



Using dictionaries

Jason Myers Instructor



Creating and looping through dictionaries

- Hold data in key/value pairs
- Nestable (use a dictionary as the value of a key within a dictionary)
- Iterable
- Created by dict() or {}



Safely finding by key

- Getting a value from a dictionary is done using the key as an index
- If you ask for a key that does not exist that will stop your program from running in a KeyError



Safely finding by key (cont.)

- .get() method allows you to safely access a key without error or exception handling
- If a key is not in the dictionary, .get() returns None by default or you can supply a value to return

```
In [5]: art_galleries.get('Louvre', 'Not Found')
Out[5]: 'Not Found'
In [6]: art_galleries.get('Zarre Andre Gallery')
Out[6]: '10011'
```



Working with nested data

- The .keys() method shows the keys for a given dictionary
- Common way to deal with repeating data structures
- Can be accessed using multiple indices or the .get() method





Let's practice!





Altering dictionaries

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Adding and extending dictionaries

- Assignment to add a new key/value to a dictionary
- .update() method to update a dictionary from another dictionary,

tuples or keywords



Popping and deleting from dictionaries

- del instruction deletes a key/value
- .pop() method safely removes a key/value from a dictionary.

```
In [1]: del art_galleries['11234']
In [2]: galleries_10310 = art_galleries.pop('10310')
In [3]: print(galleries_10310)
{'New Dorp Village Antiques Ltd': '(718) 815-2526'}
```





Let's practice!





Pythonically using dictionaries

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Working with dictionaries more pythonically

• .items() method returns an object we can iterate over

```
In [1]: for gallery, phone_num in art_galleries.items():
    ...:    print(gallery)
    ...:    print(phone_num)
'Miakey Art Gallery'
'(718) 686-0788'
'Morning Star Gallery Ltd'
'(212) 334-9330'}
'New York Art Expo Inc'
'(212) 363-8280'
```



Checking dictionaries for data

- .get() does a lot of work to check for a key
- in operator is much more efficient and clearer





Let's practice!