

Variables, Conditionals, Loops, and Functions

The Absolute Basics of Making a Computer Do Stuff

Tim Jackman

BU Summer Challenge

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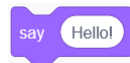
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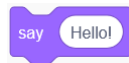
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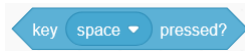
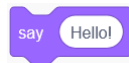
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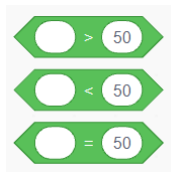


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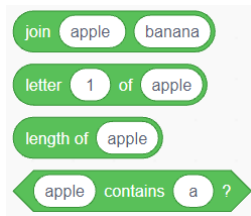


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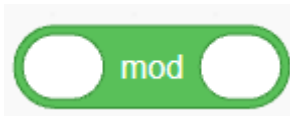
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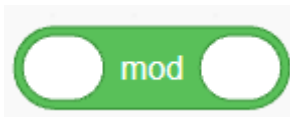
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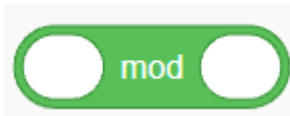
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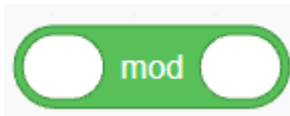
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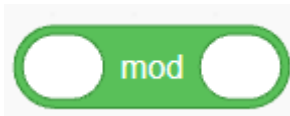
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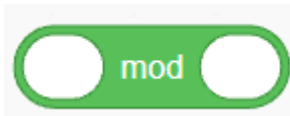
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- Typically only used with integers, in some languages (for example Scratch and Java) you can use it with decimals, but it might not be fully accurate.



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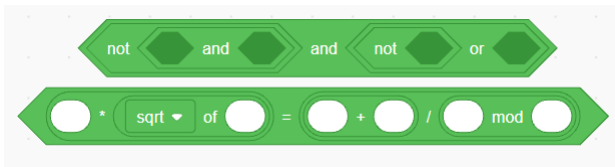
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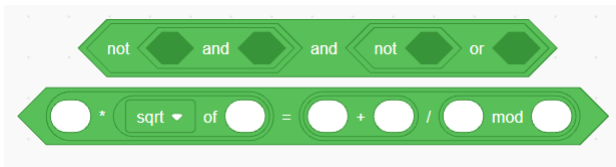
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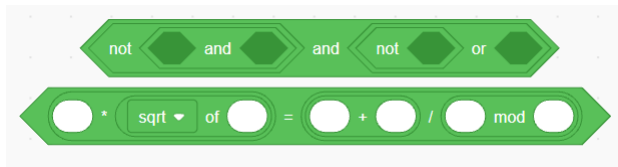
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- In Scratch, the order of evaluation is clear (evaluate from the innermost thing out)
- In other languages, there are varying orders of operations (like PEMDAS in Math), but typically we'll use parentheses to make avoid both *ambiguity* and *bugs* (like in Math)

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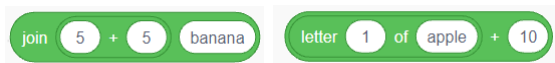
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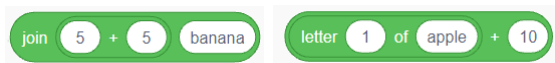
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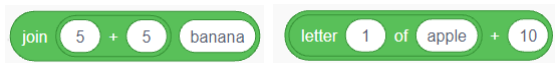
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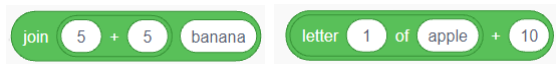
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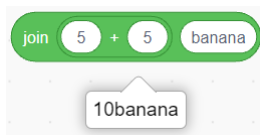
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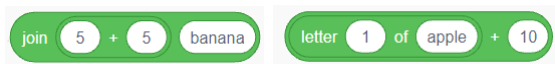


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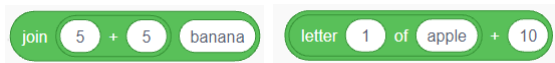
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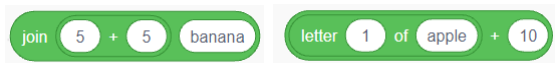


