Week 1: Introduction to Machine Learning

Task 1.2: Data Cleaning and Preparation

Objective: Learn the importance of preprocessing data to prepare for any machine learning model.

Dataset: **Titanic Dataset from Kaggle**. This dataset includes passenger information from the Titanic, such as age, fare, cabin, survival status, etc.

• Link to dataset: Titanic Dataset on Kaggle: https://www.kaggle.com/c/titanic

Activities:

1. Load and Inspect the Dataset:

- o Load the data into a pandas DataFrame.
- o Inspect the data for missing values, potential errors, and outliers.

2. **Data Cleaning**:

- o Handle missing values by filling them with the median or mode, or by using other appropriate imputation methods.
- o Remove outliers if necessary or treat them appropriately.

3. **Data Transformation**:

- Convert categorical data into numeric format using one-hot encoding or label encoding.
- o Normalize or standardize the numerical values if required for later modeling.

Expected Output:

- A Jupyter notebook with detailed steps of data cleaning and preprocessing:
 - o Before and after statistics of key columns.
 - o Any transformations applied and the rationale behind these choices.

Documentation:

• Use the documentation template to detail every step taken in the preprocessing phase, including justifications for each choice (e.g., why certain outliers were removed or why specific columns were transformed).

General Guidelines for Tasks:

- **Comment your code**: Ensure your code in the Jupyter notebook is well-commented to explain why each step is performed.
- **Consistent Formatting**: Use clear headings and subheadings in your Jupyter notebooks and documentation.
- **Testing and Validation**: After each major step, use simple tests or checks to ensure the transformations are performed as expected.