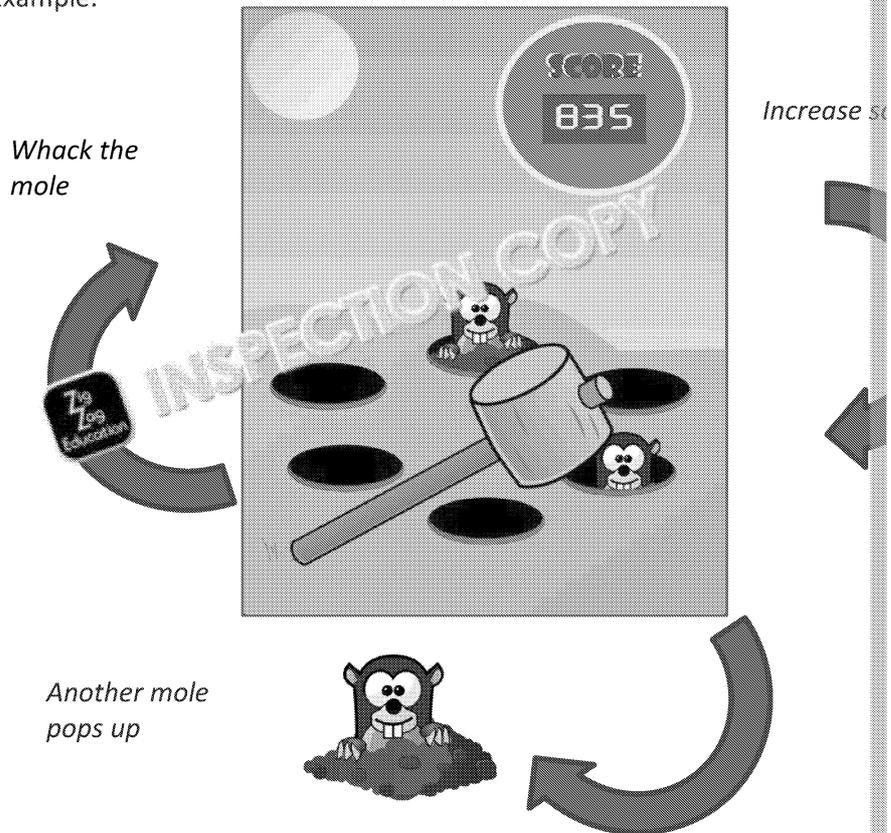
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## 5.3 ITERATION

In programming, iteration means repeating instructions or processes over and over again, more commonly known as 'looping'.

Example:



If you do not hit the mole within a certain time limit, the game is over.

In Python, there are two types of loop that can be used, a FOR loop and a WHILE loop.

### WHILE LOOPS

WHILE loops are also known as conditional loops as they will continue to iterate as long as a condition, which you have set in your code, is met. It is important to make sure you write code that will allow your loop to finish and avoid an infinite loop.

Example:

```
def numberLoop():  
    """ while loop example """  
    number = 1 # initial value of number  
    while number <= 10: # the condition to loop  
        print(number)  
        number += 1 # increments the value of number  
numberLoop()
```

If the value of the variable 'number' is not incremented by 1 each time the loop runs, the condition to exit the loop will never be reached as 'number' will always be less than or equal to 10.

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I can also check a condition entered by a user:

```
def while_input():
    """while loop example input"""
    answer = 'n'
    while answer != 'y':
        answer = input("Are we there yet? Enter y/n")
        print("At last!")
    whileInput()

>>>
Are we there yet? Enter y/n
At last!
>>>
```

As you can see, the loop continues until the condition is met, and the final print statement is executed. Remember that the use of the .lower() built-in function changes my code.

### COUNTING AND TALLING WITH A WHILE LOOP

We can use a WHILE loop to iterate (loop) and count up (increment) or count down (decrement) until a preset condition is true or false.

Example 1:

```
File Edit Format Run Options
1 # print 5 times table
2
3 i = 1
4 while i <= 12:
5     print(i * 5)
6     i += 1
```

5  
10  
15  
20  
25  
30  
35  
40  
45  
50  
55  
60

It is important to note that the value of the condition in the while loop is checked on line 4 and the result is printed on line 5.

Example 2:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window
1 # count down example
2
3 x = 10
4 while x >= 0:
5     print("Count...{x}")
6     x == 0:
7         print("Lift off!!!")
8     x -= 1
```

Count  
Lift

In this example of a countdown, the initial value of x, on line 3, must be greater than 0 as we are counting down from 10. The condition for exiting the WHILE loop is set on line 4 and the value of x is concatenated into a print statement on line 5.

An additional check on line 6 checks when the count has reached 0 for an end condition and the value of x is decremented on line 8.

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Example 3:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # adding to a total
2
3 total = 0
4 x = 0
5
6 while x <= 10:
7     total = total + x
8     print(f"x = {x}>4) Total = {total}")
9     x += 1
```

x  
x  
x  
x  
x  
x  
x  
x  
x  
x  
x  
x

In this example, the WHILE loop counts from 0 to 10; look at line 6. In line 7, the running total and the result are printed on line 8. The value of x is then in

The value of x can be incremented by any value; for example, if you want to 25 in

```
1 # increment by 5
2
3 x = 0
4 while x <= 25:
5     print(x)
6     x += 5
```

0  
5  
10  
15  
20  
25

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We can also use a WHILE loop to check whether a valid input has been entered. This is an ideal way to ensure that your code is robust.