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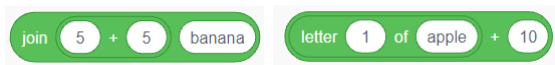
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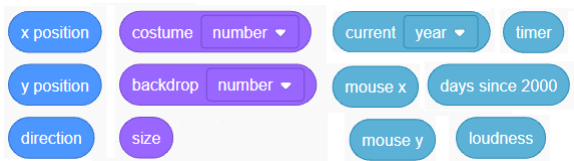
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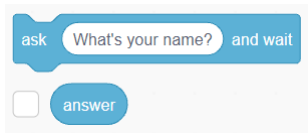


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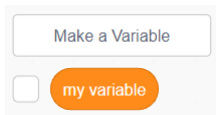
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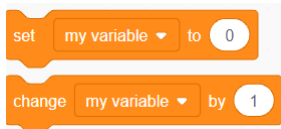
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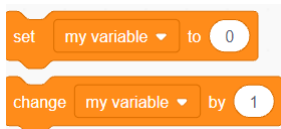
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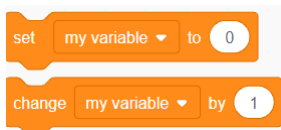
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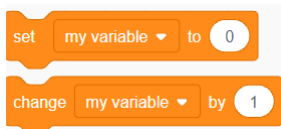
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- “change v by x” is just *syntactic sugar* for “set v to $(v + x)$ ” (it’s easier to read and use)

Demo Time!

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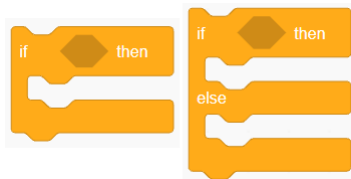
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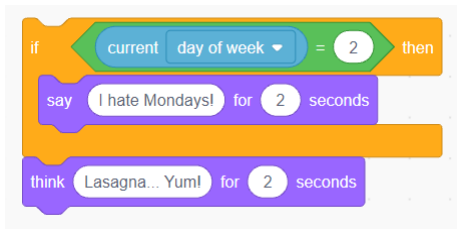
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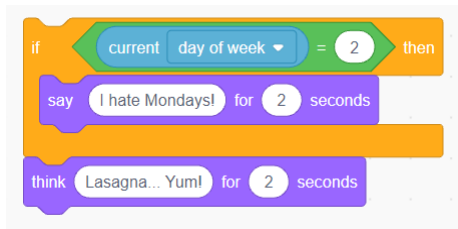
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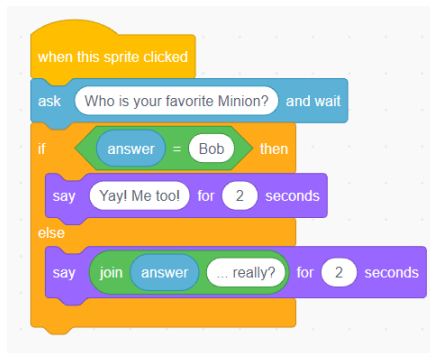
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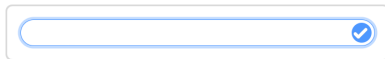
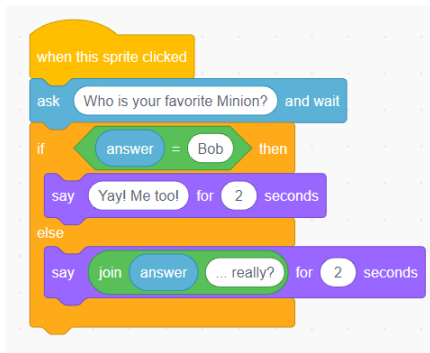
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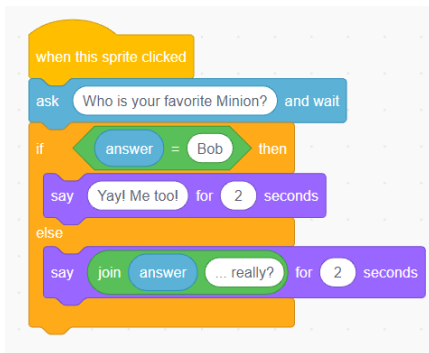
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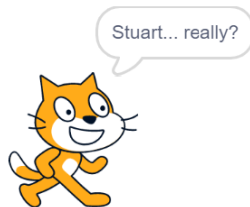
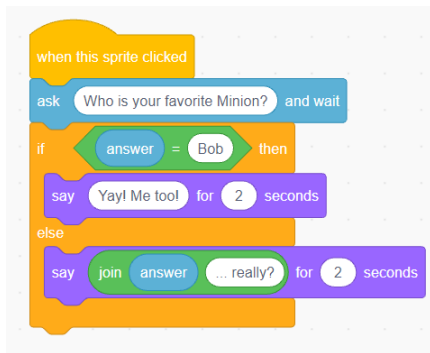
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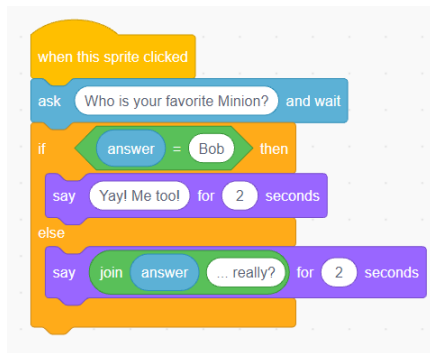
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- You can nest conditionals to get more complicated control flows

