C4M Homework: Phase II: Project 1 Preparation Exercise 3, Part B

A file contains a list of patients and the symptoms they exhibit. Each line contains the name of a patient, and all of their symptoms. Write a function with the signature read_in_symptoms(filename) that takes the name of the file, and returns a dictionary whose keys are the patient names and whose values are lists of symptoms that correspond to patients. Assume that only the first name of the patient is given (and it contains no spaces), and that symptoms are all described using one word.

For example, read_in_symptoms("sym_data1.txt") should return

{'bob': ['nausea', 'lightheadedness'], 'frank': ['fever']}.

We have provided a short Python program that you must use to test your submission. Download tester.py from the website and paste your function into the top of this file. Then run tester.py.

You are encouraged to look at tester.py to see what it is doing, but you don't actually have to understand anything about it to use it to test your submission. We've added some comments to the file to help you see how it works. 1

Once you are happy with your read_in_symptoms function, put it back in its own file called read_in_symptoms.py. Paste the output from running tester.py into the file as a comment so that the marker can see the output easily.

Submit your work on MarkUs.

¹You can learn more about the join method from: http://www.diveintopython.net/native_data_types/joining_lists.html