Getting help

The IDLE Shell Window provides a great Help utility where you can find help on any Python topic when coding Python programs. Help can be sought by entering a Python `help()` statement at the interactive `>>>` prompt. A welcome message appears and the prompt changes to `help>` to denote you are now in Help mode.

1. Open an IDLE Shell Window then precisely enter this statement at the interactive prompt
   ```python
   help()
   ```

2. Next, hit the Return key to enter Help mode

3. Now, enter this topic name at the Help utility prompt
   ```
   keywords
   ```

4. Hit Return to list all keywords of the Python language

Keywords are the vocabulary of a programming language. Note that Python keywords are case-sensitive – these are all in lowercase except `False`, `None`, and `True`. The Help utility welcome message also contains handy hints – but are omitted here for brevity.
Then, enter this command at the Help utility prompt:

```
quit
```

Hit Return to exit Help and return to an interactive Shell Window prompt.

When you just want help on a single topic you can simply enter the topic name within quote marks inside the parentheses of a `help()` statement at the interactive prompt:

```
Precisely enter this statement at the interactive prompt:

```
help( 'keywords' )
```

Hit Return to list all keywords of the Python language and remain at an interactive Shell Window prompt.

There are no parentheses required after the `quit` instruction – here it is a Help utility command, not a Python statement.

Keywords have special meaning in a programming language – they cannot be used to name items in your code.

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...cont’d

**5**

Then, enter this command at the Help utility prompt

```
quit
```

**6**

Hit Return to exit Help and return to an interactive Shell Window prompt.

When you just want help on a single topic you can simply enter the topic name within quote marks inside the parentheses of a `help()` statement at the interactive prompt:

**7**

Precisely enter this statement at the interactive prompt

```
help( 'keywords' )
```

**8**

Hit Return to list all keywords of the Python language and remain at an interactive Shell Window prompt.