

File Handling in Python -

Introduction to File Handling

Definition:

File handling in Python allows you to read, write, and manipulate files directly from a Python program. It is essential for storing data persistently and interacting with external data sources.

Syntax:

No specific syntax, but the built-in `open()` function is used to work with files.

Example:

```
file = open("example.txt", "r")
print(file.read())
file.close()
```

Opening a File

Definition:

Files in Python are opened using the `open()` function. The function takes the filename and mode as arguments.

Syntax:

```
open("filename", "mode")
```

Example:

```
file = open("sample.txt", "w")
file.write("Hello World!")
file.close()
```

File Modes

Definition:

The mode parameter defines the operation to perform on the file:

- 'r' : Read (default)
- 'w' : Write
- 'a' : Append
- 'b' : Binary
- '+' : Read and Write

Syntax:

```
open("filename", "mode")
```

Example:

```
file = open("data.txt", "a")
file.write("\nAppending new data")
file.close()
```

Reading a File

Definition:

Python provides methods to read a file: `read()`, `readline()`, `readlines()`.

Syntax:

`file.read(size)`, `file.readline()`, `file.readlines()`

Example:

```
file = open("example.txt", "r")
print(file.read(10)) # Reads first 10 characters
file.close()
```

Writing to a File

Definition:

You can write content to a file using `write()` or `writelines()`.

Syntax:

`file.write(string)`, `file.writelines(list)`

Example:

```
file = open("example.txt", "w")
file.write("Python File Handling!")
file.close()
```

Appending to a File

Definition:

Appending allows you to add content to an existing file without overwriting it.

Syntax:

`open("filename", "a")`

Example:

```
file = open("example.txt", "a")
file.write("\nNew line added")
file.close()
```

Closing a File

Definition:

After working with a file, you should close it to free system resources.

Syntax:

`file.close()`

Example:

```
file = open("example.txt", "r")
print(file.read())
file.close()
```

Using with Statement

Definition:

Using 'with' ensures the file is closed automatically after use.

Syntax:

```
with open("filename", "mode") as file:
```

Example:

```
with open("example.txt", "r") as file:  
    print(file.read())
```

File Object Methods

Definition:

Common methods: file.read(), file.write(), file.tell(), file.close().

Syntax:

```
file.method()
```

Example:

```
file = open("example.txt", "r")  
print(file.tell()) # Current position  
file.close()
```

Deleting a File

Definition:

You can delete a file using the os module.

Syntax:

```
os.remove('filename')
```

Example:

```
import os  
os.remove("example.txt")
```