



COMP 1023 Introduction to Python Programming

Collections - Container Data Types (Part II)

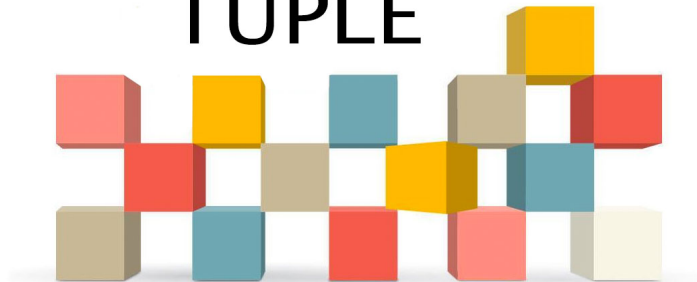
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Tuples

TUPLE



Introduction

- **Tuples** are similar to lists, but **their elements are fixed**. Once a tuple is created, you cannot add, delete, replace, or reorder the elements.
- If the contents of a list in your application shouldn't change, you can use a tuple to prevent accidental modifications.
- **Tuples** are **generally more efficient** than lists due to Python's internal optimizations.
- You create a tuple by enclosing its **elements in parentheses** (i.e., `()`), with the elements separated by commas.



Tuple Basics

- To create a tuple, you can use the following syntax:

```
tuple1 = () # Create an empty tuple
tuple2 = (1, 3, 5) # Create a tuple with elements 1, 3, 5
tuple3 = ("red", "green", "blue") # Create a tuple with strings
tuple4 = tuple([1, 2, 3]) # Create a tuple from a list
tuple5 = tuple([2 * x for x in range(1, 5)]) # Create a tuple from a list comprehension
tuple6 = tuple("abcd") # Create a tuple from a string
# tuple6 is ('a', 'b', 'c', 'd')
tuple7 = (1, "two", 3) # Create a tuple with mixed types elements
```



Tuple Demonstration

```
my_tuple = (5.6, 4.5, 3.3, 13.2, 4.0, 34.33, 34.0, 45.45, 99.993, 11123)
```

my_tuple	my_tuple[0]	5.6
	my_tuple[1]	4.5
	my_tuple[2]	3.3
	my_tuple[3]	13.2
	my_tuple[4]	4.0
Tuple element at index 5	my_tuple[5]	34.33
	my_tuple[6]	34.0
	my_tuple[7]	45.45
	my_tuple[8]	99.993
	my_tuple[9]	11123

- The tuple `my_tuple` has 10 elements with indexes ranging from 0 to 9.

Common Error

- Accessing a tuple **out of bounds** is a common programming error that results in a **runtime 'IndexError'**.
- To avoid this error, ensure that you do not use an index beyond `len(my_tuple) - 1`.
- Here is an example of an **out-of-bounds error**:

```
# Filename: tuple_out_of_bounds_error.py
```

```
def main():  
    my_tuple = (5.6, 4.5, 3.3, 13.2, 4.0, 34.33, 34.0, 45.45, 99.993, 11123)  
    i = 0  
    while i <= len(my_tuple): # This condition causes the error  
        print(my_tuple[i])  
        i += 1  
  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    main()
```

How can we fix it?

Functions for Tuples

```
def main(): # Filename: functions_for_tuples.py
    my_tuple1 = (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
    my_tuple2 = tuple([4, 5, 6, 7, 8])

    print("4 in my_tuple1:", 4 in my_tuple1)
    print("4 not in my_tuple1:", 4 not in my_tuple1)
    print("my_tuple1 + my_tuple2:\n",
          my_tuple1 + my_tuple2)
    print("2 * my_tuple1:", 2 * my_tuple1)
    print("my_tuple1[3]:", my_tuple1[3])
    print("my_tuple1[3:5]:", my_tuple1[3:5])
    print("my_tuple1[-1]:", my_tuple1[-1])
    print("len(my_tuple1):", len(my_tuple1))
    print("min(my_tuple1):", min(my_tuple1))
    print("max(my_tuple1):", max(my_tuple1))
    print("sum(my_tuple1):", sum(my_tuple1))

    for i in my_tuple1:
        print(i, end=" ")
    print()

    print("my_tuple1 < my_tuple2:", my_tuple1 < my_tuple2)

    del my_tuple1 # Delete the whole tuple, so my_tuple1 no longer exists

if __name__ == "__main__": main()
```

