

L-4

Python Strings

ENGG1330
Computer Programming I

L-3: What Your Survey Told Us



A String Can Describe a Webpage

What It Represents	Text Stored in a String	What We Can Do
Webpage (HTML)	<code><h1>Hello, Ada!</h1></code>	Build a page heading
Python program	<code>print('Hello, Ada!')</code>	Generate source code
App response (JSON)	<code>{"temperature": 24.5}</code>	Read weather data
DNA sequence	<code>ACGTGCAATG</code>	Find a pattern

A String Can Describe a Webpage

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DNA sequence	<code>ACGTGCAATG</code>	Find a pattern

Strings carry structure, instructions, and data

A String Is a Sequence

```
PY main.py
1 text = 'Python'
2 print(text)
3 print(len(text))
4 print(text[0])
5 print(len(''))
```

Download: [lec_04_string_sequence.py](#)

Strings Can Contain Unicode Text

```
PY main.py
1 text = 'café'
2 print(text)
3 print(len(text))
4 print(text[-1])
5 print('👉')
```

Download: [lec_04_unicode_text.py](#)

Either Quote Style Can Delimit a String

```
PY main.py
1 print("Hello 'Python'")
2 print('Hello "Python"')
3 print('Hello \'Python\'')
```

Download: [lec_04_quotation_marks.py](#)

A Matching Quote Ends the String



```
PY main.py
1 print('Hello 'Python')
```

Download: [lec_04_quotation_error.py](#)

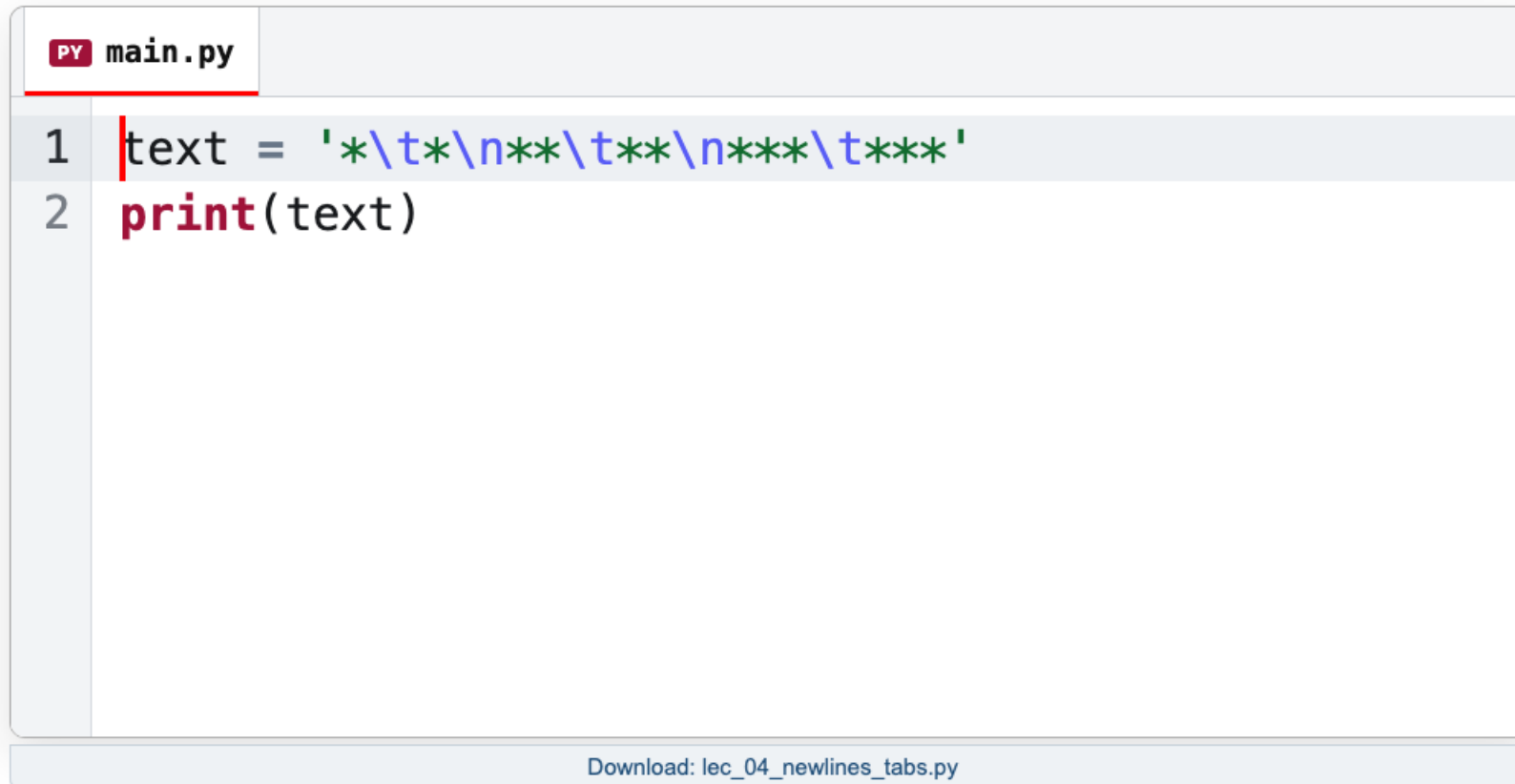
Escape Sequences Represent Special Characters

