CSE 503 Introduction to Computer Science for Non-Majors

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> Day 03 Variables, Statements, and Functions (oh my)

Announcements

Instructions for replit.com have been posted to Piazza

Recap

Expressions are part of a program that has a value

Expressions are *evaluated* to produce their value

Simple expressions (cannot be decomposed):

4, 12.7, True, "Hello", etc...

Compound expressions (composed of multiple expressions):

3 + 7, "hello" + "world", 4 < 12, etc...

Variables

A variable is a **name** that has been assigned a **value** Because it has a **value**, a variable is another example of an **expression**

But how do we create a variable?

How do we assign it a value?

How do we use it?

A **statement**, unlike an expression, does not have a value

A **statement** has an *effect*, and can be *executed*

The first type of statement we'll look at is the **assignment statement**

<name> = <expression>

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What's in a name?

A name (in python) must follow a few rules:

- 1. Begins with an underscore or a letter
- 2. Contains letters, underscores, or digits

Examples: rose, _romeo, JuLiEt47, shake_Speare, oneTrueLove

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(please don't name your variables like this)

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<name> = <expression>

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myFavoriteNumber = 12

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myFavoriteNumber = 12

The effect of executing this statement is the value 12 getting assigned to the variable named "myFavoriteNumber"

More Examples

sum = 10 + 12

color = "Blue"

full_name = "Eric " + "Mikida"

average = sum / 2

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sum = 10 + 12 color = "Blue" full_name = "Eric " + "Mikida" average = sum / 2

Remember: Variables have a value! They can be used as simple expressions!

Demo in Replit

Functions

A function is a block of code (multiple statements) that has a name
A function's block of code is executed by calling the function
A function is called by using its name and a list of arguments (inputs)

Think of a function like a machine that takes some input, does some work, and produces some output.

pow(3, 2) round(467 / 15, 4) print("Hello " + "world!")





pow(3, 2) computes 3², which is 9

It takes inputs (the base and exponent), does work (computes the answer), and produces output (in this case, 9)

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Since a function call produces a value...a function call is another example of an expression!

Python has many <u>built-in functions</u>, here are a few more:

abs(x) help() min(x,y) max(x,y) pow(x,y) print(x)

round(x) and round(x,y)

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What if the function we want doesn't exist...cliffhanger for next lecture :)

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Demo in Replit