

ICS 104 - Introduction to Programming in Python and C

# **Lists, Tuples and Dictionaries**

## **Reading Assignment**

- Chapter 6 Sections 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Chapter 8 Sections 1 and 2.

# Chapters Learning Outcomes

**At the end of these two chapters, you will be able to**

- collect elements using lists
- use the for loop for traversing lists
- learn common algorithms for processing lists
- use lists with functions
- build and use a set container
- build and use a dictionary container
- work with a dictionary for table lookups

# Basic Properties of Lists

## Motivation

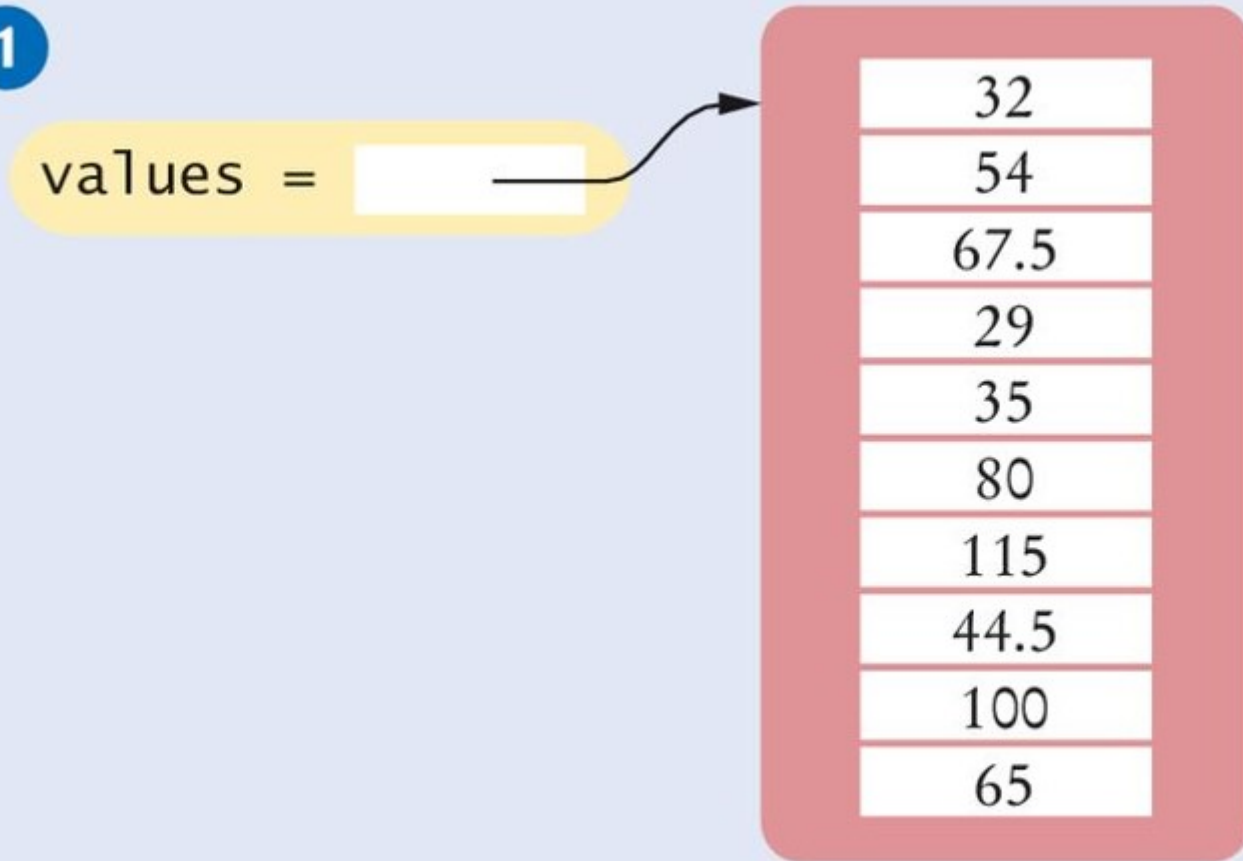
- Assume that you are given 10 values to store in a program for later processing (e.g. finding the largest element).
- One way to achieve this is to use 10 variables `value1`, `value2`, ..., `value10`.
- 32
- 54
- 67.5
- 29
- 35
- 80
- 115
- 44.5
- 100
- 65
- However, such a sequence of variables is not very practical to use. Why?
  - Because ...
- That is why we can use lists to overcome this difficulty.

# Creating Lists

- `values = [32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35, 80, 115, 44.5, 100, 65]`
  - The square brackets indicate that we are creating a list.
  - The items are stored in the order they are provided.

1

values =



A diagram illustrating the creation of a list. On the left, a yellow rounded rectangle contains the text 'values =' followed by a white rectangular input field. An arrow points from this input field to a red rounded rectangle on the right. Inside the red rectangle is a vertical list of ten white rectangular boxes, each containing a number. The numbers are: 32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35, 80, 115, 44.5, 100, and 65.