Escape	Meaning
<code>\n</code>	New line
<code>\t</code>	Next tab stop
<code>\'</code>	Single quote
<code>\"</code>	Double quote
<code>\\</code>	Backslash

```
PY main.py
1 text = 'Hello\nWorld'
2 print(text)
3 print(repr(text))
```

Download: [lec_04_escape_characters.py](#)

Newlines and Tabs Control the Layout



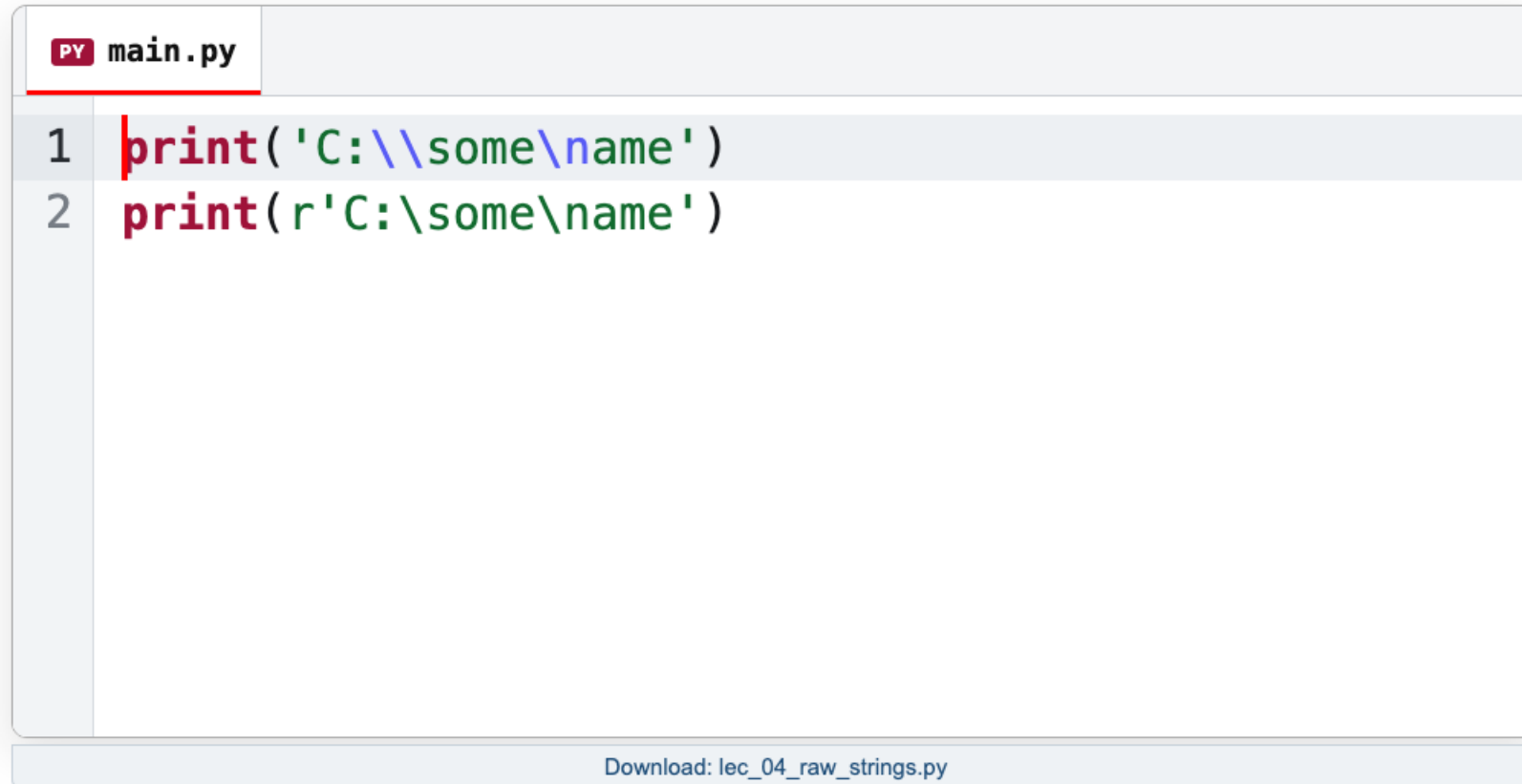
```
PY main.py
1 text = '*\t*\n**\t**\n***\t***'
2 print(text)
Download: lec_04_newlines_tabs.py
```

Triple Quotes Retain Line Breaks

```
PY main.py
1 text = """This
2 is
3 a
4 multiline string"""
5 print(text)
6 print(repr(text))
```

Download: [lec_04_multiline_strings.py](#)

Raw Strings Preserve Backslashes



```
PY main.py
1 print('C:\\some\\name')
2 print(r'C:\\some\\name')
```

