

9.G: DICTIONARIES (GLOSSARY)



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dictionary

A mapping from a set of keys to their corresponding values.

hashtable

The algorithm used to implement Python dictionaries.

hash function

A function used by a hashtable to compute the location for a key.

histogram

A set of counters.

implementation

A way of performing a computation.

item

Another name for a key-value pair.

key

An object that appears in a dictionary as the first part of a key-value pair.

key-value pair

The representation of the mapping from a key to a value.

lookup

A dictionary operation that takes a key and finds the corresponding value.

nested loops

When there are one or more loops "inside" of another loop. The inner loop runs to completion each time the outer loop runs once.

value

An object that appears in a dictionary as the second part of a key-value pair. This is more specific than our previous use of the word "value".