Output:

```
4 in my_tuple1: True
4 not in my_tuple1: False
my_tuple1 + my_tuple2:
    (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8)
2 * my_tuple1: (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
my_tuple1[3]: 4
my_tuple1[3:5]: (4, 5)
my_tuple1[-1]: 5
len(my_tuple1): 5
min(my_tuple1): 1
max(my_tuple1): 5
sum(my_tuple1): 15
1 2 3 4 5
my_tuple1 < my_tuple2: True
```

Comparison Operators for Tuples

- **Equality** (`==`):

- Checks if two tuples have the **same elements in the same order**.

```
(1, 2, 3) == (1, 2, 3)    # True
(1, 2, 3) == (3, 2, 1)    # False
```

- **Inequality** (`!=`):

- Checks if two tuples are **not equal**.

```
(1, 2) != (1, 2, 3)      # True
```

- **Less Than** (`<`) and **Greater Than** (`>`):

- Compares tuples lexicographically (like dictionary order).
- **Compares element by element until a difference is found**.

```
(1, 2, 3) < (1, 2, 4)     # True
(1, 2) < (1, 2, 0)        # True
```

- **Less Than or Equal To** (`<=`) and **Greater Than or Equal To** (`>=`):

- Similar to `<` and `>`, but include equality.

```
(1, 2, 3) <= (1, 2, 3)    # True
(1, 2) >= (1, 2, 0)       # False
```


Index Operator []

- An **element in a tuple** can be **accessed using the index operator**, with the following syntax:

```
my_tuple[index]
```

- Tuple indexes are **0-based**, meaning they range from 0 to `len(my_tuple) - 1`.
- `my_tuple[index]` can be used like a variable, so it is also referred to as an **indexed variable**.
- For example, the following code prints the value in `my_tuple[1]`:

```
print(my_tuple[1])
```

- The following loop prints 0 to `my_tuple[0]`, 1 to `my_tuple[1]`, ..., 9 to `my_tuple[9]`:

```
for i in range(len(my_tuple)):  
    print(my_tuple[i])
```

The following is an **error**!

```
my_tuple[1] = 10 # Error!
```

Since **tuples in Python** are **immutable**, meaning their elements cannot be directly changed, added, or removed after the tuple is created.

Elements in a Tuple May Be Mutable

Filename: tuple_element_mutable.py

```
class Circle:
    def __init__(self, radius):
        self.radius = radius

    def setRadius(self, radius):
        self.radius = radius

    def getRadius(self):
        return self.radius

def main():
    circles = (Circle(2), Circle(4), Circle(7))
    circles[0].setRadius(30)
    print(circles[0].getRadius()) # Print 30

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

- Each element in the tuple is a Circle object. While you cannot add, delete, or replace circle objects in the tuple, you can change a circle's radius since a circle object is mutable.
- Tuple elements are immutable, but they can contain mutable objects, such as lists.

More details about objects will be discussed later!

Negative Numbers as Indexes

- Python allows the use of **negative numbers as indexes** to reference positions relative to the end of the tuple.
- The **actual position** is **obtained by adding the length of the tuple** to the negative index.
- For example:

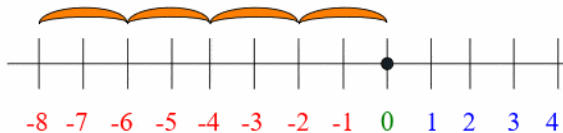
```
my_tuple = (2, 3, 5, 2, 33, 21)
```

```
print(my_tuple[-1]) # Print 21
```

```
print(my_tuple[-3]) # Print 2
```

- $\text{my_tuple}[-1]$ is the same as $\text{my_tuple}[-1 + \text{len}(\text{my_tuple})]$ (i.e., $\text{my_tuple}[-1 + 6]$).
- $\text{my_tuple}[-3]$ is the same as $\text{my_tuple}[-3 + \text{len}(\text{my_tuple})]$ (i.e., $\text{my_tuple}[-3 + 6]$).

Exactly the same as lists!!!



Tuple Slicing

- The **slicing operator** returns **a slice of the tuple** using the syntax:

`my_tuple[start : end : step]`

- The **slice** is a **sub-tuple** from index `start` to index `end - 1` with the specified `step`.
 - By default, `step` is 1.

```
my_tuple = (2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 1)
print(my_tuple[2 : 4])      # Print (5, 7)
print(my_tuple[0 : 5 : 2])  # Print (2, 5, 9)
```



Tuple Slicing

- You can use a **negative index in slicing**.