[Download: lec_04_raw_strings.py](#)

String Operations

ENGG1330
Computer Programming I

Concatenation Creates a New String

PY main.py

```
1 description = 'immutable'  
2 message = 'Strings are ' + description + ' at all times'  
3 print(message)
```

[Download: lec_04_concatenation.py](#)

Adjacent Literals Join Automatically

PY main.py

```
1 message = ('Vigorous writing is concise. '  
2           'Every word should contribute.')
```

3 print(message)

4 first = 'Py'

5 second = 'thon'

6 print(first + second)

[Download: lec_04_adjacent_literals.py](#)

An Integer Repeats a String

```
PY main.py
1 print('Ha' * 3)
2 print(3 * 'un' + 'ium')
3 print(repr('Ha' * 0))
4 print(repr('Ha' * -2))
```

Download: [lec_04_repetition.py](#)

An Index Selects One Character

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 for index in [0, -1, -10, 10]:
3     print(index, repr(text[index]))
```

An Index Selects One Character

`text[0]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e
-33	-32	-31	-30	-29	-28	-27	-26	-25	-24	-23	-22	-21	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

`PY main.py`

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 for index in [0, -1, -10, 10]:
3     print(index, repr(text[index]))
```

An Index Selects One Character

`text[-1]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e
-33	-32	-31	-30	-29	-28	-27	-26	-25	-24	-23	-22	-21	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 for index in [0, -1, -10, 10]:
3     print(index, repr(text[index]))
```

An Index Selects One Character

`text[-10]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e
-33	-32	-31	-30	-29	-28	-27	-26	-25	-24	-23	-22	-21	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 for index in [0, -1, -10, 10]:
3     print(index, repr(text[index]))
```

An Index Selects One Character

`text[10]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e	
-33	-32	-31	-30	-29	-28	-27	-26	-25	-24	-23	-22	-21	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

`PY main.py`

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 for index in [0, -1, -10, 10]:
3     print(index, repr(text[index]))
```

A Loop Can Visit Characters Directly

PY main.py

```
1 text = 'dirk'
2 for index in range(len(text)):
3     if text[index] == 'i' or text[index] == 'u':
4         print('Found i or u')
5         break
6 for char in text:
7     if char == 'i' or char == 'u':
8         print('Found i or u')
9         break
```

Robot Cheerleader

PY main.py

```
1 word = input('Word: ')
2 times = int(input('Enthusiasm (1-10): '))
3 for char in word:
4     print('Give me a ' + char + '! ' + char)
5 print('What does that spell?')
6 print((word + '!!! ' * times)
```

Membership Tests for a Substring

```
PY main.py
1 print('a' in 'program')
2 print('at' not in 'battle')
3 print('battle' in 'at')
```

Download: [lec_04_membership.py](#)

Membership Improves the Cheerleader

PY main.py

```
1 word = input('Uppercase word: ')
2 an_letters = 'AEFHILMNORSX'
3 for char in word:
4     article = 'a'
5     if char in an_letters:
6         article = 'an'
7     print('Give me ' + article + ' ' + char + '! ' + char)
8 print(word, '!!!!')
```

A Slice Stops Before Its Stop Index

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[13:17])
3 print(text[4:])
4 print(text[:3])
```

A Slice Stops Before Its Stop Index

text[13:17]

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[13:17])
3 print(text[4:])
4 print(text[:3])
```

A Slice Stops Before Its Stop Index

text[4:]

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[13:17])
3 print(text[4:])
4 print(text[:3])
```

A Slice Stops Before Its Stop Index

`text[:3]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[13:17])
3 print(text[4:])
4 print(text[:3])
```

Negative Indices Count from the End

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[-4:])
3 print(text[-10:-5])
4 print(text[-10:])
```

Negative Indices Count from the End

`text[-4:]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e
-33	-32	-31	-30	-29	-28	-27	-26	-25	-24	-23	-22	-21	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[-4:])
3 print(text[-10:-5])
4 print(text[-10:])
```

Negative Indices Count from the End

`text[-10:-5]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e
-33	-32	-31	-30	-29	-28	-27	-26	-25	-24	-23	-22	-21	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[-4:])
3 print(text[-10:-5])
4 print(text[-10:])
```

Negative Indices Count from the End

`text[-10:]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e
-33	-32	-31	-30	-29	-28	-27	-26	-25	-24	-23	-22	-21	-20	-19	-18	-17	-16	-15	-14	-13	-12	-11	-10	-9	-8	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[-4:])
3 print(text[-10:-5])
4 print(text[-10:])
```

A Step Selects Spaced Characters

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[1:10:1], text[1:10:2], sep=" | ")
3 print(text[1:10:3])
4 print(text[::3])
```

A Step Selects Spaced Characters

`text[1:10:1]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[1:10:1], text[1:10:2], sep=" | ")
3 print(text[1:10:3])
4 print(text[::3])
```

A Step Selects Spaced Characters

`text[1:10:2]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[1:10:1], text[1:10:2], sep=" | ")
3 print(text[1:10:3])
4 print(text[::3])
```