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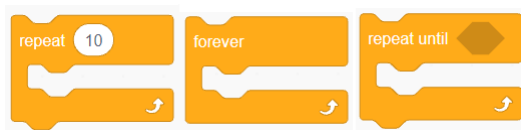
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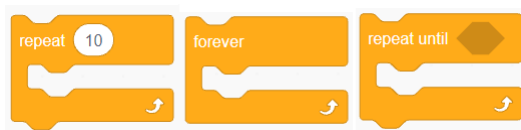
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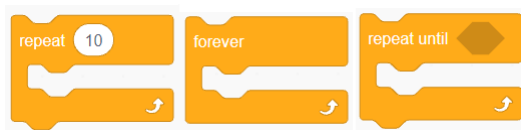
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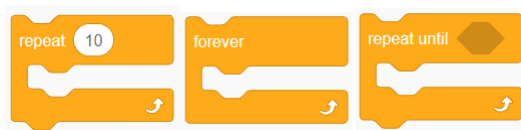
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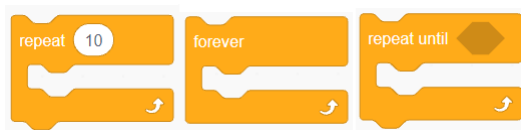
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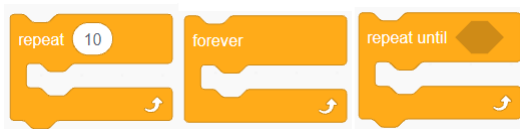
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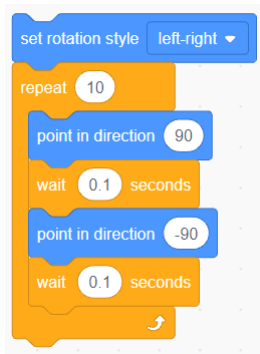
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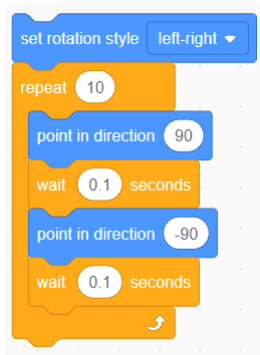


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 - Ideally, the condition depends on variables that get updated during each iteration (run of the nested code)

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- This code will make the sprite “shimmy”