```
my_tuple = (2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 1)
```

```
print(my_tuple[1 : -3])    # Print (3, 5)
```

```
print(my_tuple[-4 : -2])   # Print (5, 7)
```

- `my_tuple[1 : -3]` is the same as `my_tuple[1 : -3 + len(my_tuple)]`.
 - `my_tuple[-4 : -2]` is the same as `my_tuple[-4 + len(my_tuple) : -2 + len(my_tuple)]`.
- You cannot **assign values to a slice** of a tuple.

```
my_tuple = (2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 1)
```

```
my_tuple[1 : 3] = (91, 92, 93, 94) # Error!
```

Exactly the same as lists, except slices cannot be assigned new values!!!



Tuple Slicing: Default Values and Edge Cases

- The **starting index or ending index may be omitted**. Then, **default values will be used**.
 - Positive step (i.e., $\text{step} > 0$):
 - If you omit the start index: Default is 0 (start from the beginning).
 - If you omit the end index: Default is the length of the tuple (i.e., $\text{len}(\text{my_tuple})$).
 - If $\text{start index} \geq \text{end index}$, the result will be an empty tuple.
 - Negative step (i.e., $\text{step} < 0$):
 - If you omit the start index: Default is the last index (i.e., $\text{len}(\text{my_tuple})-1$).
 - If you omit the end index: Default is None (will go until the start of the tuple).
 - If $\text{end index} \leq \text{start index}$, the result will be an empty tuple.
 - If you omit the step: Default is 1.
- If start or end specifies a **position beyond the end** of the tuple, Python will **use the length** of the tuple for start or end instead.

Exactly the same as lists!!!



Tuple Slicing Examples

- Positive steps (i.e., step > 0):

```
my_tuple = (2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 1)
print(my_tuple[ : 2 : 1]) # Equivalent to print(my_tuple[0 : 2 : 1]), Print (2, 3)
print(my_tuple[3 :   : 1]) # Equivalent to print(my_tuple[3 : 6 : 1]), Print (7, 9, 1)
print(my_tuple[3 : 1 : 1]) # Empty tuple
```

- Negative steps (i.e., step < 0):

```
my_tuple = (2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 1)
print(my_tuple[ : 2 : -1]) # Equivalent to print(my_tuple[5 : 2 : -1]), Print (1, 9, 7)
print(my_tuple[3 :   : -1]) # Equivalent to print(my_tuple[3 : None : -1]), Print (7, 5, 3, 2)
print(my_tuple[1 : 3 : -1]) # Empty tuple
```

- start or end specifies a position beyond the end of the tuple:

```
my_tuple = (2, 3, 5, 7, 9, 1)
print(my_tuple[3 : 8]) # Equivalent to print(my_tuple[3 : 6]), Print (7, 9, 1)
print(my_tuple[7 : 5]) # Equivalent to print(my_tuple[6 : 5]), Print ()
print(my_tuple[7 : 8]) # Equivalent to print(my_tuple[6 : 6]), Print ()
```

Slicing handles out-of-range indices gracefully!

Exactly the same as lists!!!

Traversing Elements in a Tuple

- The elements in a **Python tuple** are **iterable**.
- Python supports a **convenient for loop**, which enables you to **traverse the tuple sequentially** without using an index variable.
- For example, the following code displays all the elements in the tuple `my_tuple`:

```
my_tuple = (5.6, 4.5, 3.3, 13.2, 4.0, 34.33, 34.0, 45.45, 99.993, 11123)
for u in my_tuple:
    print(u, end=' ')
# Print 5.6 4.5 3.3 13.2 4.0 34.33 34.0 45.45 99.993 11123
```
- You still have to use **an index variable** if you wish to **traverse the tuple in a different order**. For example, the following code displays the elements at even-numbered indices:

```
my_tuple = (5.6, 4.5, 3.3, 13.2, 4.0, 34.33, 34.0, 45.45, 99.993, 11123)
for i in range(0, len(my_tuple), 2):
    print(my_tuple[i], end=' ')
# Print 5.6 3.3 4.0 34.0 99.993
```

Exactly the same as lists!!!

No Python Tuple Comprehension

- Python **does not support tuple comprehensions** directly.
- Instead, you can use:
 - `tuple()` function with a generator expression.
`my_tuple = tuple(x for x in range(5))`



Tuple Methods

Method	Description
<code>count(element): value</code>	Returns the number of times the given element appears in the tuple.
<code>index(element, start, end): value</code>	Returns the first occurrence of the given element from the tuple starting from start and stopping at end.