A Step Selects Spaced Characters

`text[1:10:3]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[1:10:1], text[1:10:2], sep=" | ")
3 print(text[1:10:3])
4 print(text[::3])
```

A Step Selects Spaced Characters

`text[::-3]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[1:10:1], text[1:10:2], sep=" | ")
3 print(text[1:10:3])
4 print(text[::-3])
```

A Negative Step Moves Backwards

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[10:1:-1])
3 print(text[10:1:-2])
4 print(text[::-1])
```

A Negative Step Moves Backwards

`text[10:1:-1]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[10:1:-1])
3 print(text[10:1:-2])
4 print(text[::-1])
```

A Negative Step Moves Backwards

`text[10:1:-2]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e	

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[10:1:-1])
3 print(text[10:1:-2])
4 print(text[::-1])
```

A Negative Step Moves Backwards

`text[::-1]`

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 print(text[10:1:-1])
3 print(text[10:1:-2])
4 print(text[::-1])
```

Slicing Can Reach Beyond the String

```
PY main.py
1 text = 'Python'
2 print(text[:100])
3 print(repr(text[100:]))
```

Download: [lec_04_slice_boundaries.py](#)

An Index Must Select an Existing Character



```
PY main.py
1 text = 'Python'
2 print(text[100])
```

Download: [lec_04_index_boundary_error.py](#)

Strings Compare at the First Difference

```
main.py
1 print('Apple' == 'Apple')
2 print('Apple' != 'Apple')
3 print('Apple' < 'Apple')
4 print('Apple' <= 'Apple')
5 print('cat' < 'car')
6 print('HKU' < 'CUHK')
```

Download: [lec_04_string_comparison.py](#)

String Functions and Methods

ENGG1330
Computer Programming I

Finding the Operation You Need

Question

Reference

A function such as `len` or `ord`

[Built-in Functions](#)

An operation such as `upper` or `split`

[String Methods](#)

A Function Returns a Result to Its Caller

```
PY main.py
1 def is_palindrome(text):
2     return text == text[::-1]
3
4 print(is_palindrome('test'))
5 print(is_palindrome('madam'))
6 print(is_palindrome('Anna'))
```

Download: lec_04_palindrome.py

A Function Returns a Result to Its Caller

Argument: 'madam'

Parameter: text

Return value: True

PY main.py

```
1 def is_palindrome(text):  
2     return text == text[::-1]  
3  
4 print(is_palindrome('test'))  
5 print(is_palindrome('madam'))  
6 print(is_palindrome('Anna'))
```

A Function Returns a Result to Its Caller

'Anna '

Case-sensitive comparison

'anna '

```
main.py
1 def is_palindrome(text):
2     return text == text[::-1]
3
4 print(is_palindrome('test'))
5 print(is_palindrome('madam'))
6 print(is_palindrome('Anna'))
```

Download: lec_04_palindrome.py

Returning a Value and Printing Output

PY main.py

```
1 def double(number):  
2     return number * 2  
3  
4 def show_double(number):  
5     print(number * 2)  
6  
7 print(double(5) + 1)  
8 result = show_double(5)  
9 print(result)
```

A Loop Can Check the Same Palindrome

PY main.py

```
1 def is_palindrome(text):
2     index = 0
3     for char in reversed(text):
4         if char != text[index]:
5             return False
6         index += 1
7     return True
8
9 print(is_palindrome('madam'))
10 print(is_palindrome('Anna'))
```

ord Gives a Character's Code Point

```
PY main.py
1 print(ord('a'), ord('A'))
2 print(ord('1'), ord('2'))
3 print(ord('é'))
```

Download: [lec_04_code_points.py](#)

chr Converts a Code Point to Text

PY main.py

```
1 print(chr(65))
2 print(chr(ord('é'))))
3 for number in range(65, 91):
4     print(chr(number), end=' ')
5 print()
```

Download: [lec_04_characters_from_codes.py](#)

String Comparison Is Case Sensitive

```
PY main.py
1 print('HKU' == 'HKU')
2 print('HKU' == 'HkU')
3 print(ord('K'), ord('k'))
4 print('HKU' < 'HkU')
```

Download: [lec_04_case_comparison.py](#)

Useful String Methods

Method	Purpose
<code>capitalize()</code>	Capitalise the first character; lowercase the rest
<code>upper()</code> , <code>lower()</code>	Change case
<code>split()</code>	Split into a list of strings
<code>find()</code>	Find a substring, or return <code>-1</code>
<code>count()</code>	Count non-overlapping occurrences
<code>isalnum()</code> , <code>isalpha()</code>	Test alphanumeric or alphabetic text
<code>isdecimal()</code>	Test for decimal digit characters
<code>strip()</code>	Remove leading and trailing whitespace
<code>replace()</code>	Return text with replacements

Case Methods Return a New String

```
PY main.py
1 name = 'DiRk'
2 print(name.capitalize())
3 print(name.upper())
4 print(name.lower())
5 print(name)
```

Download: [lec_04_case_methods.py](#)

