Alex Hoffer

Assignment 8: Written Component

I) Changes in Design:

I deviated from my original design in one fundamental way: instead of summing up singular variables that corresponded to the user's scores for each category, I implemented unique List structures that grabbed each score within the categories, and then I summed up these Lists within a separate function. To be honest, I don't think it made it any more efficient, simply because it wasn't necessary to contain the user's scores. That is, the total of their scores was what was important, and their individual values only mattered to the extent that they provided me a way to find the sum. So, the reason why I changed to the List strategy was because of the tempting extra credit option. Other than this big change, I believe the drafted version of the program and the implementation pretty much ran parallel to each other.

II) Error Handling:

I think I did a good job of pinpointing places where input could throw off the function. I utilized try-except-pass methodology to make sure that the user doesn't stray from the intended path. I have used these methods in all functions, including main. The structure I use most for this is to pass the function onwards and then once the function reaches its end the program will complain about insufficient or inaccurate information and will allow the user to try again.

Representative sample of this design:

```
try:
        numEx = int(input("Enter the number of exercises.");

except:
        print("Insufficient information.");
        pass;
```

This exists within the get_user_input() function and it does the following:

- Tells the program to *attempt* to convert a value imputed by the user to an integer value that will correspond to the number of exercises.
- Tells the program that if this attempt should be unsuccessful, funnel control into the exception, which will notify the user a “bad” value has been entered, and then will move the function onward. Since insufficient information has been entered, the program will halt at the conclusion of this function and re-start from main if the user so wishes.