```
my_tuple1 = (0, 1, 2, 3, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3)
```

```
my_tuple2 = ("COMP", "1023", "is", "the", "best", "COMP", "course")
```

```
c1 = my_tuple1.count(3)           # Count the number of times 3 appears in the tuple
```

```
print(c1)       # Print 3
```

```
c2 = my_tuple2.count("COMP")      # Count the number of times "COMP" appears in the tuple
```

```
print(c2)       # Print 2
```

```
pos1 = my_tuple1.index(3)         # Find the first occurrence of 3
```

```
print(pos1)    # Print 3
```

```
pos2 = my_tuple1.index(3, 4)      # Find the first occurrence of 3 starting at index 4
```

```
print(pos2)    # Print 5
```

```
# pos3 = my_tuple1.index(4)      # Error: 4 is not in the tuple
```

Splitting a String into a Tuple

- To **split the characters in a string** `s` into a tuple, use `tuple(s)`:

```
my_tuple = tuple("abc")  
print(my_tuple)  # Print ('a', 'b', 'c')
```

- The `str` class contains the **split method**, which is useful for **splitting items in a string into a list** and then explicitly converting it to a tuple:

```
items1 = tuple("COMP1023 is the best COMP course".split())  # Delimited by spaces  
print(items1)        # Print ('COMP1023', 'is', 'the', 'best', 'COMP', 'course')
```

```
items2 = tuple("12/25/2025".split("/"))  # Delimited by /  
print(items2)        # Print ('12', '25', '2025')
```



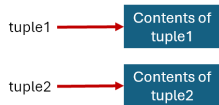
Copying Tuples

Question

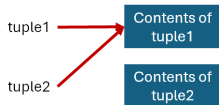
Does `tuple2 = tuple1` duplicate a tuple?

- The above statement does not copy the contents of the tuple referenced by `tuple1` to `tuple2`.
- It copies the reference from `tuple1` to `tuple2`.
- After this statement, `tuple1` and `tuple2` refer to the same tuple.

Before the assignment:
`tuple2 = tuple1`



After the assignment:
`tuple2 = tuple1`



```
tuple1 = (1, 2)
tuple2 = (3, 4, 5)
```

```
print(id(tuple1)) # Example ID: 132576440962624
```

```
print(id(tuple2)) # Example ID: 132575771145280
```

```
tuple2 = tuple1
```

```
print(id(tuple2)) # Example ID: 132576440962624
```

- The tuple previously referenced by `tuple2` is no longer referenced. The memory space occupied by `tuple2` will be automatically collected and reused by the Python interpreter.

How to duplicate a tuple?

Copying Tuples

- In Python, **tuples** are **immutable**, so you typically don't need to create a deep copy because their contents can't be changed. However, if your tuple contains mutable objects (e.g., lists), and you want to create a new tuple with deep copies of those objects, you can use the `copy.deepcopy()` function from the `copy` module.

```
# Filename: copy_tuples.py
```

```
import copy
```

```
tuple1 = (1, 2, [3, 4])    # Contains a mutable object (list)  
tuple2 = copy.deepcopy(tuple1)
```

```
# Modify the mutable object in the original to verify the deep copy  
tuple1[2].append(99)
```

```
print(id(tuple1), tuple1)  # Print 132575769680704 (1, 2, [3, 4, 99])  
print(id(tuple2), tuple2)  # Print 132575769135168 (1, 2, [3, 4])
```

Two-Dimensional Tuples

- A **two-dimensional tuple** is a tuple that **consists of rows**.
- Each **row** is a **tuple that contains the values**.
- The rows can be accessed using an index, called a **row index**.
- The values in each row can be accessed through another index, called a **column index**.