Searching and Splitting Text

PY main.py

```
1 text = 'red blue red'
2 print(text.split())
3 print(text.find('blue'))
4 print(text.find('green'))
5 print(text.count('red'))
```

Download: [lec_04_search_and_split.py](#)

Check the Start or End of a String

```
PY main.py
1 filename = 'report.csv'
2 print(filename.endswith('.csv'))
3 address = 'https://hku.hk'
4 print(address.startswith('https://'))
5 print('report.csv.bak'.endswith('.csv'))
```

Download: lec_04_prefix_suffix.py

Character Tests Return Booleans

PY main.py

```
1 print('HKU1330'.isalnum())
2 print('HKU'.isalpha())
3 print('1330'.isdecimal())
4 print('-3'.isdecimal())
5 print('3.5'.isdecimal())
6 print('').isalpha())
```

Removing Whitespace and Replacing Text

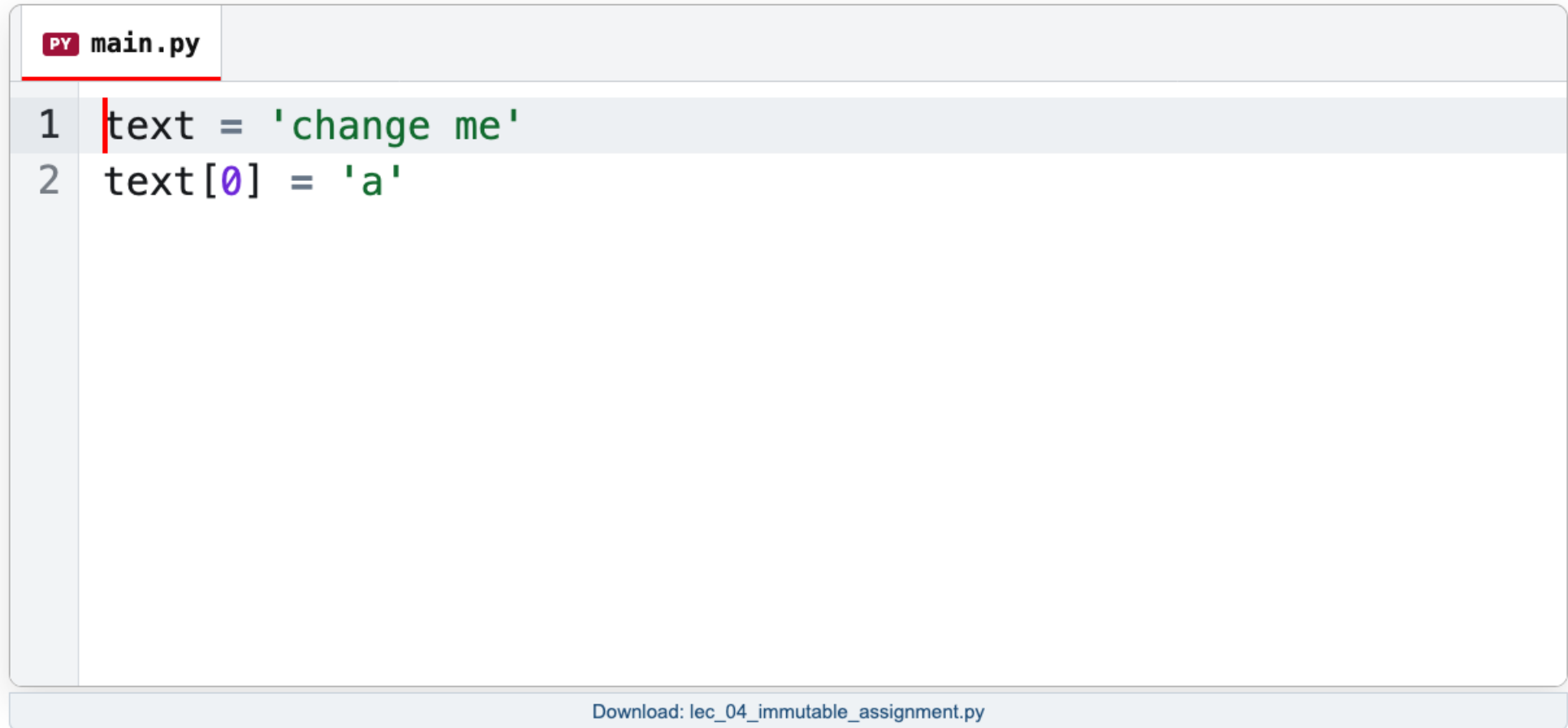
```
PY main.py
1 text = ' Hello HKU '
2 print(repr(text.strip()))
3 print(repr(text.replace('HKU', 'Python')))
4 print(repr(text))
```

Download: [lec_04_strip_replace.py](#)