32
54
67.5
29
35
80
115
44.5
100
65

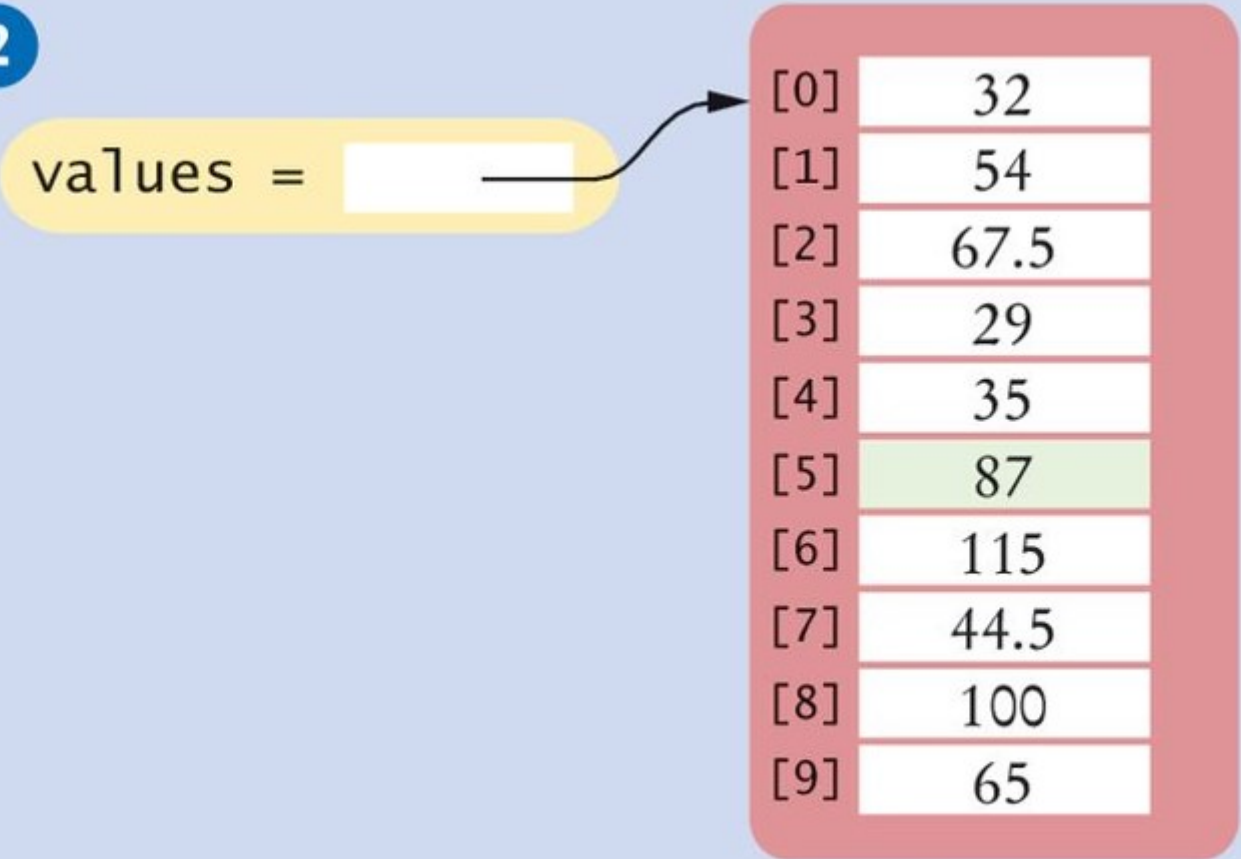
Create a list with ten elements

# Accessing List Elements

- A list is a sequence of elements, each of which has an integer position or index
- To access a list element, you specify which index you want to use.
  - This is done with the subscript operator in the same way that you access individual characters in a **string**.

2

values =



[0]	32
[1]	54
[2]	67.5
[3]	29
[4]	35
[5]	87
[6]	115
[7]	44.5
[8]	100
[9]	65

Access a list element

```
In [ ]: values = [32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35, 80, 115, 44.5, 100, 65]
values[5]=87
print(values[5])
print(type(values[2]))
print(type(values[3]))
```

## Differences between Lists and Strings

- There are two differences between **lists** and **strings**
  - Lists can hold values of any type, whereas strings are sequences of characters.
  - Strings are immutable — you cannot change the characters in the sequence. But lists are mutable.



### *Syntax*

To create a list:

*[value<sub>1</sub>, value<sub>2</sub>, . . . ]*

To access an element:

*listReference[index]*

Name of list variable

moreValues = []

Creates an empty list

values = [32, 54, 67, 29, 35, 80, 115]

Creates a list  
with initial values

Initial values

Use brackets to access an element.

values[i] = 0

element = values[i]

- What is the difference between the following?
  - `values[4]`
  - `values = [4]`

- When accessing a variable in a list, the index of the list must stay within the valid range.
  - Otherwise, an **out-of-range** error will result from using an index not in the range.

```
In [ ]: values = [32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35, 80, 115, 44.5, 100, 65]  
        values[10]=87
```

- One can use the **len** function to obtain the length of the list.

# List Traversal

- **List traversal** refers to visiting (and may be processing) each element in the list once.
- There are two ways to traverse a list:

```
In [ ]: values = [32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35, 80, 115, 44.5, 100, 65]
```

```
In [ ]: # You have access to index values and elements  
for i in range(len(values)) :  
    print(i, values[i])
```

