Date:

Defining Functions

Similarities and Differences

The following two graphics are almost the same. There are many similarities, but they still have some differences. Find them:



In programming, whenever we encounter two elements that look alike but have some differences, we need to **abstract**!

Abstract?

Yes, in programming, to abstract means to replace several pieces of code with a single piece that contains only what is **similar**, and to create a parameter for each difference.

By creating a function I can use one piece of code for multiple purposes.

What is a function?

A function contains the code that is **similar**. For each <mark>difference</mark> it has a **parame-ter**.





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Unit 7





What are their similarities ?	What are their differences?

Let's use the Tamaro Cards to define a constant for each light. Notice the differ-<mark>ence</mark>.



Write the Python codes for the two graphics and then indicate their differences:

red_light =	green_light =

Find a good name for each difference:

Perhaps as differences you found the **name** of the constant, and in the program with the Tamaro Cards on the previous page you may have identified the **returned graphic**.

Let's focus on the differences inside the definitions of our constants:



There is only once difference: the color of the ellipse!

Unit 7

Defining a Function

Wouldn't it be nice to be able to write **only one version** of the code, so that it can produce both emergency lights? What about other variations of lights, where only the color changes, for example a blue, magenta, or purple light?



The function defined on the right is different from the constant defined on the left: the function has a **parameter** named light_color that enters on the left. This parameter will provide the desired color.

Calling a Function

Once a function is **defined**, we can **call** that function to use it. (This is similar to constants: once defined, we can use them.)

Our light function has a **parameter** to specify the color of the emergency light. Thus, we provide the desired color as an **argument** in the function call.



Defining and Calling of Functions in Python

Translation from Tamaro Cards to Python code.

First, we have to write the code to define the light function:



In the Python code, to define a function, we need the word **def**, followed by the **name** of the function (light), followed by the **name** of the parameter in parentheses (light_color) and a colon (:).

Following that line, we find the **body** of the function.



The **body** of a function contains "the return statement" (**return**), which specifies what a function call produces. The statement contains the code that creates the graphic. The code can **use** the name of the **parameter** to refer to the desired color.

Let's call our function to produce some lights. **Complete** the code:

Produce a red light	Produce a green light	Produce a blue light
light(red)	light(

Our light function is the same as other functions we have seen in the past, for example the functions rectangle, overlay, or rgb_color from the PyTamaro library.

A Function that Produces a Circle

Write a program that creates a blue circle with diameter 100:

Isn't it a bit annoying to use the ellipse function to create a simple circle by specifying the diameter **twice**?

Unfortunately, there is no function in the PyTamaro library to create a circle.

Let's define such a function that produces a circle!

Instead of the code you just wrote, using the ellipse function, it could be written like this:

circle(100, blue)

We only need to define the circle function, with two **parameters**: the diameter and the color.

Define the circle function with Tamaro Cards:

Write the function in Python. In the body of the function, place the return statement (**return**) that contains a call to the ellipse function:

def	(,):

The Traffic Light

Program with Tamaro Cards the traffic_light function using the light function defined above.

The traffic_light function has three parameters: traffic_light(color_top, color_middle, color_bottom)

Tamaro Carde	
Tamaro Carus	
Python Code	

Make the traffic light graphic within the "Semaforo" activity on the PyTamaro site and try out the various color variations!

Construction of Different Pac-Men

Here are four Pac-Man graphics:



Their similarities ?	Their <mark>differences</mark> ?	

We use Tamaro Cards to define four constants, one for each Pac-Man. Highlight the differences and complete the constant definition for pacman_d.



Write the Python code of the first and last graphics and highlight all differences:

pacman_a =	pacman_d =

Find appropriate names for the differences found.

Did you find two differences?

Complete the following table:

Differences	pacman_a	pacman_b	pacman_c	pacman_d
Rotation angle	15	30	45	
Angle of circular sector	330	300	270	
Mouth angle	30	60	90	120

The values for the mouth angle probably don't show up in your code. The mouth angle is important in creating our Pac-Man, we would like to be able to decide how open it should be!

Let's calculate the rotation angle and the angle of the circular sector for a given mouth angle!

Given the angle of the mouth opening, **write** an expression that produces the rotation angle:

(use the name mouth_angle in your expression)

rotation_angle =

Given the angle of the mouth opening, **write** an expression that produces the angle of the circular sector:

(use the name mouth_angle in your expression)

sector_angle =

Below are the two Python codes for the first and last Pac-Man graphics:

mouth_angle = <mark>30</mark>	mouth_angle = <mark>120</mark>
rotation_angle = mouth_angle / 2	rotation_angle = mouth_angle / 2
<pre>sector_angle = 360 - mouth_angle</pre>	<pre>sector_angle = 360 - mouth_angle</pre>
pacman = rotate(pacman = rotate(
rotation_angle,	rotation_angle,
circular_sector(circular_sector(
100,	100,
sector_angle,	sector_angle,
yellow	yellow
))
))

In these two codes, the only difference is the number that defines the mouthopening angle!

Time to program!



Create your Pac-Man in the "PacMan" activity on the PyTamaro site!

Seven Segment Display

Some old digital clocks and other electronic devices represent a numerical digit (a number from 0 to 9) using a composition of seven LED lights. In the adjacent photo you see such a seven-segment display.



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Color the LEDs in the following displays in a way to produce all the decimal digits:



Before creating a function that produces a seven-segment display for a desired digit, we need to understand how the graphic is composed.



Define a segment function to create a segment of a certain color (parameter). First, define a function to create the tip (an equilateral triangle). Use that segment function to compose the final graphic.

def tip
def segment

Now we need to think about how to compose the various segments to get the display. With the help of the grid, you will probably have obtained three **columns** (two thin ones on the left and right, a wider one in the middle) and five **rows** (with different heights).

We are able to compose **two** graphics, one beside the other, or one above the other. In case we need to compose **more than two** graphics we can nest (really "make a nest") function calls inside each other, as in the following examples:



Let us try to define a function named beside3, which places three graphics beside each other. **Complete** the body of the following function:

```
def beside3(left, middle, right):
return beside
```

Define a function named above5, which positions five graphics one above each other (using the parameters g1, g2, g3, g4, g5), with g1 at the top:

```
def above5(g1, g2, g3, g4, g5):
return above
```

Choose a digit from zero to nine and **color** the display appropriately:



Write the program that creates the seven-segment display that shows that digit. **Use** the segment function (with the right color: yellow or black), beside3 and above5.



On the PyTamaro site, go to the "Display a Sette Segmenti" activity, write your program, and test it.





Every Value has a Type

We have already used many values, some very different from others. We can **group** the values into various **sets**.

We can see each set as a **type**.

Below the name of five types, briefly describe what they represent.