Immutability and F-Strings

ENGG1330
Computer Programming I

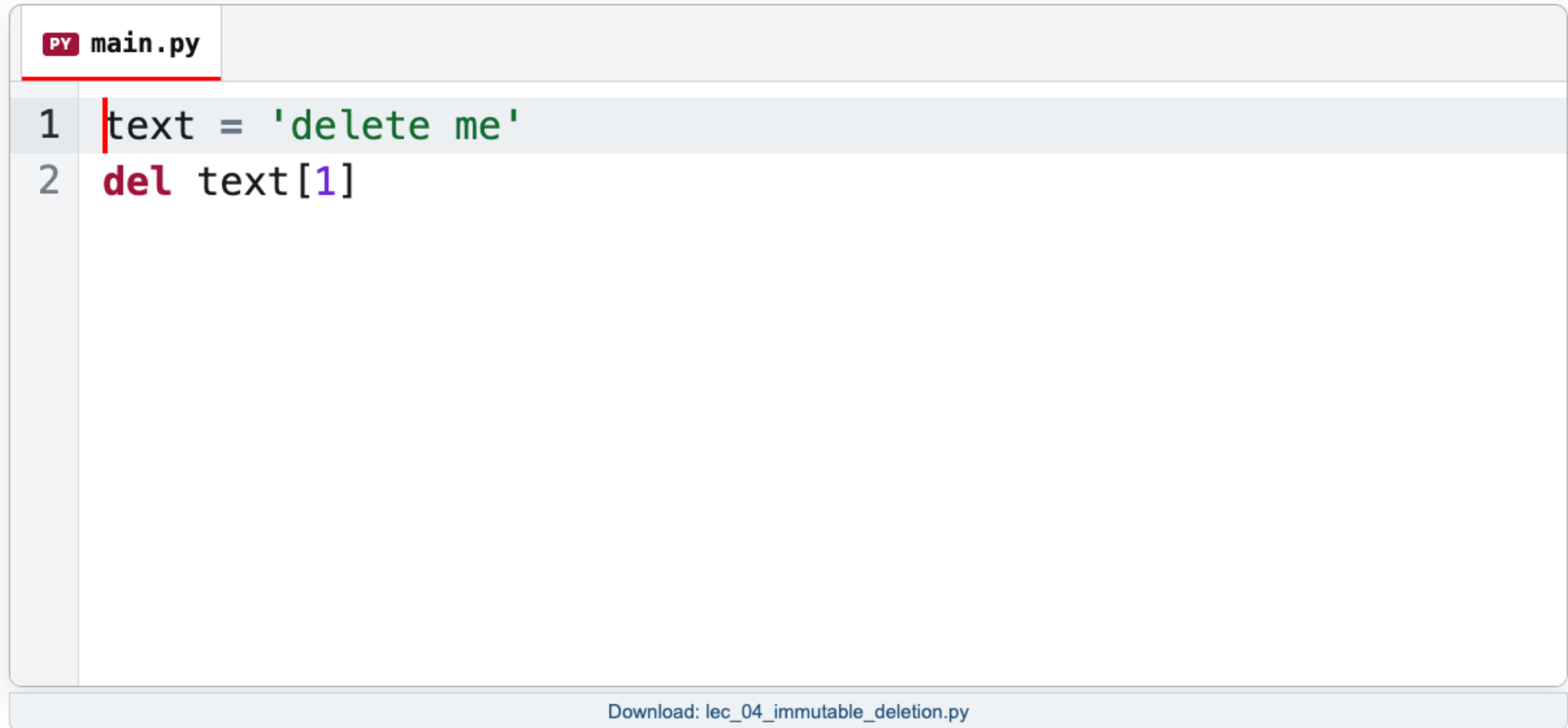
A String's Characters Cannot Be Reassigned



```
PY main.py
1 text = 'change me'
2 text[0] = 'a'
```

Download: [lec_04_immutable_assignment.py](#)

A String's Characters Cannot Be Deleted



```
PY main.py
1 text = 'delete me'
2 del text[1]
```

Download: [lec_04_immutable_deletion.py](#)

Slicing Can Omit a Character

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 changed = text[:29] + text[30:]
3 print(changed)
4 print(text)
```

Download: [lec_04_remove_character.py](#)

Slicing Can Omit a Character

Index 29: t

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 changed = text[:29] + text[30:]
3 print(changed)
4 print(text)
```

Download: lec_04_remove_character.py

Slicing Can Replace a Character

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 changed = text[:29] + 'f' + text[30:]
3 print(changed)
4 print(text)
```

[Download: lec_04_replace_character.py](#)

Slicing Can Replace a Character

Index 29: t

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
Y	o	u		m	i	s	s		a	l	l		s	h	o	t	s		y	o	u		d	o	n	'	t		t	a	k	e

PY main.py

```
1 text = "You miss all shots you don't take"
2 changed = text[:29] + 'f' + text[30:]
3 print(changed)
4 print(text)
```

Download: lec_04_replace_character.py

A List Can Be Edited and Joined

PY main.py

```
1 text = 'Test'
2 letters = list(text)
3 letters[1] = 'E'
4 changed = ''.join(letters)
5 print(letters)
6 print(changed)
7 print(text)
```

Split and Join Clean Up Extra Spaces

```
PY main.py
1 name = '  Ada  Lovelace  '
2 words = name.split()
3 cleaned = ' '.join(words)
4 print(words)
5 print(repr(cleaned))
```

Download: [lec_04_clean_whitespace.py](#)

F-Strings Insert Expression Values

PY main.py