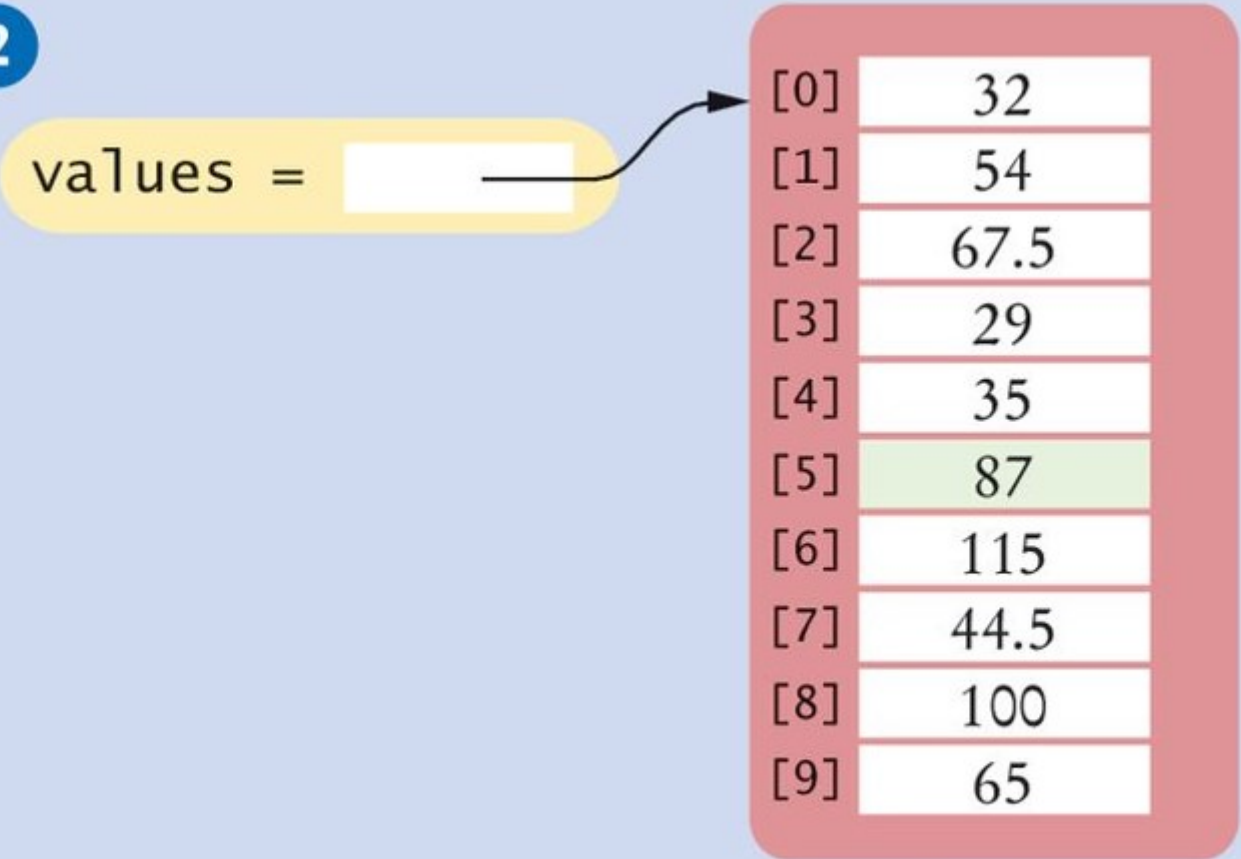
```
In [ ]: # You only have access to elements  
for element in values :  
    print(element)
```

# List References

- Make sure you see the difference between the:
  - List variable: The named *alias* or pointer to the list
  - List contents: Memory where the values are stored
    - which is usually elsewhere

2

values =



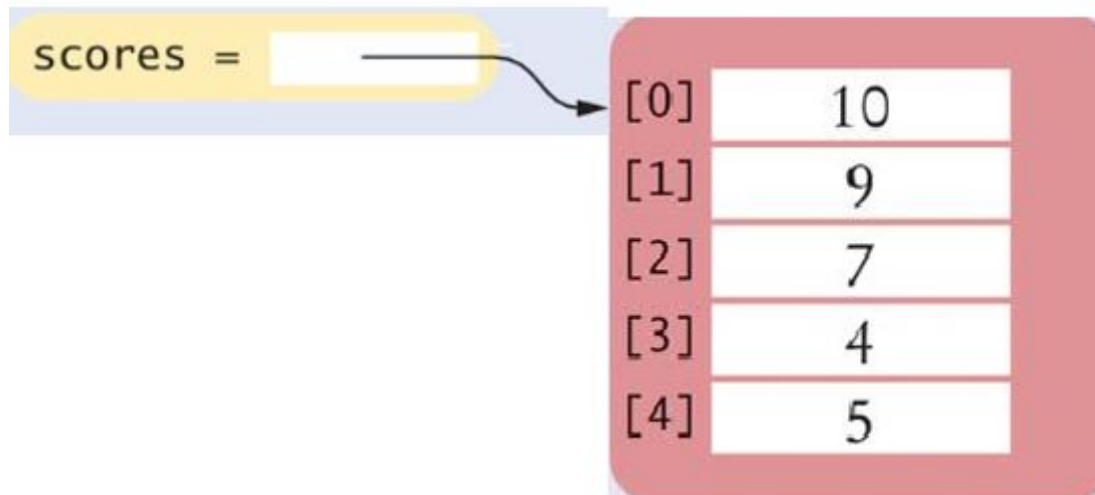
[0]	32
[1]	54
[2]	67.5
[3]	29
[4]	35
[5]	87
[6]	115
[7]	44.5
[8]	100
[9]	65

