1. **To what does a relative path refer?**
   * A relative path refers to a file or directory's location relative to the current working directory. It does not start with the root directory and is often used to navigate within the directory structure.
2. **What does an absolute path start with on your operating system?**
   * On Windows, an absolute path starts with a drive letter followed by a colon and a backslash (e.g., C:\).
   * On Unix-based systems (like Linux or macOS), an absolute path starts with a forward slash (/).
3. **What do the functions os.getcwd() and os.chdir() do?**
   * os.getcwd() returns the current working directory as a string.
   * os.chdir(path) changes the current working directory to the specified path.
4. **What are the . and .. folders?**
   * The . folder refers to the current directory.
   * The .. folder refers to the parent directory.
5. **In C:\\bacon\\eggs\\spam.txt, which part is the dir name, and which part is the base name?**
   * The dir name is C:\\bacon\\eggs\\.
   * The base name is spam.txt.
6. **What are the three "mode" arguments that can be passed to the open() function?**
   * The three common mode arguments are:
     + 'r': Open the file for reading (default mode).
     + 'w': Open the file for writing (creates a new file or truncates an existing file).
     + 'a': Open the file for appending (writes data to the end of the file without truncating it).
7. **What happens if an existing file is opened in write mode?**
   * If an existing file is opened in write mode ('w'), the file's contents are truncated (erased), and the file is treated as a new empty file. Any data previously in the file is lost.
8. **How do you tell the difference between read() and readlines()?**
   * read() reads the entire file content as a single string.
   * readlines() reads the entire file content and returns it as a list of strings, where each string represents a line in the file.
9. **What data structure does a shelf value resemble?**
   * A shelf value resembles a dictionary. It allows us to store and retrieve data using key-value pairs, but the data is persisted to a file, making it suitable for storing data between program runs.