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 import sys
2
3
4 def display_menu():
5     """displays the menu and asks for play choice"""
6     # use print to display the menu
7
8     print("\t\tGame Menu\n")
9     print("\t\tE - Enter Name\n\t\tP - Play Game\n\t\tQ - Quit")
10
11     valid_option = ['E', 'P', 'Q']
12
13     while True:
14         selection = input("Please enter your choice: ")
15         selection = selection[0]
16         if selection in valid_option:
17             break
18         else:
19             print("That is not a valid choice")
20     return selection
21
22
23 def main():
24     """controls and runs all functions in the program"""
25     selection = ''
26     while selection != 'Q':
27         selection = display_menu()
28         if selection == 'E':
29             name = input("Please enter your name: ")
30             print(f"Hello {name}")
31         elif selection == 'P':
32             print("Game is starting")
33         if selection == 'Q':
34             print("Thank you for playing")
35             sys.exit()
36
37
38 main()
```

- On line 13 the WHILE loop will continue until a valid option is entered, i.e. anything other than Q.
- On line 17 the IF statement is followed by a 'break' to exit the loop when a valid option is entered.

```
Please enter your choice:
That is not a valid choice
Please enter your choice:
That is not a valid choice
Please enter your choice:
Thank you for playing
```

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## FOR LOOPS

The FOR loop will loop for a set number of times, which can be a number or items in a sequence, such as a string or a list.

A common way to use a FOR loop with numbers is to use the `range()` built-in function. In this built-in function we usually supply the starting number in the range and **but not include** in the range. Look at these examples:

```
for x in range(6):  
    print(x)
```

```
>>>  
0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
>>>
```

```
for x in range(1,11):  
    print(x)
```

```
>>>  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
>>>
```

```
for x in range(1,11,2):  
    print(x)
```

```
>>>  
1  
3  
5  
7  
9  
>>>
```

The first example has no starting point for the range of numbers so uses the six numbers from 0 to 5.

In the second example, I have specified the starting point 1 and the end of the range 11. This means up to, BUT not including, the last number.

The third example sets the start and end of the range but also specifies the increment of 2.

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## COUNTING AND TOTALLING WITH FOR LOOPS

We can use the same techniques as counting and totalling with the WHILE

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # counting with a for loop
2 total = 0
3
4 for i in range(5):
5     total = total + i
6     print(f"Value of i = {i} Total = {total}")
```

Value of  
Value of  
Value of  
Value of  
Value of

Using the range() method, we already know it will iterate up to, but not include the current value of i to the running total

Another common method of iteration for counting or totalling uses arrays

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # counting with a for loop
2
3 items = 0
4 shopping = ["eggs", "milk", "bread", "cheese", "jam"]
5
6 for each in shopping:
7     items += 1
8 print(f"Number of items in shopping is {items}")
```

The variable 'each' is used to iterate through the array 'shopping'. Each time the value of 'items' is incremented by 1.

This method can also be used to count the characters in a string. Look at the

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # counting with a for loop
2
3 word = "programming"
4 vowels = ['a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u']
5 v_count = 0
6 l_count = 0
7
8 for letter in word:
9     l_count += 1
10    if letter in vowels:
11        v_count += 1
12 print(f"The word has {l_count} letters and {v_count} vowels")
```

The word has 11 letters

### FOR LOOPS USING STRINGS AND LISTS

Sometimes we want to iterate over data structures like a string or a list. We can do this by using a variable 'i' or 'item' to iterate over the characters in the string or the elements in the list.

```
shopping = ["eggs", "milk", "bread", "cheese", "jam"]
for item in shopping:
    print(item)
```

word  
for i

```
>>>
eggs
milk
bread
chees
jam
>>>
```

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## NESTED LOOPS

Sometimes we want to loop through two sets of integers to compare them.

### Example 1:

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 #Nested for loop example
2
3 nums1 = [5,3,7,9,15,12]
4 nums2 = [7,5,9,11,16,8]
5
6 for x in nums1:
7     for y in nums2:
8         if x == y:
9             print(f"{x} in both arrays")
```

5 in b  
7 in b  
9 in b

This example finds the integers that appear in both lists; although they are not duplicated. We may be writing a program to find duplicates which are duplicated. We may be writing a program to find duplicates which can be processed in some way to solve a problem.

### Example 2:

Here, x is used to count through the range from 1 to 5, y is used to count through the range from 1 to 2. The f-string format has been used to print out a simple times table.

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 #nested for loops
2
3 for x in range(1, 6):
4     for y in range(1, 2):
5         print(f"{x} * {y} = {x * y}")
```