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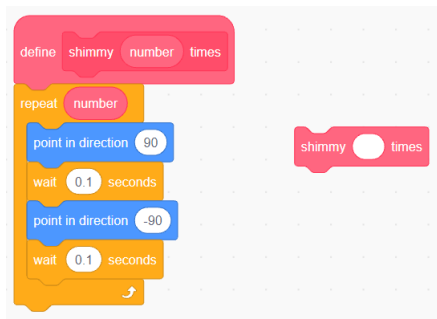
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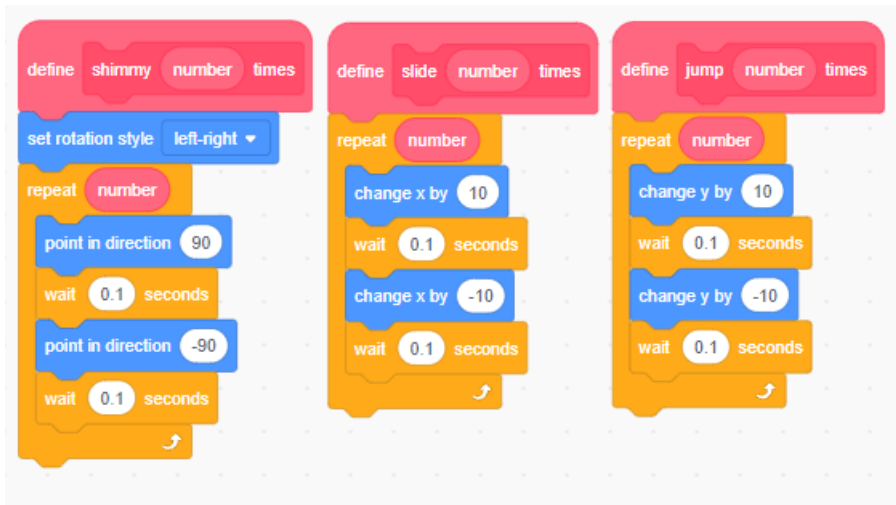
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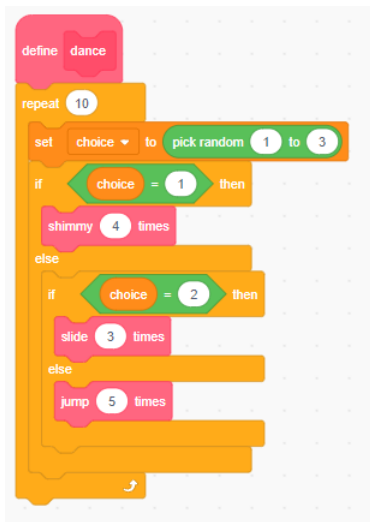
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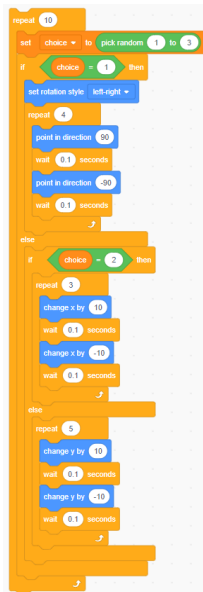
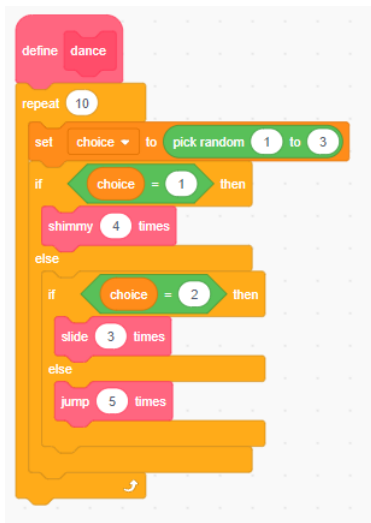
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- If we’re working in a team, other people can use our functions without needing to know how they work!
- The key to problem solving is to break your problem into sub-problems, solve those subproblems, and then put those solutions together.

Challenge

Create a program that has a sprite say the numbers 1 to 100, replacing any multiples of 3 with the word Fizz, replacing any multiples of 5 with the word Buzz, and any multiples of both with FizzBuzz.

1, 2, Fizz, 4, Buzz, Fizz, 7, 8, Fizz, Buzz, 11, Fizz, 13, 14, FizzBuzz, 16, ...

(This is an actual “common” job interview question to weed out people who don’t know the basics, you can now pass it with what we’ve seen!)