Functions In Perl

Talk to a Teacher
http://spoken-tutorial.org
National Mission on Education through ICT
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Learning Objective

In this tutorial, we will learn about

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- Perl Functions

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- **Perl Functions**
- **Functions with arguments**

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- **Functions with return values**

System Requirements

- **Ubuntu Linux 12.04 OS**

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- **Perl 5.14.2**

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- **gedit Text Editor**

Pre-requisites

Basic knowledge of

- Variables and Comments

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- Loops, Conditional Statements and Data Structures in Perl

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Basic knowledge of

- Variables and Comments
- Loops, Conditional Statements and Data Structures in Perl
- For relevant tutorials, visit http://spoken-tutorial.org

Perl Function

```
sub simple_func {
  # piece of code
}
```

Perl Function

- **Functions, also called as `subroutines`, are declared with `sub` keyword**

Perl Function

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Perl Function

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- **This function does not take any arguments**
- **And, it does not return anything**

Perl Function

- **Function definition can be written anywhere in the script or in another module**

Perl Function

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- **This module must be included in the script, to use this function**

Perl Function

- **To include the module file in the script, use following syntax**

Perl Function

- **To include the module file in the script, use following syntax**
- `use ModuleFileName;`

Function with arguments

```
sub func_with_parameters {
  ($variable1, $variable2,
  .., $variableN) = @_;
  # Action to be performed on the
  arguments passed to this function
}
```

Function with arguments

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- **This array is used to store the passed arguments**

Function with arguments

- `@_` is a special Perl array
- This array is used to store the passed arguments
- Similarly, we can catch the passed arguments in variables as

```
$var1 = shift @_;
$var2 = shift @_;
```

Function with arguments

- **shift @_** **removes the element at first position from** **@_ array**

Function with arguments

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- **Another way is;**

```
$var1 = $_[0];
$var2 = $_[1];
```

Function with arguments

- **shift @_** removes the element at first position from **@_ array**
- and assigns it to a variable
- Another way is;

```
$var1 = $_[0];
$var2 = $_[1];
```

- Above way is similar to fetching elements of **@_** array using `index`

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Function with single return value

```
sub return_single_value {
  #piece of code
  return $variable;
}
```

Function with multiple return value

```
sub return_multiple_values {
   #piece of code
   return ($variable1, ....,
   $variableN);
}
```

Perl's In-built Functions

- **Perl provides several** `inbuilt functions` **like** `Arrays, Hash, sort, scalar, each, keys,` **etc.**

Perl's In-built Functions

- **Perl provides several** `inbuilt functions` **like** `Arrays, Hash, sort, scalar, each, keys,` **etc.**
- **Calling these** `inbuilt functions,` **is similar to calling any other function, which we define**
  `E.g sort(@arrayName);`

Summary

In this tutorial we learnt,

- Functions

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- **Functions with arguments**

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- **Functions with arguments**
- **Functions which return values**

Summary

In this tutorial we learnt,

- Functions
- Functions with arguments
- Functions which return values
- using sample programs

Assignments

- **Write a function which takes 3 arguments.**
- **Perform some action on these arguments.**
- **Return the result of the action performed on arguments and print the same.**

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- **Watch the video available at http://spoken-tutorial.org /What_is_a_Spoken_Tutorial**
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Acknowledgements

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- **More information on this Mission is available at http://spoken-tutorial.org/NMEICT-Intro**

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