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### Example 3:

This example shows how you might run a game loop in a program.

```
File Edit Format Run Options Window Help
1 # nested while loop
2
3
4 no_winner = True
5 player_go = 1
6
7 while no_winner: # outer loop
8     while player_go == 1: # inner loop
9         name = input("Please enter your name: ")
10        choice = input("Please enter a vowel ")
11        if choice.upper() == "I":
12            no_winner = False
13            print(f"Well done {name}, you have won")
14            break
15        else:
16            print("You have not won the game, you lose")
17            player_go = 2 # player_go variable
18    while player_go == 2:
19        name = input("Please enter your name: ")
20        choice = input(f"Please enter a vowel ")
21        if choice.upper() == "I":
22            no_winner = False
23            print(f"Well done {name}, you have won")
24            break
25        else:
26            print("You have not won the game, you lose")
27            player_go = 1 # player_go variable
28
29 print("Game over")
```

The two conditions that are being checked in each WHILE loop, **no\_winner** and **player\_go**, start on lines 4 and 5.

- Line 7 – the outer loop continues to check whether **no\_winner** is still true.
- Line 8 – the inner WHILE loop controls the turn for each player asks for a choice. This is then compared with the answer on line 11.
- If the choice entered matches the answer then the game has been won.
- Line 12 – the variable **no\_winner** is set to false, a message is printed and the code forces the code out of the inner loop.
- The condition for the outer loop is no longer true and the code jumps to line 28.
- If the choice entered does not match the answer, the 'else' part of the inner loop is executed, a message is printed on line 16 and the **player\_go** variable is set to 2.
- The second inner loop then works in exactly the same way.



### BREAKING OUT OF LOOPS

A break statement will allow us to 'break' out of a WHILE loop if a test condition is met. In the example 3 above this happens if the player correctly guesses the vowel.

Here are two more examples:

#### Example 1:

```

for i in range(0,10,2):
    if i == 6:
        break
    print(i)
    
```

```

>>>
0
4
>>>
    
```

This loop should print from 0 to 8 in steps of 2 but is set to break out of the loop if 'i' is equal to 6.

#### Example 2:

```

while True:
    print("Hello world!")
    x = input(">>> ")
    if x == "x":
        break
    print("You entered 'x'!")
    
```

```

>>>
Hello world!
>>>
Hello world!
>>>
Hello world!
>>> x
You entered 'x'!
    
```

In this example, the use of TRUE in the WHILE loop means that until the input is 'x', the program will continue to ask for an input. In the example above, the input 'x' was entered apart from hitting the ENTER key.

### EXERCISE 09: WHILE AND FOR LOOPS

- Write a program, using at least two functions AND parameter passing, that asks the user for a number between 1 and 12 and print the times table for that number.
- Write a program, using at least 2 functions AND parameter passing, that asks the user for a series of numbers until the user enters 0. The program will then display the sum of all the numbers entered.

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# PRACTICE ASSIGNMENT #1: CIPHER

Mr Patel is a Media Studies teacher and a keen film fan. He has set up a club for students to watch more films and improve their understanding of different types of film.

He has asked students to watch some film clips, spot a range of techniques used in each film and explain where they are in each film. As he does not want students to be able to see his comments until all students have completed the task, he wants to be able to encrypt his comments using a simple encryption method.

Mr Patel has decided that the ROT13 method is only used on news but needs a quick method of encrypting his comments.

He has asked you to create an application that will:



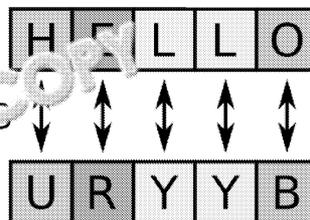
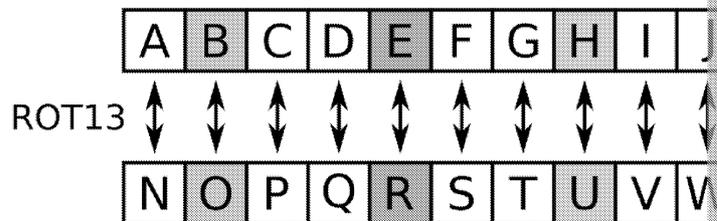
Display a menu option to encrypt/decrypt or quit

Allow text input up to a maximum of 50 characters

- Find the value of each character in the message and calculate the encrypted value
- Display the encrypted text to the user
- Allow text input of encrypted messages up to a maximum of 50 characters
- Display the decrypted text to the user with the appropriate update

## Explanation of ROT13

ROT13 is a simple Caesar Cipher which can be used to obscure text by shifting each letter in a message with a letter 13 places down the alphabet. ROT13 only handles letters and leaves other characters such as spaces and punctuation unchanged.



In the final solution, you should demonstrate the use of:

- Data validation
- Structured code
- Error handling routines

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## **Preview of Questions Ends Here**

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This is a limited inspection copy. Sample of questions ends here to avoid students previewing questions before they are set. See contents page for details of the rest of the resource.