```
matrix = (  
    (1, 2, 3, 4, 5),  
    (6, 7, 0, 0, 0),  
    (0, 1, 0, 0, 0),  
    (1, 0, 0, 0, 8),  
    (0, 0, 9, 0, 3)  
)
```

	[0]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]
[0]	1	2	3	4	5
[1]	6	7	0	0	0
[2]	0	1	0	0	0
[3]	1	0	0	0	8
[4]	0	0	9	0	3

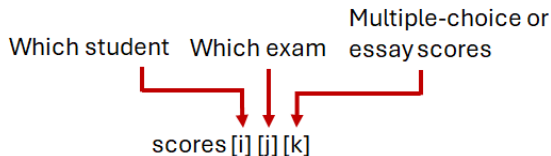
```
matrix[0] is (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)  
matrix[1] is (6, 7, 0, 0, 0)  
matrix[2] is (0, 1, 0, 0, 0)  
matrix[3] is (1, 0, 0, 0, 8)  
matrix[4] is (0, 0, 9, 0, 3)  
  
matrix[0][0] is 1  
matrix[4][4] is 3
```

- Each value can be accessed using `matrix[i][j]`, where `i` and `j` are the row and column indexes.

Multidimensional Tuples

- Occasionally, you need to represent **n-dimensional data**, for any integer n .
- For example, you can use a **three-dimensional tuple** to store **exam scores** for a class of **6 students with 5 exams**, where each exam has **2 parts** (multiple-choice and essay):

```
scores = ( ((11.5, 20.5), (11.0, 22.5), (15, 33.5), (13, 21.5), (15, 2.5)),  
            ((4.5, 21.5), (11.0, 22.5), (15, 34.5), (12, 20.5), (14, 11.5)),  
            ((6.5, 30.5), (11.4, 11.5), (11, 33.5), (11, 23.5), (10, 2.5)),  
            ((6.5, 23.5), (11.4, 32.5), (13, 34.5), (11, 20.5), (16, 11.5)),  
            ((8.5, 26.5), (11.4, 52.5), (13, 36.5), (13, 24.5), (16, 2.5)),  
            ((11.5, 20.5), (11.4, 42.5), (13, 31.5), (12, 20.5), (16, 6.5)) )
```



`scores[0][1][0]` refers to the multiple-choice score for the first student's second exam.

Automatic Packing and Unpacking

- You can create a tuple from comma-separated values.
- This is called **automatic packing** of a tuple:

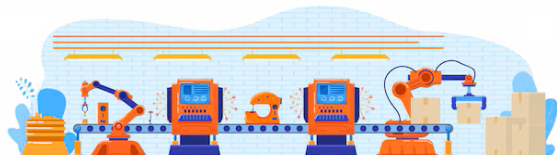
`t = 4, 5, 1`

```
return v1, v2
```

- This actually **returns a tuple** with values `v1` and `v2`.

```
v1, v2 = range(2, 4)
```

- This **unpacks a sequence**. The above statement assigns 2 and 3 to `v1` and `v2`.

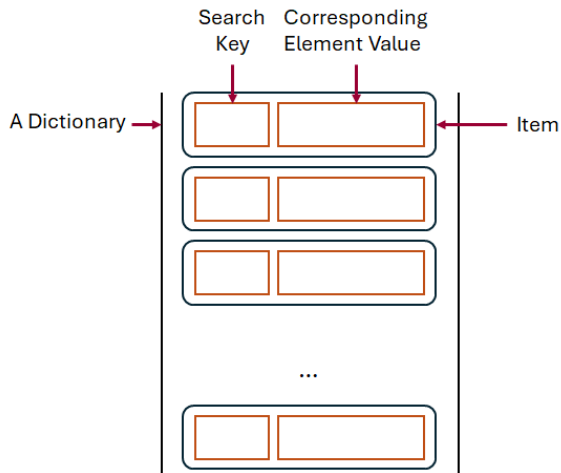


Dictionaries



Introduction

- A **dictionary** is a container object that **stores a collection of key/value pairs**.
- It enables fast retrieval, deletion, and updating of values using keys.
- A dictionary **cannot contain duplicate keys**; each key maps to one value, and its corresponding value forms an item (or entry) stored in the dictionary.
- The data structure is called a “dictionary” because it resembles a word dictionary, where the words are the keys and the definitions are the values.
- A **dictionary** is also **known as a map**, which **maps each key to a value**.



Dictionary Basics

```
my_dict1 = {}           # Create an empty dictionary
my_dict2 = dict()        # Create an empty dictionary

my_dict3 = { "21053124": "Tammy",          # Create a dictionary with two items
             "21543257": "Elvis" }         # The item is in the form key:value.
# The key in the first item is 21053124, and its corresponding value is Tammy.
# Note: The key must be of a hashable type such as numbers and strings.
#       The value can be of any type.

