30 Days Of Python: Day 5 – Lists



Day 5

Lists

There are four collection data types in Python:

- List: is a collection which is ordered and changeable(modifiable). Allows duplicate members.
- Tuple: is a collection which is ordered and unchangeable or unmodifiable(immutable). Allows duplicate members.
- Set: is a collection which is unordered, un-indexed and unmodifiable, but we can add new items to the set. Duplicate members are not allowed.
- Dictionary: is a collection which is unordered, changeable(modifiable) and indexed. No duplicate members.

A list is collection of different data types which is ordered and modifiable(mutable). A list can be empty or it may have different data type items.

How to Create a List

syntax

In Python we can create lists in two ways:

Using list built-in function

```
lst = list()
empty_list = list() # this is an empty list, no item in the list
print(len(empty_list)) # 0

    Using square brackets, []

# syntax
lst = []
empty list = [] # this is an empty list, no item in the list
print(len(empty_list)) # 0
Lists with initial values. We use len() to find the length of a list.
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
                                                                     # list of
fruits
vegetables = ['Tomato', 'Potato', 'Cabbage', 'Onion', 'Carrot']
                                                                     # list of
vegetables
animal_products = ['milk', 'meat', 'butter', 'yoghurt']
                                                                     # list of
animal products
web_techs = ['HTML', 'CSS', 'JS', 'React', 'Redux', 'Node', 'MongDB'] # list of web
technologies
countries = ['Finland', 'Estonia', 'Denmark', 'Sweden', 'Norway']
# Print the lists and its length
print('Fruits:', fruits)
print('Number of fruits:', len(fruits))
print('Vegetables:', vegetables)
print('Number of vegetables:', len(vegetables))
print('Animal products:',animal_products)
print('Number of animal products:', len(animal products))
print('Web technologies:', web_techs)
print('Number of web technologies:', len(web_techs))
print('Countries:', countries)
print('Number of countries:', len(countries))
output
Fruits: ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
Number of fruits: 4
Vegetables: ['Tomato', 'Potato', 'Cabbage', 'Onion', 'Carrot']
Number of vegetables: 5
Animal products: ['milk', 'meat', 'butter', 'yoghurt']
Number of animal products: 4
Web technologies: ['HTML', 'CSS', 'JS', 'React', 'Redux', 'Node', 'MongDB']
Number of web technologies: 7
Countries: ['Finland', 'Estonia', 'Denmark', 'Sweden', 'Norway']
Number of countries: 5
```

Lists can have items of different data types

```
lst = ['Suniksha', 20, True, {'country':'Finland', 'city':'Helsinki'}] # list
containing different data types
```

Accessing List Items Using Positive Indexing

We access each item in a list using their index. A list index starts from 0. The picture below shows clearly where the index starts

```
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
first_fruit = fruits[0] # we are accessing the first item using its index
print(first_fruit) # banana
second_fruit = fruits[1]
print(second_fruit) # orange
last_fruit = fruits[3]
print(last_fruit) # lemon
# Last index
last_index = len(fruits) - 1
last_fruit = fruits[last_index]
```

Accessing List Items Using Negative Indexing

Negative indexing means beginning from the end, -1 refers to the last item, -2 refers to the second last item.

```
['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
-4 -3 -2 -1
```

```
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
first_fruit = fruits[-4]
last_fruit = fruits[-1]
second_last = fruits[-2]
print(first_fruit)  # banana
print(last_fruit)  # lemon
print(second_last)  # mango
```

Unpacking List Items

```
lst = ['item1','item2','item3', 'item4', 'item5']
first_item, second_item, third_item, *rest = lst
print(first_item)
                   # item1
print(second_item) # item2
print(third_item) # item3
                       # ['item4', 'item5']
print(rest)
# First Example
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon','lime','apple']
first_fruit, second_fruit, third_fruit, *rest = fruits
print(first_fruit)
                       # banana
print(second_fruit)
                        # orange
print(third fruit)
                        # mango
                       # ['lemon','lime','apple']
print(rest)
# Second Example about unpacking list
first, second, third, *rest, tenth = [1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10]
                       # 1
print(first)
                      # 2
print(second)
                      # 3
print(third)
                      # [4,5,6,7,8,9]
print(rest)
print(tenth)
                       # 10
# Third Example about unpacking list
countries = ['Germany',
'France','Belgium','Sweden','Denmark','Finland','Norway','Iceland','Estonia']
gr, fr, bg, sw, *scandic, es = countries
print(gr)
print(fr)
print(bg)
print(sw)
print(scandic)
print(es)
```

