:mod:`email`: Examples

Here are a few examples of how to use the :mod:`email` package to read, write, and send simple email messages, as well as more complex MIME messages.

First, let's see how to create and send a simple text message (both the text content and the addresses may contain unicode characters):

Parsing RFC 822 headers can easily be done by the using the classes from the :mod:`~email.parser` module:

Here's an example of how to send a MIME message containing a bunch of family pictures that may be residing in a directory:

Here's an example of how to send the entire contents of a directory as an email message: [1]

Here's an example of how to unpack a MIME message like the one above, into a directory of files:

System Message: ERROR/3 (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\cpython-main\Doc\library\[cpython-main][Doc][library]email.examples.rst`, line 36)

Unknown directive type "literalinclude".

```
.. literalinclude:: ../includes/email-unpack.py
```

Here's an example of how to create an HTML message with an alternative plain text version. To make things a bit more interesting, we include a related image in the html part, and we save a copy of what we are going to send to disk, as well as sending it.

System Message: ERROR/3 (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\cpython-main\Doc\library\[cpython-main][Doc][library]email.examples.rst`, line 44)

Unknown directive type "literalinclude".

```
.. literalinclude:: ../includes/email-alternative.py
```

If we were sent the message from the last example, here is one way we could process it:

System Message: ERROR/3 (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\cpython-main\Doc\library\[cpython-main][Doc][library]email.examples.rst`, line 50)

Unknown directive type "literalinclude".

```
.. literalinclude:: ../includes/email-read-alternative.py
```

Up to the prompt, the output from the above is:

System Message: WARNING/2 (`D:\onboarding-resources\sample-onboarding-resources\cpython-main\Doc\library\[cpython-main][Doc][library]email.examples.rst`, line 54)

Cannot analyze code. No Pygments lexer found for "none".

```
.. code-block:: none

    To: Penelope Pussycat <penelope@example.com>, Fabrette Pussycat <fabrette@example.com>
    From: Pepé Le Pew <pepe@example.com>
    Subject: Ayons asperges pour le déjeuner

    Salut!

    Cela ressemble à  un excellent recipie[1] déjeuner.
```

Footnotes

[1]   Thanks to Matthew Dixon Cowles for the original inspiration and examples.