Exercise #8
Due Friday, 11/20/2015, at 11:59pm

Vocabulary

Explain these two terms:

- Precondition
- Postcondition

In addition, since we’re been introducing a lot of new programming concepts in the class lately, please write down any terms or concepts that you don’t feel you have a good understanding of yet.

Thinking about Preconditions

Consider the following python function:

```python
# Function: simple_mul
# Description: Multiplies two numbers together
# Parameters: a - the first number to multiply
# b - the second number to multiply
# Return values: Returns a number equal to the product of the two parameters.
# Preconditions: ???
# Postconditions: No post conditions.
# Function: simple_mul
# Description: Multiplies two numbers together
# Parameters: a - the first number to multiply
# b - the second number to multiply
# Return values: Returns a number equal to the product of the two parameters.
# Preconditions: ???
# Postconditions: No post conditions.

def simple_mul(a, b):
    total = b
    counter = 1
    while counter < a:
        total = total + b
        counter = counter + 1
    return total
```

Based on the description and code above, **what are the preconditions for the simple_mul function?**

*Hint: What values can a and b possibly take? Are there some values for either parameter that will keep the function from returning the ‘correct’ value?*

For **take-home exercises completed in peer-led groups**, each student must participate in the class discussion and write answers to each of the questions on his/her own paper to show for credit.

For **take-home exercises completed on your own**, turn in your work electronically using the TEACH website.