Slicing Items from a List

Positive Indexing: We can specify a range of positive indexes by specifying the start, end and step, the return value will be a new list. (default values for start = 0, end = len(lst) - 1 (last item), step = 1)

```
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
all_fruits = fruits[0:4] # it returns all the fruits
# this will also give the same result as the one above
all_fruits = fruits[0:] # if we don't set where to stop it takes all the rest
orange_and_mango = fruits[1:3] # it does not include the first index
orange_mango_lemon = fruits[1:]
orange_and_lemon = fruits[::2] # here we used a 3rd argument, step. It will take
every 2cnd item - ['banana', 'mango']
```

 Negative Indexing: We can specify a range of negative indexes by specifying the start, end and step, the return value will be a new list.

```
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
all_fruits = fruits[-4:] # it returns all the fruits
orange_and_mango = fruits[-3:-1] # it does not include the last index,['orange',
'mango']
orange_mango_lemon = fruits[-3:] # this will give starting from -3 to the
end,['orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
```

```
reverse_fruits = fruits[::-1] # a negative step will take the list in reverse
order,['lemon', 'mango', 'orange', 'banana']
```

Modifying Lists

List is a mutable or modifiable ordered collection of items. Lets modify the fruit list.

```
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits[0] = 'avocado'
print(fruits)  # ['avocado', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits[1] = 'apple'
print(fruits)  # ['avocado', 'apple', 'mango', 'lemon']
last_index = len(fruits) - 1
fruits[last_index] = 'lime'
print(fruits)  # ['avocado', 'apple', 'mango', 'lime']
```

Checking Items in a List

Checking an item if it is a member of a list using *in* operator. See the example below.

```
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
does_exist = 'banana' in fruits
print(does_exist) # True
does_exist = 'lime' in fruits
print(does_exist) # False
```

Adding Items to a List

To add item to the end of an existing list we use the method *append()*.

```
# syntax
lst = list()
lst.append(item)

fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits.append('apple')
print(fruits)  # ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon', 'apple']
fruits.append('lime')  # ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon', 'apple', 'lime']
print(fruits)
```

Inserting Items into a List

We can use *insert()* method to insert a single item at a specified index in a list. Note that other items are shifted to the right. The *insert()* methods takes two arguments:index and an item to insert.

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst.insert(index, item)
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits.insert(2, 'apple') # insert apple between orange and mango
```

```
print(fruits)  # ['banana', 'orange', 'apple', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits.insert(3, 'lime')  # ['banana', 'orange', 'apple', 'lime', 'mango',
'lemon']
print(fruits)
```

Removing Items from a List

The remove method removes a specified item from a list

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst.remove(item)

fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon', 'banana']
fruits.remove('banana')
print(fruits) # ['orange', 'mango', 'lemon', 'banana'] - this method removes the first occurrence of the item in the list
fruits.remove('lemon')
print(fruits) # ['orange', 'mango', 'banana']
```

Removing Items Using Pop

The *pop()* method removes the specified index, (or the last item if index is not specified):

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst.pop()  # last item
lst.pop(index)

fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits.pop()
print(fruits)  # ['banana', 'orange', 'mango']

fruits.pop(0)
print(fruits)  # ['orange', 'mango']
```

Removing Items Using Del

The *del* keyword removes the specified index and it can also be used to delete items within index range. It can also delete the list completely

```
print(fruits) # ['orange', 'lime']
del fruits
print(fruits) # This should give: NameError: name 'fruits' is not defined
```

Clearing List Items

The *clear()* method empties the list:

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst.clear()
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits.clear()
print(fruits) # []
```

Copying a List

It is possible to copy a list by reassigning it to a new variable in the following way: list2 = list1. Now, list2 is a reference of list1, any changes we make in list2 will also modify the original, list1. But there are lots of case in which we do not like to modify the original instead we like to have a different copy. One of way of avoiding the problem above is using *copy()*.

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst_copy = lst.copy()
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits_copy = fruits.copy()
print(fruits_copy) # ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
```

Joining Lists

There are several ways to join, or concatenate, two or more lists in Python.

Plus Operator (+)

```
# syntax
list3 = list1 + list2

positive_numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
zero = [0]
negative_numbers = [-5,-4,-3,-2,-1]
integers = negative_numbers + zero + positive_numbers
print(integers) # [-5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
vegetables = ['Tomato', 'Potato', 'Cabbage', 'Onion', 'Carrot']
fruits_and_vegetables = fruits + vegetables
print(fruits_and_vegetables) # ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon', 'Tomato', 'Potato', 'Cabbage', 'Onion', 'Carrot']
```

• Joining using extend() method The *extend()* method allows to append list in a list. See the example below.