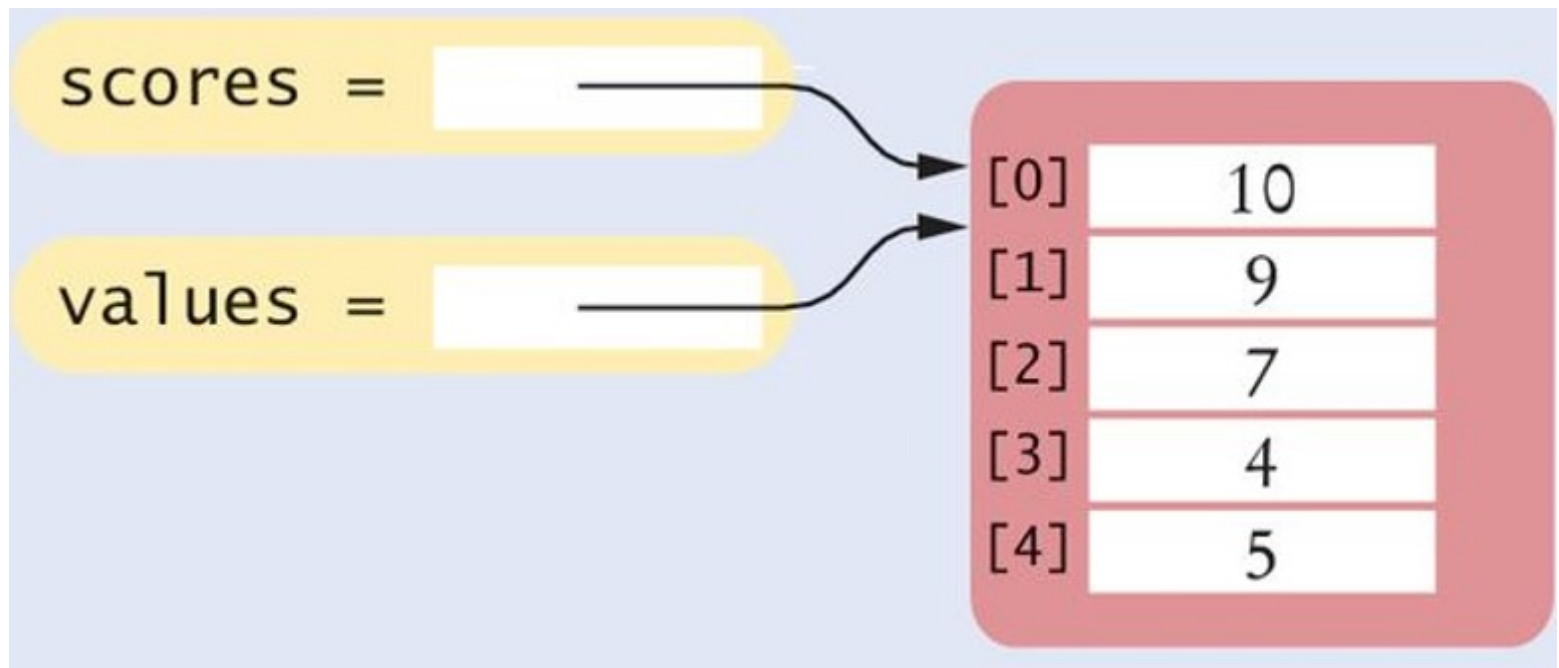
Access a list element

- A list variable contains a **reference** to the list contents.
- The **reference** is the location of the list contents (in memory).

- That is why when you assign a list variable into another, both variables refer to the same list
  - The second variable is an **alias** for the first because both variables reference the same list

```
In [ ]: scores = [10, 9, 7, 4, 5]  
        values = scores
```





```
In [ ]: scores[3] = 10  
        print(values[3])
```



## Student Activity

- Define a list of integers, `primes`, containing the first five prime numbers.
- What does the list `primes` contain after executing the following loop.

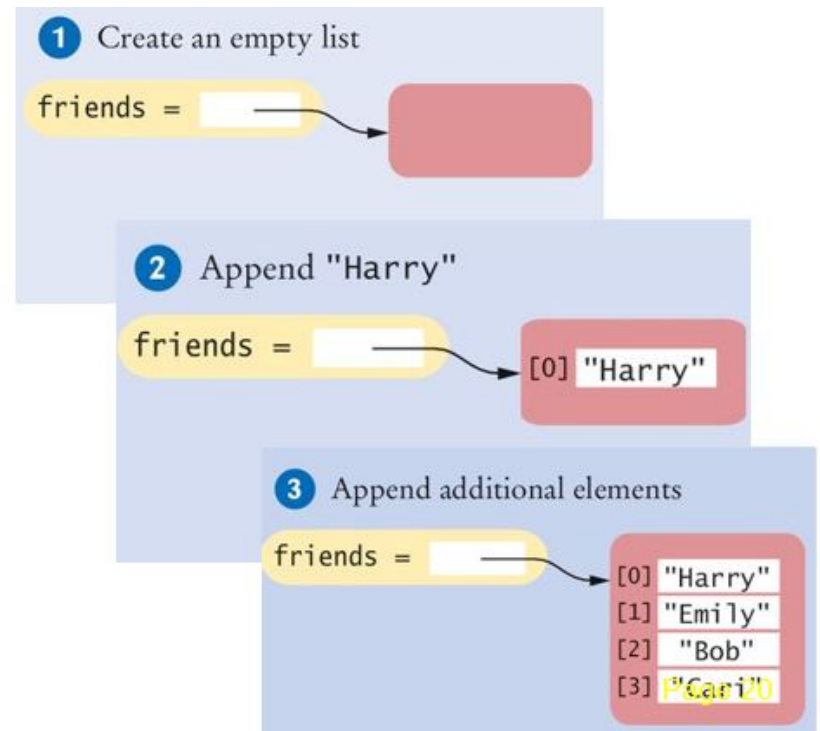
```
In [ ]: ## Student Activity  
# primes  
for i in range(2) :  
    primes[4 - i] = primes[i]
```

# List Operations

## Appending Elements

- If we do not know all the elements of a list, beforehand, we can create an empty list and add elements to the end as needed.

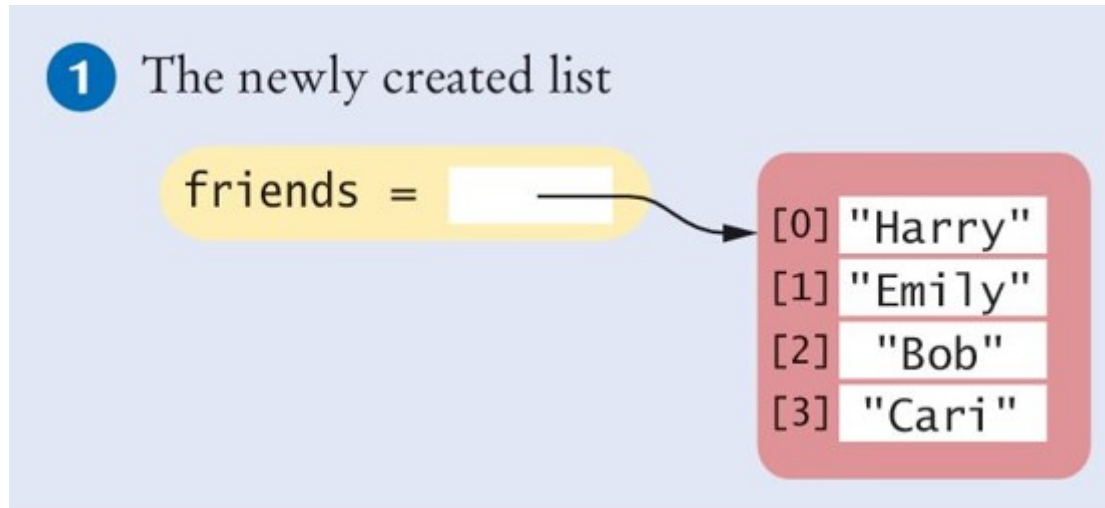
```
#1  
friends = []  
  
#2  
friends.append("Harry")  
  
#3  
friends.append("Emily")  
friends.append("Bob")  
friends.append("Cari")
```



# Inserting Elements

- Sometimes the order in which elements are added to a list is important
- A new element has to be inserted at a specific position in the list
- e.g.,

```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari"]
```



```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari"]
friends.insert(1, "Cindy")
print(friends)
```

2 After `names.insert(1, "Cindy")`

`friends =`

[0]	"Harry"
[1]	"Cindy"
[2]	"Emily"
[3]	"Bob"
[4]	"Cari"

New element added at index 1

Elements at indexes 1-3  
moved to create slot  
at index 1

- Note that the index at which the new element is to be inserted must be between 0 and the number of elements currently in the list.