```
1 name = 'Dirk'
2 student = {'name': 'Dirk', 'age': 21}
3 print(f'My name is {name}')
4 print(f"{student['name']} is {student['age']} years old")
```

[Download: lec_04_f_strings.py](#)

Alignment Uses a Minimum Field Width

```
PY main.py
1 name = 'Dirk'
2 print(f'|{name:<20}|')
3 print(f'|{name:^20}|')
4 print(f'|{name:>20}|')
5 print(f'|{name:0>20}|')
```

Download: [lec_04_alignment.py](#)

Zero Padding Keeps Numbers Aligned

```
PY main.py
1 for number in [5, 9, 10, 15]:
2     print(f'{number:03}')
```

Download: [lec_04_zero_padding.py](#)

Precision Controls Decimal Places

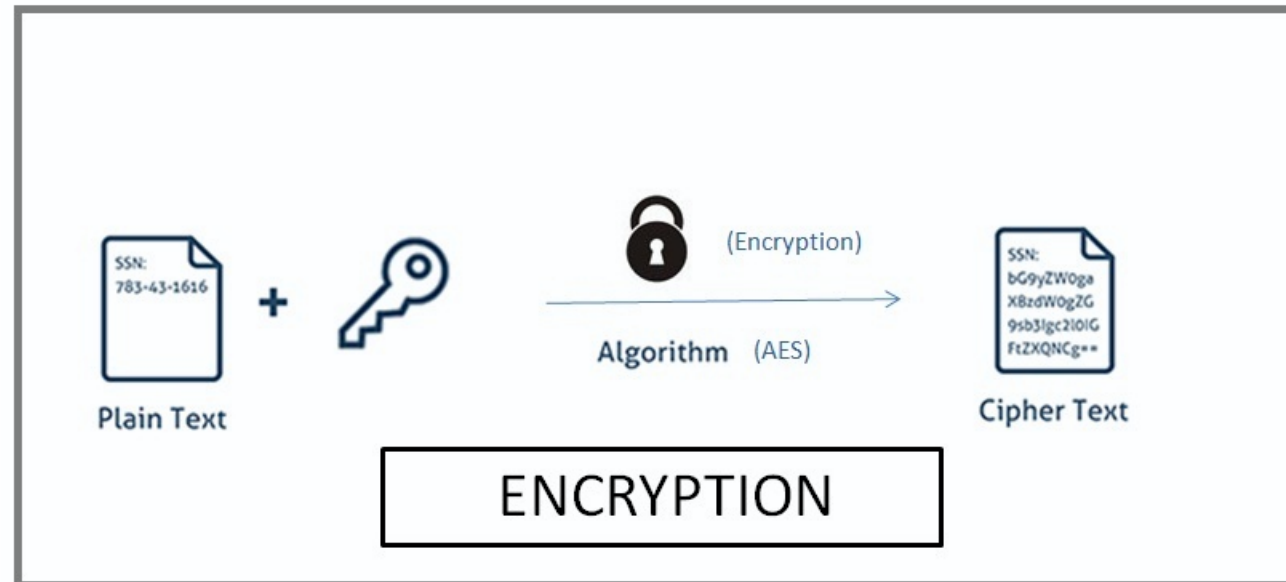
```
PY main.py
1 pi = 3.14159265
2 print(f'Pi is {pi:.4f}')
3 print(pi)
```

[Download: lec_04_precision.py](#)

Encryption and Sorting

ENGG1330
Computer Programming I

Encryption Uses a Key



Plain text and a key produce cipher text

A Caesar Cipher Shifts the Alphabet

Key = 11

Plain	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
Cipher	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k

Each letter maps to the letter below it

A Caesar Cipher Shifts the Alphabet

Key = 11

Plain	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
Cipher	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k

Each letter maps to the letter below it

h e l l o → s p w w z

The Inputs Define the Encryption Task

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 print(plain_text)
4 print(key)
```

plain_text

The text to transform

key

How far to shift each letter

Use lowercase English letters and a key
from 0 to 25

Two Slices Rotate the Alphabet

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
4 shifted = alphabet[key:] + alphabet[:key]
5 print(alphabet)
6 print(shifted)
```

alphabet[11:]

lmnopqrstuvwxyz

alphabet[:11]

abcdefghijkl

Join the suffix and prefix

A Loop Builds the Cipher Text

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
4 shifted = alphabet[key:] + alphabet[:key]
5 cipher_text = ''
6 for char in plain_text:
7     index = ord(char) - ord('a')
8     cipher_text += shifted[index]
9 print(cipher_text)
```

A Loop Builds the Cipher Text

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
4 shifted = alphabet[key:] + alphabet[:key]
5 cipher_text = ''
6 for char in plain_text:
7     index = ord(char) - ord('a')
8     cipher_text += shifted[index]
9 print(cipher_text)
```

Variable	Value
char	'h'
index	7
shifted[index]	's'
cipher_text	's'

A Loop Builds the Cipher Text

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
4 shifted = alphabet[key:] + alphabet[:key]
5 cipher_text = ''
6 for char in plain_text:
7     index = ord(char) - ord('a')
8     cipher_text += shifted[index]
9 print(cipher_text)
```

