1. (5 pts) Write the definition of a function called theTail that takes a string s as a parameter and returns everything except the first character in the string. For example theTail("Lakers") returns "akers" and theTail("CS8") returns "S8".
The following 6 questions are from an older CS8 midterm exam. They are meant to help you review part of the material from chapters 1 and 2 of the text for the exam on Thursday, February 5.

2. (4 pts) Here is the definition of a Python function that draws the letter L, using the cTurtle module. At the moment, the width and height of the L are hard coded: width is 50 and height is 100.

```
def drawL(t):
    t.left(90)
    t.forward(100)
    t.backward(100)
    t.right(90)
    t.forward(50)
    t.backward(50)
```

Rewrite the function, generalizing it so that it can make a letter L of any height or width.

Note that the function starts with the Turtle at the lower left hand corner of the L, facing right, and ends with the Turtle at the same spot. Your function should also do that, even after you generalize it.

**Important Note:** Focus only on rewriting the `drawL` function. Don't worry about things like `import cTurtle`, or `fred=cTurtle.Turtle("turtle")` or any of that other stuff, which is not relevant to the problem I'm asking you solve here. You won't get any extra points for including that stuff—in fact, points may be deducted. I only want the re-written `drawL` function.
3. (4 pts) You are writing some software for a bookstore. The shipping charge for an order is $0.50 per pound, with a minimum charge of $3.00.

Write a Python function called computeShipping that takes the weight of an order as a parameter, and returns the shipping charge for that order. Be sure that you never return a shipping charge less than $3.00.

Hint: you'll need to use an if/else statement.

Note: you are returning the dollar amount as a floating point number. Don't worry about the $ or the number of digits after the decimal point—you may assume that some other part of the program is taking care of formatting the number for printing.
4. (2 pts) Your friend, who is also taking CS8, says to you:

   I'm still not clear on the difference between "formal parameter" and "actual parameter". Can you explain it to me, in plain English?

   How do you answer your friend? Make sure your explanation is complete, and precise (correct) but also concise (i.e. relatively short).
5. (4 points) Write a function definition for a Python function called **numRoots** which takes three parameters $a$, $b$, $c$ which are the coefficients of a quadratic equation such as $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$. The function should return either 0, 1 or 2 indicating whether the equation has 0, 1 or 2 real roots, according to the following rules:

- If $b^2 - 4ac$ is negative, the equation has 0 real roots,
- If $b^2 - 4ac$ is zero, the equation has 1 real root,
- If $b^2 - 4ac$ is positive, the equation has 2 real roots.
6. (4 points) The following is an extract from a Python session. However, what Python wrote at the lines (a), (b), through (g) have been erased. Fill in these expressions as Python would have written them.

   >>> a=1
   >>> b='1'
   >>> a

   (a)

   >>> b

   (b)

   >>> a==b

   (c)

   >>> a=2
   >>> b=str(2)
   >>> a-b

   (d)

   >>> print(a,b)

   (e)

   >>> print(a+a)

   (f)

   >>> print(b*2)

   (g)

7. (4 points) Write a selection statement (i.e. if statement) that checks whether a variable named bankBalance is greater than zero, equal to zero or less than zero. If it is greater than zero it should print the word Positive, if it is zero, it should print Zero, and if it is negative, it should print Negative.