## Finding an Element

- We can determine whether the element is in the list or not

```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari", "Emily"]
if "Cindy" in friends :
    print("She's a friend")
```

- We can, further, determine the index of the element if it is in the list.

```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari", "Emily"]
n = friends.index("Emily")
print(n)
```

# Removing an Element

- The `pop()` method removes the element at a given position.

```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Cindy", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari", "Bill"]  
        friends.pop(1)  
        print(friends)
```

- The `pop()` method without an argument will remove the last element in the list.

```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Cindy", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari", "Bill"]  
        friends.pop()  
        print(friends)
```

- The element removed from the list is **returned** by the `pop()` method.

```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Cindy", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari", "Bill"]  
        print(friends.pop())  
        print(friends)
```

- The remove method removes an element by ***value*** instead of by ***position***.

```
In [ ]: friends = ["Harry", "Cindy", "Emily", "Bob", "Cari", "Bill"]
        friends.remove("Cari")
        print(friends)
```

- Note that the value being removed must be in the list or an exception is raised.

# Concatenation and Replication

- The concatenation of two lists is a new list that contains the elements of the first list, followed by the elements of the second.
- This is accomplished using the concatenation operator `+`.

```
In [ ]: myFriends = ["Fritz", "Cindy"]  
        yourFriends = ["Lee", "Pat", "Phuong"]  
        ourFriends = myFriends + yourFriends  
        print(ourFriends)
```

- If you want to concatenate the same list multiple times, use the replication operator `*`.

```
In [ ]: # Repeating the same list multiple times  
        monthInQurater = [1, 2, 3] * 4  
        print(monthInQurater)
```

```
In [ ]: # Replication can be used to initialize a list with a fixed value  
        monthlyScores = [0] * 12  
        print(monthlyScores)
```



## Equality Testing

- You can use the == operator to compare whether two lists have the same elements, in the same order.
- Similarly, you can use the != operator to compare whether two lists are different.

```
In [ ]: l1 = [1, 4, 9] == [1, 4, 9]      # Result is  
        l2 = [1, 4, 9 ] == [4, 1, 9]    # Result is  
        l3 = [1, 4, 9] != [1, 4]        # Result is
```

```
In [ ]: print("l1 is", l1, ", l2 is", l2, "and l3 is", l3)
```

# Copying Lists

- Given a list **values**, if we want to make a copy of it, does the following work?

```
In [ ]: values = [32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35, 80, 115, 44.5, 100, 65]
        anotherCopy = values
        print(values)
        print(anotherCopy)
        anotherCopy[2] = -1
        print(values)
        print(anotherCopy)
```

- In order to make a copy of the list, use the **list()** function.

```
In [ ]: values = [32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35, 80, 115, 44.5, 100, 65]
        anotherCopy = list(values)
        print(values)
        print(anotherCopy)
        anotherCopy[2] = -1
        print(values)
        print(anotherCopy)
```

# Common List Algorithms

- In this section, we will see different tasks that cannot, in general, be performed using a pre-defined library function.
- Refer to the textbook for more examples.

## Filling

- Write Python code that will generate a list of squares (0, 1, 4, 9, 16, ..., 100).

```
In [ ]: values = []  
        for i in range(11) :  
            values.append(i * i)  
        print(values)
```

# Linear Search

- Write Python code to find the index of the first value greater than 100 in a list of numbers. Your code should display Not Found if such element does not exist.

```
In [ ]: values = [-1, 5, 19, 22, 33, 106] * 7
        limit = 100
        pos = 0
        found = False
        while pos < len(values) and not found :
            if values[pos] > limit :
                found = True
            else :
                pos = pos + 1

        if found :
            print("Found at position:", pos)
        else :
            print("Not found")
```

# Swapping Elements

- Given a list of values, values, swap the first element with the last element
- Does the following code work?

```
In [ ]: values = [-1, 5, 19, 22, 33, 106]
        values[0] = values[len(values)-1]
        values[len(values)-1] = values[0]
```

```
In [ ]: print(values)
```

- What we need to do is store the first value **somewhere** before assigning it to the other element.

```
In [ ]: values = [-1, 5, 19, 22, 33, 106]
        temp = values[0]
        values[0] = values[len(values)-1]
        values[len(values)-1] = temp
        print(values)
```

# Using Lists with Functions

- A function can accept a list as an argument.
- The following function multiplies all elements of a list by a given factor:

```
In [ ]: def multiply(values, factor) :  
        for i in range(len(values)) :  
            values[i] = values[i] * factor  
scores = [32, 54, 67.5, 29, 35]  
multiply (scores, 10)
```

```
In [ ]: # Do you think that the values of the list scores will change?  
print(scores)
```

- The answer is yes. The reason is that values has a copy of the reference to the scores list.
- Let us see exactly what happened.

