**Creating Functions in Python With Copilot Worksheet Answer Key**

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| **Introduction** |
| **Instructions**Before beginning this worksheet, ensure that you have downloaded all necessary materials and have read the Getting Started with Visual Studio Code and Copilot document. **Introduction**Human programmers often struggle with complexity. To manage this, we break down large problems into smaller, more solvable parts using functions. Functions are essential in software design, performing single tasks and making code easier to read, test, and debug.In this worksheet, you will learn how to create functions in Python using Copilot and understand what makes a reasonable task for Copilot to handle.**Components of a Function**Every function in Python has:1. **Function Header (Signature)**: This includes the def keyword, the function name, and its inputs.
2. **Function Body**: The code that defines what the function does.
3. **Return Statement**: The value that the function gives back.

**Example**Here’s a basic function that finds the smaller of two numbers:# This function takes two numbers and returns the smaller onedef smaller(a, b):    if a < b:        return a    else:        return b |

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| **Exercise 1: Understanding Function Headers** |
| **Instructions:** Read the following function headers and answer the following questions:def add(a, b):    return a + b1. What is the name of the function?

Name: add1. What are the inputs to the function?

Inputs: a, b1. What does the function return?

Returns: a + bdef greet(name):    return "Hello, " + name1. What is the name of the function?

Name: greet1. What is the input to the function?

Input: name1. What does the function return?

Returns: "Hello, " + name |
| **Exercise 2: Writing Function Headers** |
| **Instructions:** Write the function headers for the following tasks:1. A function named *multiply* that takes two inputs, *x* and *y*.

def multiply(x, y):1. A function named *is\_even* that takes one input, *num*.

def is\_even(num):1. A function named *max\_of\_three* that takes three inputs, *a*, *b*, and *c*.

def max\_of\_three(a, b, c):**Using Copilot To Write Functions**Copilot can help you write functions. Use comments (#’s) to guide Copilot on what you want the function to do. Follow the example below.Example function: Write a function named *multiply* that takes two inputs, *x* and *y*, and returns their product.Example answer using Copilot:A black screen with colorful text  Description automatically generatedLines 1-3 are comments you write. Lines 4 and 5 are the code generated by Copilot. **Using Copilot To Call Functions**Once we have a function, how do we use it? To use a function, we need to call it. Calling a function means invoking it with specific parameter values, known as arguments. Each value in Python has a type, and we must ensure we provide values of the correct type. For instance, our function expects two numbers; if we provide non-numeric values, it may not work as expected. When we call a function, it executes its code and returns a result. To use this result later, we need to capture it in a variable, which is simply a name that refers to a value.Calling the multiply function using Copilot:A screen shot of a computer code  Description automatically generatedLines 7-9 are comments you write. Line 10 is the call to the *multiply* function. Line 11 prints the result of the call to *multiply*. If you run the program, you will see *24* as the output.    |

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| **Exercise 3: Using Copilot to Create Functions** |
| **Instructions:** Write comments to guide Copilot in creating the following functions:1. A function named *is\_even* that takes one input, *num*, and returns *True* if the number is even and *False* if it is not. Paste a screenshot of your code below.

Screenshot of code**A computer screen with colorful text  Description automatically generated**1. A function named *max\_of\_three* that takes three inputs, *a, b,* and *c*, and returns the largest of the three. Paste a screenshot of your code below.

**A computer screen shot of a code  Description automatically generated**Screenshot of code |
| **Exercise 4: Using Copilot to Call Functions** |
| **Instructions:** Answer the following:1. Call the *is\_even* function with the following arguments:

A screen shot of a computer program  Description automatically generated

| **Call to the is\_even function** | **What is the output?** |
| --- | --- |
| is\_even(3) | False |
| is\_even(6) | True |
| **Call to the is\_even function** | **What is the output?** |
| is\_even(0) | True |
| is\_even(“hi”) | Error |

1. Call the *max\_of\_three* function with the following arguments:

A computer screen shot of a program code  Description automatically generated

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| **Call to the is\_even function** | **What is the output?** |
| max\_of\_three(3, 5, 7) | 7 |
| max\_of\_three(7, 8, 5) | 8 |
| max\_of\_three(110, 205, 156) | 205 |
| max\_of\_three(3,6) | error |

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| **Exercise 5: Reasonable Tasks for Copilot** |
| **Instructions:** Discuss with your classmates and answer the following questions:1. Why is it important to break down large problems into smaller tasks?

Breaking down tasks makes them more manageable and easier to debug.1. What might happen if you give Copilot a task that is too complex?

Complex tasks may lead to errors and inefficient solutions from Copilot.1. How can you decide what is a reasonable task for Copilot to handle?

Reasonable tasks are clear, specific, and perform a single function. |
| **Reflection** |
| Think about a time when you had a big project or problem to solve. How did you break it down into smaller tasks? How did that help you? Write a short paragraph explaining your experience and how it relates to what you learned today.Answers will vary. Encourage students to connect their personal experiences with problem-solving and task decomposition to the concepts learned in class. |