Exercise 1.7: Finalizing Your Python Program

Learning Goals

- Interact with a database using an object-relational mapper
- Build your final command-line Recipe application

Reflection Questions

1. What is an Object Relational Mapper and what are the advantages of using one?

   An ORM converts the content and structure of the database into objects and classes. This way you don't need SQL anymore but can directly interact with the database via python.

2. By this point, you've finished creating your Recipe app. How did it go? What's something in the app that you did well with? If you were to start over, what's something about your app that you would change or improve?

   Overall developing the recipe app went pretty well and I am happy with the process and the end result.
   I did not hit any brick walls or had any bugs I couldn't figure out.
   If I had to start over, I would most likely do everything quite the same way, but focus on validating user input a bit earlier.

3. Imagine you're at a job interview. You're asked what experience you have creating an app using Python. Taking your work for this Achievement as an example, draft how you would respond to this question.

   During my course at Career Foundry, I built an app that connects to a local MySQL database via the ORM SQLAlchemy. The app runs inside the terminal and therefore the UI is solely text based, which lead to a a good amount of user input validating. The user can create, view all, edit, and delete recipes.

4. You've finished Achievement 1! Before moving on to Achievement 2, take a moment to reflect on your learning in the course so far:
   a. What went well during this Achievement?
      I committed to one mentor call and at least one (mostly two) exercises per week and kept to it. This way the first achievement came quite easy and quick.

   b. What's something you're proud of?
      Sticking to my commitment and getting good feedback about my work.

   c. What was the most challenging aspect of this Achievement?
      The most challenging for me was figuring out when and where to use try-except-clauses and exceptions and when to check via an if/elif/else-condition.

   d. Did this Achievement meet your expectations? Did it give you the confidence to start working with your new Python skills?
      Yes and yes.

   e. What's something you want to keep in mind to help you do your best in Achievement 2?
      Sticking to my commitments. ;-)