**1. To what does a relative path refer?**

Ans: A relative path refers to the location of a file or directory relative to the current working directory. It does not start from the root directory and is dependent on the current location.

**2. What does an absolute path start with your operating system?**

Ans: An absolute path starts with the root directory of your operating system. For example, in Windows, an absolute path might start with something like "C:" followed by the directories and file names.

**3. What do the functions os.getcwd() and os.chdir() do?**

Ans: os.getcwd() returns the current working directory as a string. os.chdir(path) changes the current working directory to the specified path.

**4. What are the . and .. folders?**

Ans: The . folder represents the current directory. The .. folder represents the parent directory.

**5. In C:\bacon\eggs\spam.txt, which part is the dir name, and which part is the base name?**

Ans: The directory name (dir name) is "C:\bacon\eggs". The base name is "spam.txt".

**6. What are the three “mode” arguments that can be passed to the open() function?**

Ans: 'r': Read mode (default), for reading files. 'w': Write mode, for creating or overwriting files. 'a': Append mode, for adding content to the end of a file.

**7. What happens if an existing file is opened in write mode?**

Ans: If an existing file is opened in write mode ('w'), the file's contents will be truncated, and any existing data will be deleted. The file will essentially be reset to an empty state.

**8. How do you tell the difference between read() and readlines()?**

Ans: read() reads the entire content of the file as a single string. readlines() reads the content of the file line by line and returns a list of strings, where each string corresponds to a line.

**9. What data structure does a shelf value resemble?**

Ans: A shelf value in Python (using the ‘shelve’ module) resembles a dictionary-like data structure. It allows you to store and retrieve key-value pairs, where the keys are strings and the values can be any picklable Python objects. Shelves are persistent and can be used to store and manage data across multiple programs runs.