scores =



32

54

67.5

29

35

---

values =

factor =

scores =

values =

factor =

10

32

54

67.5

29

35



scores =

values =

factor =

10

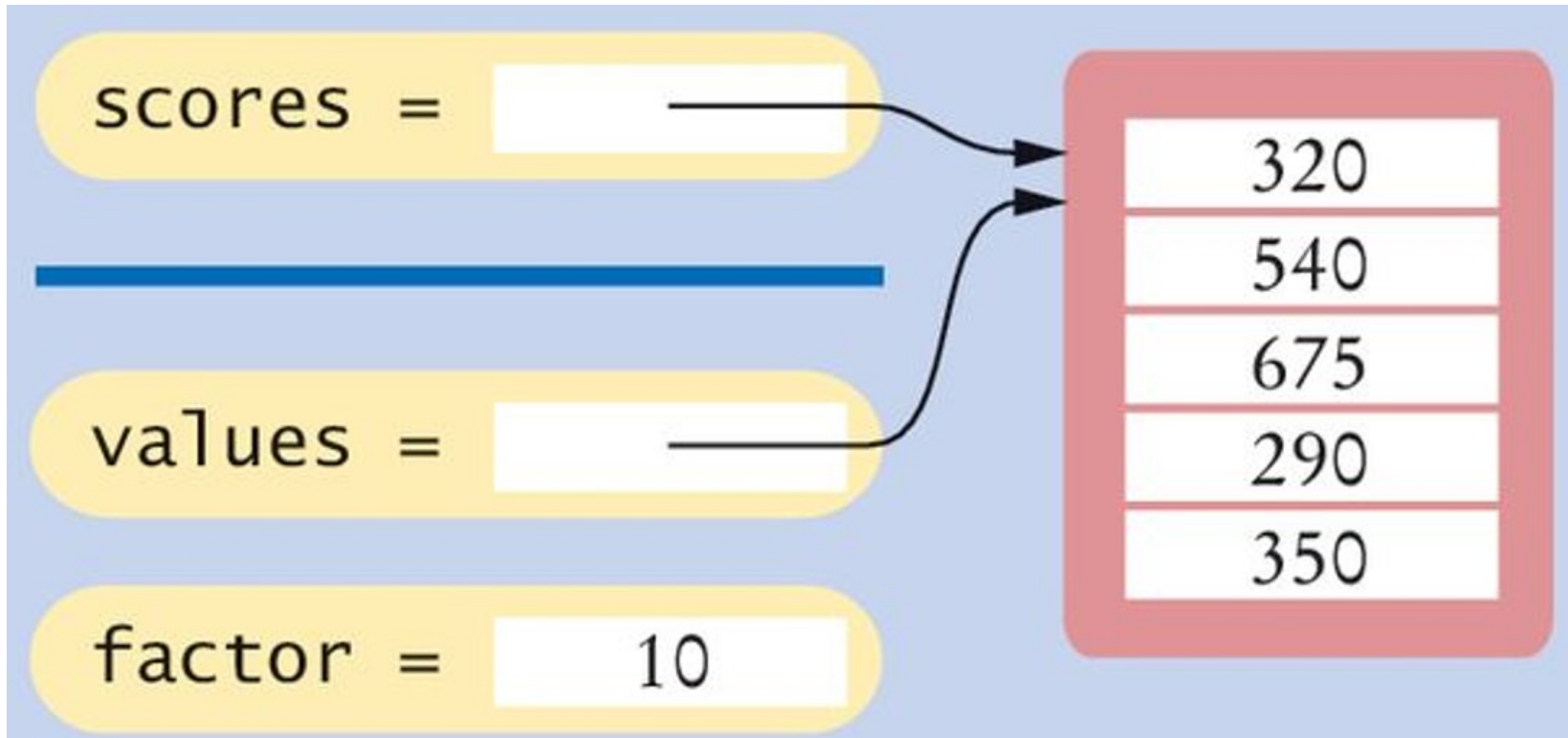
320

540

675

290

350



## Returning Lists from Functions

- Create and build the list inside the function and then return it.
- The following example function **squares** returns a list of squares from  $0^2$  up to  $(n-1)^2$ .

```
In [ ]: def squares(n) :  
        result = []  
        for i in range(n) :  
            result.append(i * i)  
        return result  
myList = squares(8)  
print(myList)
```

# Tuples

- A tuple is similar to a list, but once created, its contents cannot be modified.
  - i.e., a tuple is an immutable version of a list.
- A tuple is created by specifying its contents as a comma-separated sequence.
- You can either enclose the sequence in parentheses or omit them.

```
In [ ]: triple1 = (5, 10, 15)
        triple2 = 5, 10, 15
        print(triple1==triple2)
```

- Tuples are commonly used to return **multiple values** from functions

```
In [ ]: # Function definition
def readDate() :
    print("Enter a date:")
    month = int(input(" month: "))
    day = int(input(" day: "))
    year = int(input(" year: "))
    return (month, day, year) # Returns a tuple.

# Function call: assign entire value to a tuple
date = readDate()
print(date)

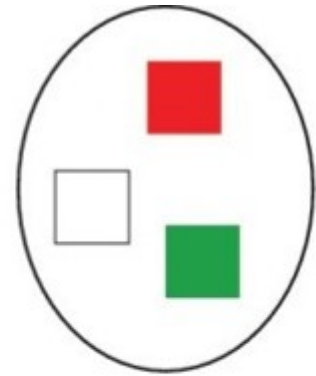
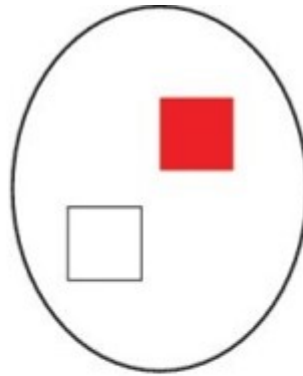
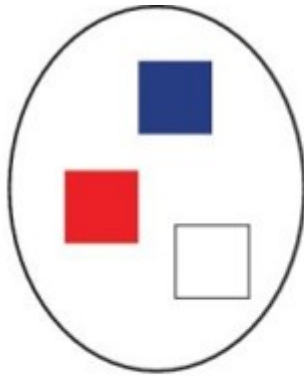
# Function call: use tuple assignment:
(month, day, year) = readDate()
print(day, "/", month, "/", year)
```

# Sets

- A set is a container that stores a collection of **unique** values.
  - Therefore, elements cannot be repeated in a set, *unlike* a list.
- Unlike a list, the elements or members of the set are not stored in any particular order and cannot be accessed by position.
- Operations are the same as the operations performed on sets in mathematics.
- Because sets do not need to maintain a particular order, set operations are much faster than the equivalent list operations.