my_dict4 = dict(name="Tammy", id="Elvis")  # Create a dictionary with two items
# The key in the first item is name, and its corresponding value is Tammy.

my_dict5 = dict([ ("21053124", "Tammy"),    # Create a dictionary using a list of tuples
                  ("21543257", "Elvis") ])

my_dict6 = { x: x ** 2 for x in range(5) }  # Create a dictionary using
# dictionary comprehension
```

Note

Keys of dictionary are not limited to strings.

Functions for Dictionaries

```
def main(): # Filename: functions_for_dictionary.py
    students1 = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }
    students2 = { "22356267": "Peter", "25141321": "John" }

    print("21053124 in students1:", "21053124" in students1)
    print("21053124 not in students1:",
          "21053124" not in students1)

    # Error
    # print("students1 + students2:\n", students1 + students2)
    # print("2 * students1:", 2 * students1) # Error
    print("len(students1):", len(students1))
    print("min student ID:", min(students1))
    print("max student ID:", max(students1))
    for key in students1:
        print(key + ": " + str(students1[key]))

    # Error
    # print("students1 < students2:", students1 < students2)
    print("students1 == students2:", students1 == students2)
    print("students1 != students2:", students1 != students2)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

Output:

```
21053124 in students1: True
21053124 not in students1: False
len(students1): 2
min student ID: 21053124
max student ID: 21543257
21053124: Tammy
21543257: Elvis
students1 == students2: False
students1 != students2: True
```

Adding, Modifying, and Retrieving Values

- To **add an item** to a dictionary, use the syntax:

```
dictionaryName[key] = value
```

If the **key is already in the dictionary**, this statement **replaces the value for that key**.

- To **retrieve a value**, simply write an expression using:

```
dictionaryName[key]
```

If the **key is in the dictionary**, the **value for that key is returned**. Otherwise, an error occurs.

- To **delete an item** from a dictionary, use the syntax:

```
del dictionaryName[key]
```

This statement **deletes the item with the specified key from the dictionary**. If the **key is not in the dictionary**, an error occurs.

Example

```
def main():
    students = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }
    students["27272312"] = "Desmond"      # Add a new item
    print(students["27272312"])           # Print Desmond
    students["21053124"] = "Tammy Wong"   # Replace the value for the key "21053124"
    print(students["21053124"])           # Print Tammy Wong
    del students["27272312"]              # Delete the item with the key "27272312"
    # print(students["22222222"])          # Uncommenting this will raise a KeyError

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```



No Subscript Indices and Slicing for Dictionaries

- You **cannot use subscript indices** (e.g., `[0]`, `[1]`, etc.) to access dictionary elements in Python by default because dictionaries are meant to be accessed by keys, not positions.
- Also, dictionaries **do not support slicing** (e.g., `dict[1:3]`).



Traversing Elements in a Dictionary

```
def main():
    students = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }

    # Accessing Values by Key during Iteration
    for key in students:
        print(key + ": " + str(students[key]))

    # Iterating through Keys
    for key in students.keys():
        print(key)

    # Iterating through Values
    for value in students.values():
        print(value)

    # Iterating through Key-Value Pairs
    for key, value in students.items():
        print(str(key) + ": " + str(value))

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```



Dictionary Comprehensions

- **Dictionary comprehension** is a **concise syntax that creates a dictionary** by processing another sequence of data.
- A dictionary comprehension **consists of {} containing an expression followed by a for clause** and then zero or more for or if clauses.
- The dictionary comprehension produces a dictionary with the results from evaluating the expression.

```
dict1 = {x: x**2 for x in range(5)}  
print(dict1)  # Print {0: 0, 1: 1, 2: 4, 3: 9, 4: 16}
```

```
dict2 = {key: value for key, value in dict1.items() if key > 2}  
print(dict2)  # Print {3: 9, 4: 16}
```

```
dict3 = {key: value for key, value in dict2.items() if value > 10}  
print(dict3)  # Print {4: 16}
```



The Dictionary Methods

Method	Description
<code>clear()</code> : None	Removes all the items from the dictionary.
<code>get(key, default)</code>	Returns the value for the specified key. If the key is not found, it returns default (defaults to None if not specified).
<code>items()</code> : tuple	Returns a view object containing a list of key-value pairs as tuples.
<code>keys()</code> : tuple	Returns a view object containing a list of all keys in the dictionary.
<code>pop(key, default)</code> : value	Removes the item with the specified key and returns its value. If the key is not found and default is provided, it returns default; otherwise, it raises a <code>KeyError</code> .
<code>popitem()</code> : tuple	Removes and returns the last inserted key-value pair as a tuple.
<code>update(other_dict)</code> : None	Updates the dictionary with key-value pairs from <code>other_dict</code> . If a key from <code>other_dict</code> already exists in the original dictionary, its value is updated. Otherwise, the new key-value pair is added.
<code>values()</code> : tuple	Returns a view object containing a list of values in the dictionary.

