



1. What is JSON?

JSON = JavaScript Object Notation

It is **not code, not Python, not JavaScript**.

It is just a **data format** (like CSV, XML), used to send data over APIs.

Example JSON:

```
{  
    "name": "Suyash",  
    "age": 25,  
    "skills": ["Python", "FastAPI"]  
}
```

- Keys must be **strings**
 - Values can be string, number, boolean, array, object
-



2. What is a JSON STRING?

JSON **must be sent over internet as TEXT**.

So the above JSON becomes a **string**:

```
'{"name": "Suyash", "age": 25, "skills": ["Python", "FastAPI"]}'
```

Notice:

This is **not a Python dict**, it is just a **string**.

Like a Python string:

```
text = '{"name": "Suyash"}'
```



3. What is a Python Dictionary?

Python's in-memory dictionary looks like JSON but it is **NOT JSON**.

```
{  
    "name": "Suyash",  
    "age": 25  
}
```

This is a real Python dict, not text.

! So how do they convert?

Format	Example	Meaning
JSON String	' {"name": "Suyash"}'	Text sent over internet
Python dict	{"name": "Suyash"}	Data structure used inside Python

We need to **convert** between them.



4. Why do we do `response.json()` in Python?

When you call an API:

```
res = requests.get("https://api.example.com/user")
```

The server sends JSON **as a string**.

`res.text` → raw string

Example:

```
' {"name": "Suyash", "age": 25}'
```

To convert that into a Python dictionary, we call:

```
data = res.json()
```

Now:

```
print(type(data)) # dict
print(data["name"]) # Suyash
```

So:

✓ `.json()` converts JSON string → Python dict

Example Breakdown

Raw Response (STRING):

```
res.text
# '{"id": 1, "message": "Hello"}'
```

Convert:

```
data = res.json()
```

Now Python Dict:

```
{'id': 1, 'message': 'Hello'}
```

⭐ Summary (Easiest Explanation)

Thing	Meaning
JSON	Universal data format
JSON string	JSON converted to text so it can be sent over internet
Python dict	Python's dictionary representation
response.json()	Converts JSON TEXT → Python dict

Great question — knowing *why* it's called JSON and what `json.load` / `json.dump` do will clear your confusion completely 🤗

✓ 1. Why is it called *JavaScript Object Notation*?

Because **JSON's syntax originally came from JavaScript objects**.

Example JavaScript object:

```
let user = {  
    name: "Suyash",  
    age: 25  
}
```

This look is **exactly** what JSON adopted.

- ✓ JSON looks like JavaScript
- ✗ But JSON is **not** JavaScript
- ✓ JSON is now a universal data format used in ALL languages (Python, Java, Go, C#, PHP)

So the name stays:

JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)

because its **syntax** was inspired by JavaScript.



Why is JSON so popular?

Because:

- Easy to read
- Lightweight
- Works in every language
- Perfect for APIs
- Follows a simple structure (key-value pairs)

That's why Python, Java, C#, PHP, Go — all use JSON.



2. What is `json.load()`?

`json.load()` = load JSON *from a file*

It converts **JSON file** → **Python dictionary**

Example:

File: `data.json`

```
{  
  "name": "Suyash",  
  "age": 25  
}
```

Python:

```
import json
```

```
with open("data.json", "r") as f:
```

```
data = json.load(f)
```

Now:

```
print(data)      # {'name': 'Suyash', 'age': 25}
print(type(data)) # dict
```

- ✓ Reads JSON directly from a *file*
 - ✓ Converts JSON → Python dict
-

✓ 3. What is `json.loads()`?

json.loads() = load JSON *from a string*

("s" = string)

Example:

```
import json
text = '{"name": "Suyash"}'

data = json.loads(text)
```

This is used when API returns a JSON *string*.

✓ 4. What is `json.dump()`?

json.dump() = write Python dict → JSON file

Example:

```
data = {"name": "Suyash", "age": 25}
```

```
import json
with open("data.json", "w") as f:
```

```
json.dump(data, f)
```

- ✓ Converts Python dict → JSON
 - ✓ Saves directly into a *file*
-



5. What is `json.dumps()`?

`json.dumps()` = Python dict → JSON *string*

("s" = string)

```
data = {"name": "Suyash"}
```

```
text = json.dumps(data)
```

```
print(text)
# {"name": "Suyash"}
```



Summary Table (Super Easy)

Function	Works On	Converts	Output
<code>json.load()</code>	File	JSON → dict	Python dict
<code>json.loads()</code>	String	JSON → dict	Python dict
<code>json.dump()</code>	File	dict → JSON	Writes JSON file
<code>json.dumps()</code>	String	dict → JSON	JSON string

Why JSON cannot be sent “as it is”? Why must it be sent as a JSON STRING?

Because:

! The internet does not send objects or dictionaries.

It sends **only bytes**.

Everything you see on the internet — HTML, images, videos, JSON, files — gets converted into **bytes** (0s and 1s) before transmission.



1. JSON is NOT a Python dict

JSON is a **concept**, a **format**, an **idea**.

But a Python dict exists **only inside Python memory**.

Example Python dictionary:

```
{"name": "Suyash", "age": 25}
```

This cannot be directly sent over internet because it is *not text*, it is *not bytes*, it is an *internal Python structure*.



2. The Internet only understands BYTES

So before sending any data, we must turn it into **text or bytes**.

JSON is usually shared as:

✓ **JSON string (TEXT)**

like:

```
"{\"name\": \"Suyash\", \"age\": 25}"
```

Then this text is encoded as UTF-8 bytes.

Main Reason: JSON OBJECT ≠ JSON TEXT

A JSON object is an **in-memory representation** (like Python dict or JS object).
Internet cannot send that.

But JSON **text** is just a string:

```
{"name": "Suyash"}
```

This can be converted to bytes.

Simple Analogy

You can't ship a TABLE over FedEx

but

you can ship a **paper with the table printed on it**.

Similarly:

- Python dict = table in memory
 - JSON string = printed text version
 - Bytes = the way FedEx carries it
-

3. Why must JSON be a string first?

Because strings are:

- Unicode text
- Can be encoded (UTF-8 → bytes)
- Safe to send
- Universally readable
- Supported by ALL languages

If JSON were sent as “raw Python objects”, only Python could understand it.

But JSON as STRING can be understood by:

- JavaScript
- Python
- Java
- Go
- C#
- Rust
- PHP
- Swift
- EVERY language

That's why **string format was chosen**.

! So is the internet unable to handle raw bytes?

No — the internet **only** handles bytes.

The issue is:

****Python dict cannot be directly converted to bytes.**

JSON string CAN be converted to bytes.**

That's the real reason.



Flow of JSON over an API

Python dict

↓ `json.dumps()`

JSON string

↓ `.encode("utf-8")`

Bytes

↓ sent over HTTP

Received as bytes

↓ `.decode("utf-8")`

JSON string

↓ `json.loads()`

Python dict again

⭐ Final Summary

- JSON is a **format**, not data.
- Python dict cannot travel over internet.
- Internet only sends bytes.
- JSON **string** is the text version of JSON.
- JSON string → bytes → sent → received → parsed back.