# Examples of Sets

- Following are three examples of sets of color, the colors of the British, Canadian and Italian flags.



- As you can see,
  - the order does not matter, and
  - no color is repeated.

# Creating Sets

- To create an empty set,

```
In [ ]: ## Creating Empty Sets  
empty1 = {}    # This notation exists for historical reasons  
empty2 = set() # Preferred way of creating empty sets  
print(empty1)  
print(empty2)
```

- To create a set with initial values, you can either specify it the way we represent sets in mathematics, using the curly braces {}.

```
In [ ]: cast = { "Luigi", "Gumbys", "Spiny" }  
print(cast)
```

- Or, you can convert an already existing **list** into a set.

```
In [ ]: names = ["Luigi", "Gumbys", "Spiny", "Spiny"]  
cast = set(names)  
print(cast)
```

## Adding and Removing Elements

- Like lists, sets are mutable collections, so you can add and remove elements.
- New elements can be added using the add method

```
In [ ]: cast = set(["Luigi", "Gumbys", "Spiny"])  
cast.add("Arthur")  
print(cast)
```

- What do you think will happen when you try to add an element that is already in the set?



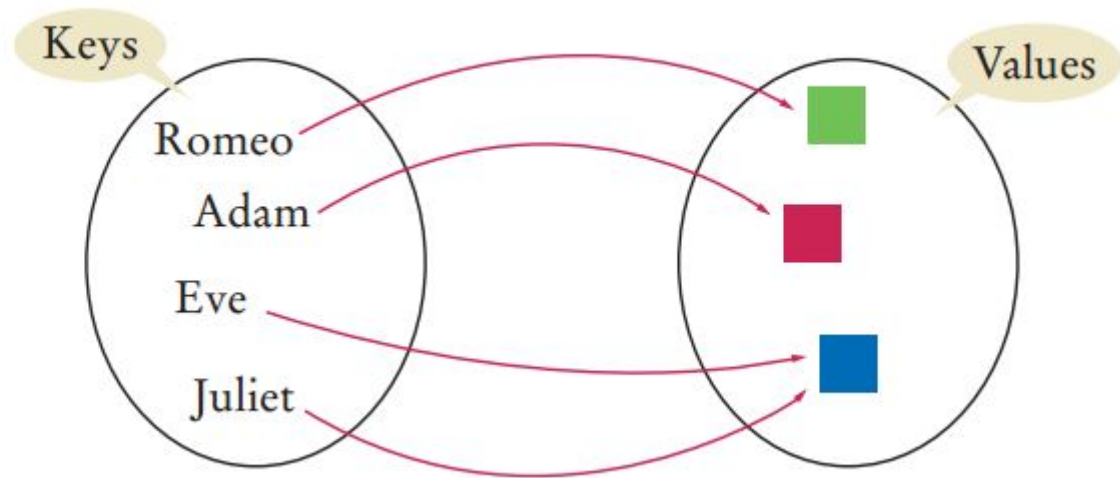
- Elements can be removed using either the `discard` method or the `remove` method.
- Both methods remove individual elements from a set, if those elements are in the set.
- If the element to be removed is not in the set
  - Using `discard` does not have any effect on the set or the program.
  - Using `remove` raises an exception.

```
In [ ]: cast = set(["Luigi", "Gumbys", "Spiny"])
        cast.discard("Spiny")
        print(cast)
        cast.discard("Spiny")
        print(cast)
```

```
In [ ]: cast = set(["Luigi", "Gumbys", "Spiny"])
        cast.remove("Spiny")
        print(cast)
        cast.remove("Spiny")
        print(cast)
```

# Dictionaries

- A dictionary is a container that keeps associations between **keys** and **values**.
  - Every key in the dictionary has an associated value.