Examples

```
students = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }
```

Output:

```
print(tuple(students.keys()))  
print(tuple(students.values()))  
print(students.get("21053124"))  
print(students.get("2222222"))  
print(students.pop("21053124"))  
print(students)  
print(students.items())  
students.clear()  
print(students)
```

```
('21053124', '21543257')  
('Tammy', 'Elvis')  
Tammy  
None  
Tammy  
{'21543257': 'Elvis'}  
dict_items([('21543257', 'Elvis')])  
{}
```



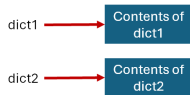
Copying Dictionaries

Question

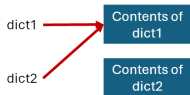
Does `dict2 = dict1` duplicate a dictionary?

- The above statement does not copy the contents of the dictionary referenced by `dict1` to `dict2`.
- It copies the reference from `dict1` to `dict2`.
- After this statement, `dict1` and `dict2` refer to the same dictionary.

Before the assignment:
`dict2 = dict1`



After the assignment:
`dict2 = dict1`



```
dict1 = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }
dict2 = { "22312315": "John", "2251525": "Peter" }
print(id(dict1))    # Print 132575574499392
print(id(dict2))    # Print 132575574492736
dict2 = dict1
print(id(dict2))    # Print 132575574499392
```

- The dictionary previously referenced by `dict2` is no longer referenced. The memory space occupied by that dictionary will be automatically collected and reused by the Python interpreter.

How to duplicate a dictionary?

Copying Dictionaries

- Shallow Copy

- Dictionary comprehension

```
dict1 = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }  
dict2 = { key: value for key, value in dict1.items() }
```

- Dictionary constructor

```
dict1 = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }  
dict2 = dict(dict1)
```

- Deep Copy

- Using `copy.deepcopy()`

```
import copy  
dict1 = { "21053124": "Tammy", "21543257": "Elvis" }  
dict2 = copy.deepcopy(dict1)
```



Shallow copies share references to nested objects, while deep copies create independent copies.

Note

- **Tuples** can be used as **keys in dictionaries** if all elements are immutable, and as **elements of sets (a self-study topic)**, while lists cannot.
- Here is an example:

```
my_dict1 = {(x, x+1): x for x in range(10)}
```

```
my_tuple = (5,6)
```

```
print(my_dict1[my_tuple])    # Print 5
```

```
print(my_dict1[(1,2)])       # Print 1
```

```
# my_dict2 = { [x, x+1]: x for x in range(10) } # Error
```

```
# my_set = { [1,2,3], [4] } # Error
```



When to Use Each Container Data Type?

• Lists

- Use when you **need an ordered sequence of items** that **can be modified** (add, remove, change).
- Suitable for scenarios where the **order of elements matters**.

• Tuples

- Use when you **need an ordered sequence of items** that **should not be modified** after creation.
- Tuples are immutable and are often used to represent **fixed collections of items**.
- Tuples can be used as keys in dictionaries when you need to associate multiple values with a single key.
- Iterating through a tuple is faster than iterating through a list.

• Dictionaries

- Use when you **need to store key-value pairs** and perform fast lookups based on keys.
- Dictionaries are ideal for **representing mappings between items**.
- Useful for associating data with specific identifiers or labels.

Key Terms

- Dictionary
- Dictionary comprehension
- Immutable tuple
- Key/Value pair
- Tuple

Review Questions

Fill in the blanks in each of the following sentences about the Python environment.

1. You can use a _____ loop to traverse all elements in a _____, _____, _____, and _____.
2. A _____ is an immutable list. You cannot add, delete, or replace elements in a _____.

Answer: 1. for; list; tuple; set; dictionary, 2. tuple; tuple.

Further Reading

- Read Chapters 7 & 14 of the textbook “Introduction to Python Programming and Data Structures”.



That's all!

Any question?

