USING THE INTERPRETER PROMPT

Open the terminal in your operating system (as discussed previously in the Installation chapter) and then open the Python prompt by typing python and pressing enter key.

Once you have started Python, you should see >>> where you can start typing stuff. This is called the Python interpreter prompt.

At the Python interpreter prompt, type:

```
print "Hello World"
```

followed by the enter key. You should see the words Hello World printed to the screen.

Here is an example of what you should be seeing, when using a Mac OS X computer. The details about the Python software will differ based on your computer, but the part from the prompt (i.e. from >>> onwards) should be the same regardless of the operating system.

```
$ python
```
Python 2.7.6 (default, Feb 23 2014, 16:08:15)

[GCC 4.2.1 Compatible Apple LLVM 5.0 (clang-500.2.79)] on darwin

Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.

>>> print "hello world"

hello world

>>> 

Notice that Python gives you the output of the line immediately! What you just entered is a single Python statement. We use print to (unsurprisingly) print any value that you supply to it. Here, we are supplying the text hello world and this is promptly printed to the screen.

How to Quit the Interpreter Prompt

If you are using a GNU/Linux or OS X shell, you can exit the interpreter prompt by pressing `ctrl+d` or entering `exit()` (note: remember to include the parentheses, ()) followed by the `enter` key.

If you are using the Windows command prompt, press `ctrl+z` followed by the `enter` key.

Source: http://www.swaroopch.com/notes/python/