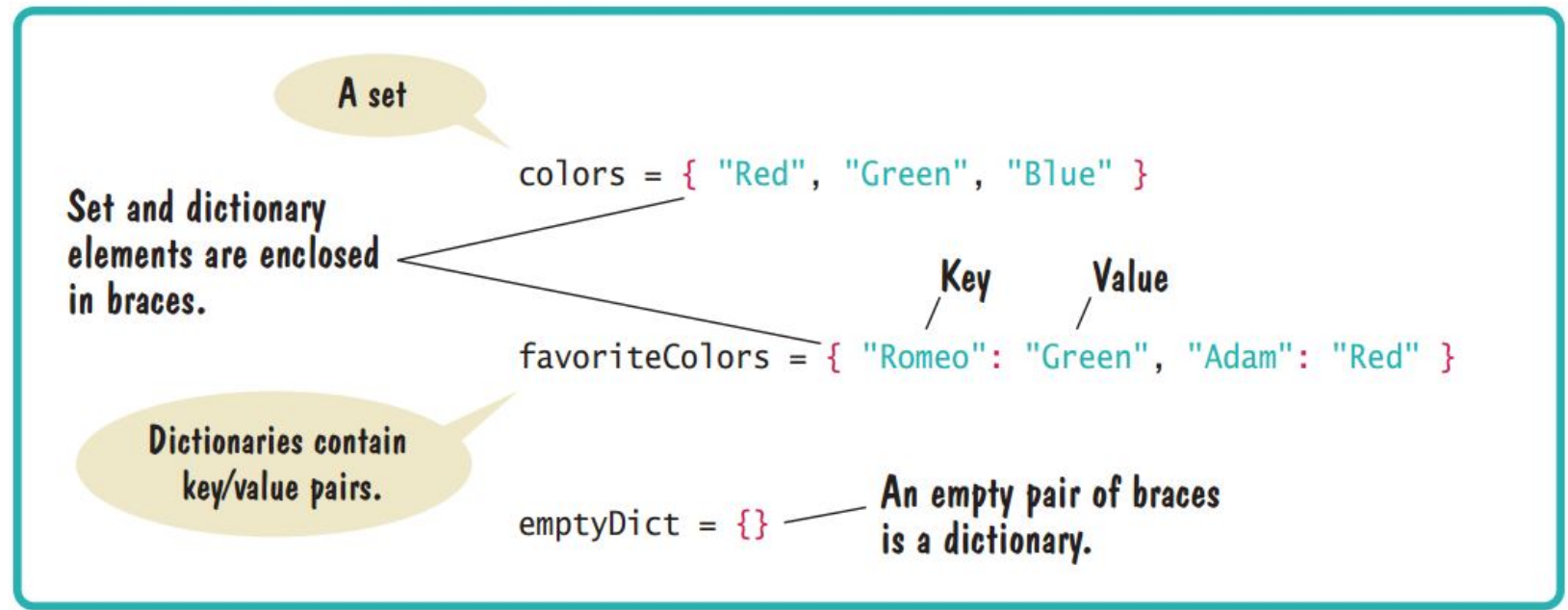
**Figure 7**  
A Dictionary

- Keys are unique, but a value may be associated with several keys.

```
In [ ]: favoriteColors = { "Romeo": "Green", "Adam": "Red", "John": "Blue", "Sam": "Red" }  
print(favoriteColors)
```

- The dictionary structure is also known as a **map** because it maps a unique key to a value.

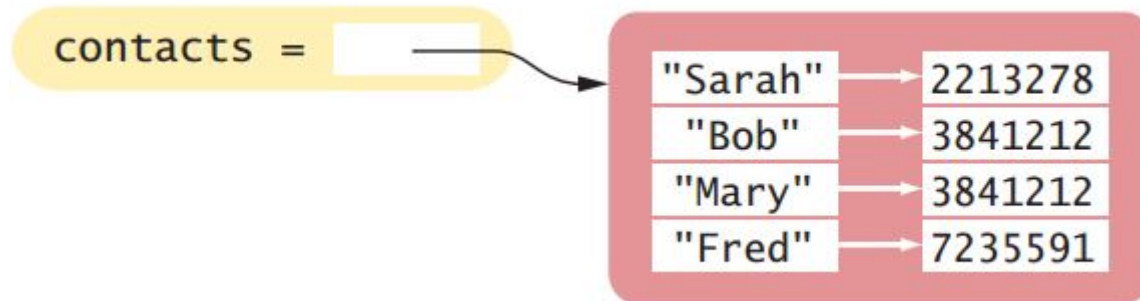
## Set and Dictionary Literals



# Creating Dictionaries

- A dictionary is created where each key:value pair is separated by a colon.
- The collection of key:value pairs are enclosed in braces.
- Note that when the braces contain key:value pairs, they denote a dictionary, not a set.
- The only ambiguous case is an empty {}. By convention, it denotes an empty dictionary, not an empty set.

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }  
print(contacts)
```



- You can create a duplicate copy of a dictionary using the `dict` function:

## Accessing Dictionary Values

- The subscript operator `[]` is used to return the value associated with a key.

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }  
print("Bob's number is", contacts["Bob"])
```

- Are the **key:value** pairs of the dictionary ordered?
- The answer is No. You cannot access the items by index or position.
  - A **value** can only be accessed using its associated **key**.

- Note that the key supplied to the subscript operator must be a valid key in the dictionary, otherwise a `KeyError` exception will be raised.

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }
if "John" in contacts :
    print("John's number is", contacts["John"])
else :
    print("John is not in my contact list.")
if "Sarah" not in contacts :
    print("Sarah is not in my contact list.")
else :
    print("Sarah's number is", contacts["Sarah"])
```

- Instead of using an `if` statement to make sure that a contact exists before you get its associated value, you can use the `get` method and supply it with a *default value* to return, if the key was not in the dictionary.

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }
myContact = "Fred"
myNumber = contacts.get(myContact, 411)
print("The phone number of " + myContact + " is " + str(myNumber))
```

## Adding and Modifying Items in a Dictionary

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }
contacts["John"] = 2034847 # Adding a new contact
print(contacts)
contacts["John"] = 2037663 # Modifying the value of a contact
print(contacts)
```

```
In [ ]: favoriteColors = {} # In case we do not know the elements of the dictionary beforehand
favoriteColors["Juliet"] = "Blue" # Add a key:value pair to the dictionary
favoriteColors["Adam"] = "Red" # Add a key:value pair to the dictionary
favoriteColors["Eve"] = "Blue" # Add a key:value pair to the dictionary
favoriteColors["Romeo"] = "Green" # Add a key:value pair to the dictionary
print(favoriteColors)
```

## Removing a key from a Dictionary

- Call the pop method with the key as the argument.
- pop returns the value of the removed key.
- A KeyError exception is raised if the key to be removed is not in the dictionary.

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }  
fredsNumber = contacts.pop("Fred")  
print(contacts)
```



# Traversing a Dictionary

- To access the value associated with a key in the body of the loop, you can use the loop variable with the subscript operator.

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }  
print("My Contacts:")  
for key in contacts :  
    print("%-10s %d" % (key, contacts[key] ))
```

- To iterate through the keys in sorted order, you can use the sorted function as part of the for loop:

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212, "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }  
print("My Contacts:")  
for key in sorted(contacts) :  
    print("%-10s %d" % (key, contacts[key] ))
```

- You can also iterate over the values of the items, instead of the keys, using the `values` method.
- This can be useful for creating a list that contains all of the phone numbers in our dictionary:

```
In [ ]: contacts = { "Fred": 7235591, "Mary": 3841212,  
                    "Bob": 3841212, "Sarah": 2213278 }  
phoneNumbers = [] # Create an empty list.  
for number in contacts.values() :  
    phoneNumbers.append(number)  
print(phoneNumbers)
```

- This can also be achieved through the `list` function.

```
In [ ]: samePhoneNumbers = list(contacts.values())  
print(samePhoneNumbers)
```

# Summary

- Use lists for collecting values.
- Know and use the built-in operations for lists.
- Know and use common list algorithms.
- Implement functions that process lists.
- Understand the concept of a set and some operations on it.
- Work with Python dictionaries.