Variable	Value
char	'e'
index	4
shifted[index]	'p'
cipher_text	'sp'

A Loop Builds the Cipher Text

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
4 shifted = alphabet[key:] + alphabet[:key]
5 cipher_text = ''
6 for char in plain_text:
7     index = ord(char) - ord('a')
8     cipher_text += shifted[index]
9 print(cipher_text)
```

Variable	Value
char	'l'
index	11
shifted[index]	'w'
cipher_text	'spw'

A Loop Builds the Cipher Text

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
4 shifted = alphabet[key:] + alphabet[:key]
5 cipher_text = ''
6 for char in plain_text:
7     index = ord(char) - ord('a')
8     cipher_text += shifted[index]
9 print(cipher_text)
```

Variable	Value
char	'l'
index	11
shifted[index]	'w'
cipher_text	'spww'

A Loop Builds the Cipher Text

PY main.py

```
1 plain_text = 'hello'
2 key = 11
3 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
4 shifted = alphabet[key:] + alphabet[:key]
5 cipher_text = ''
6 for char in plain_text:
7     index = ord(char) - ord('a')
8     cipher_text += shifted[index]
9 print(cipher_text)
```

Variable	Value
char	'o'
index	14
shifted[index]	'z'
cipher_text	'spwwz'

Trying All 26 Keys

PY main.py

```
1 alphabet = 'abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz'
2 cipher_text = 'spwwz'
3 for key in range(26):
4     shifted = alphabet[-key:] + alphabet[: -key]
5     plain_text = ''
6     for char in cipher_text:
7         plain_text += shifted[ord(char) - ord('a')]
8     print(f'{key:02}:{plain_text}', end='  ')
```

A Loop Can Collect Names

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 while True:
3     new_name = input('Name (blank ends): ')
4     if new_name == '':
5         break
6     names.append(new_name)
7     print(names)
```

Each Insertion Keeps the List Sorted

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

Find the first name that is greater than the new name

Insert immediately before it

If none is greater, insert at the end

The First Name Enters an Empty List

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

The First Name Enters an Empty List

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKU'

pos = 0

Empty list

Begin with an empty list

The First Name Enters an Empty List

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKU'

pos = 0

Empty list

0 < 0 is False

The First Name Enters an Empty List

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKU'

pos = 0

Empty list

Skip the while body

The First Name Enters an Empty List

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKU'

pos = 0

0

HKU

Insert at position 0

The First Name Enters an Empty List

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKU'

pos = 0

0

HKU

Print the updated list

A Smaller Name Goes Before HKU

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

A Smaller Name Goes Before HKU

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'CUHK'

pos = 0

0

HKU

Begin the next iteration

A Smaller Name Goes Before HKU

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'CUHK'

pos = 0

0

HKU

0 < 1 is True

A Smaller Name Goes Before HKU

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'CUHK'

pos = 0

0

HKU

'HKU' > 'CUHK' is True

A Smaller Name Goes Before HKU

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'CUHK'

pos = 0

0

HKU

break leaves the while loop

A Smaller Name Goes Before HKU

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'CUHK'

pos = 0

0	1
CUHK	HKU

Insert before HKU

A Smaller Name Goes Before HKU

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'CUHK'

pos = 0

0	1
CUHK	HKU

Print the updated list

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 0

0	1
CUHK	HKU

Reset pos for the new name

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 0

0	1
CUHK	HKU

0 < 2 is True

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 0

0	1
CUHK	HKU

'CUHK' > 'HKUST' is False

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 1

0	1
CUHK	HKU

Advance to the next position

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 1

0	1
CUHK	HKU

1 < 2 is True

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 1

0	1
CUHK	HKU

'HKU' > 'HKUST' is False

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 2

0	1
CUHK	HKU

Advance again

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 2

0	1
CUHK	HKU

2 < 2 is False

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 2

0	1	2
CUHK	HKU	HKUST

Insert at the end

A Larger Name Goes at the End

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     pos = 0
4     while pos < len(names):
5         if names[pos] > new_name:
6             break
7         pos += 1
8     names.insert(pos, new_name)
9     print(names)
```

New name: 'HKUST'

pos = 2

0	1	2
CUHK	HKU	HKUST

Print the updated list

sorted Returns a New Sorted List

PY main.py

```
1 names = []
2 for new_name in ['HKU', 'CUHK', 'HKUST']:
3     names.append(new_name)
4 ordered = sorted(names)
5 print(ordered)
6 print(names)
```

[Download: lec_04_builtin_sorted.py](#)

Working with Strings

Select

Index, slice, or iterate

Check

Compare, search, or test characters

Construct

Concatenate, join, or replace

Present

Format values with f-strings

A string operation can return a new value
without changing the original string

L-4 Survey

Complete the full survey during the lecture

Coding Challenge

Work independently on the L-4 challenges in Ed