```
# syntax
list1 = ['item1', 'item2']
list2 = ['item3', 'item4', 'item5']
list1.extend(list2)
num1 = [0, 1, 2, 3]
num2= [4, 5, 6]
num1.extend(num2)
print('Numbers:', num1) # Numbers: [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
negative_numbers = [-5, -4, -3, -2, -1]
positive_numbers = [1, 2, 3,4,5]
zero = [0]
negative numbers.extend(zero)
negative_numbers.extend(positive_numbers)
print('Integers:', negative_numbers) # Integers: [-5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3,
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
vegetables = ['Tomato', 'Potato', 'Cabbage', 'Onion', 'Carrot']
fruits.extend(vegetables)
print('Fruits and vegetables:', fruits ) # Fruits and vegetables: ['banana',
'orange', 'mango', 'lemon', 'Tomato', 'Potato', 'Cabbage', 'Onion', 'Carrot']
```

Counting Items in a List

The *count()* method returns the number of times an item appears in a list:

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst.count(item)

fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
print(fruits.count('orange'))  # 1
ages = [22, 19, 24, 25, 26, 24, 25, 24]
print(ages.count(24))  # 3
```

Finding Index of an Item

The index() method returns the index of an item in the list:

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst.index(item)

fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
print(fruits.index('orange')) # 1
ages = [22, 19, 24, 25, 26, 24, 25, 24]
print(ages.index(24)) # 2, the first occurrence
```

Reversing a List

The reverse() method reverses the order of a list.

```
# syntax
lst = ['item1', 'item2']
lst.reverse()

fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits.reverse()
print(fruits) # ['lemon', 'mango', 'orange', 'banana']
ages = [22, 19, 24, 25, 26, 24, 25, 24]
ages.reverse()
print(ages) # [24, 25, 24, 26, 25, 24, 19, 22]
```

Sorting List Items

To sort lists we can use *sort()* method or *sorted()* built-in functions. The *sort()* method reorders the list items in ascending order and modifies the original list. If an argument of *sort()* method reverse is equal to true, it will arrange the list in descending order.

- sort(): this method modifies the original list
- # syntaxlst = ['item1', 'item2']lst.sort() # ascending lst.sort(reverse=True) # descending

Example:

sorted(): returns the ordered list without modifying the original list **Example:**

```
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
print(sorted(fruits)) # ['banana', 'lemon', 'mango', 'orange']
# Reverse order
fruits = ['banana', 'orange', 'mango', 'lemon']
fruits = sorted(fruits,reverse=True)
print(fruits) # ['orange', 'mango', 'lemon', 'banana']
```

You are diligent and you have already achieved quite a lot. You have just completed day 5 challenges and you are 5 steps a head in to your way to greatness. Now do some exercises for your brain and muscles.

Exercises: Day 5

Exercises: Level 1

- 1. Declare an empty list
- 2. Declare a list with more than 5 items
- 3. Find the length of your list
- 4. Get the first item, the middle item and the last item of the list
- 5. Declare a list called mixed_data_types, put your(name, age, height, marital status, address)
- 6. Declare a list variable named it_companies and assign initial values Facebook, Google, Microsoft, Apple, IBM, Oracle and Amazon.
- 7. Print the list using *print()*
- 8. Print the number of companies in the list
- 9. Print the first, middle and last company
- 10. Print the list after modifying one of the companies
- 11. Add an IT company to it_companies
- 12. Insert an IT company in the middle of the companies list
- 13. Change one of the it_companies names to uppercase (IBM excluded!)
- 14. Join the it_companies with a string '#; '
- 15. Check if a certain company exists in the it_companies list.
- 16. Sort the list using sort() method
- 17. Reverse the list in descending order using reverse() method
- 18. Slice out the first 3 companies from the list
- 19. Slice out the last 3 companies from the list
- 20. Slice out the middle IT company or companies from the list
- 21. Remove the first IT company from the list

- 22. Remove the middle IT company or companies from the list
- 23. Remove the last IT company from the list
- 24. Remove all IT companies from the list
- 25. Destroy the IT companies list
- 26. Join the following lists:

```
27. front_end = ['HTML', 'CSS', 'JS', 'React', 'Redux']
   back_end = ['Node', 'Express', 'MongoDB']
```

28. After joining the lists in question 26. Copy the joined list and assign it to a variable full_stack. Then insert Python and SQL after Redux.

Exercises: Level 2

1. The following is a list of 10 students ages:

```
ages = [19, 22, 19, 24, 20, 25, 26, 24, 25, 24]
```

- Sort the list and find the min and max age
- Add the min age and the max age again to the list
- Find the median age (one middle item or two middle items divided by two)
- Find the average age (sum of all items divided by their number)
- Find the range of the ages (max minus min)
- Compare the value of (min average) and (max average), use abs() method
- 1. Find the middle country(ies) in the countries list
- 2. Divide the countries list into two equal lists if it is even if not one more country for the first half.
- 3. ['China', 'Russia', 'USA', 'Finland', 'Sweden', 'Norway', 'Denmark']. Unpack the first three countries and the rest as scandic countries.

