



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.

Yes — there is a **BIG difference**, and this is exactly where most people get confused.

Let me explain in the simplest possible way 

✓ 1. JSON STRING (Text Representation)

This is **just text**.

Example:

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

Or in Python:

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

✓ It is literally just a **STRING (text)**.

✓ Internet sends this.

✓ Stored in files.

✓ Human-readable.

Think of it as **printed text on paper**, not the real object.

2. JSON OBJECT (Data Representation)

This is **not text**.

It is **the parsed, structured form** of JSON.

In JavaScript:

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

In Python, the closest equivalent is a **dictionary**:

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

This is **not JSON**.

This is a **Python object in memory**.



Main Difference (In One Line)

JSON String

Text

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

Internet can send

Needs parsing

JSON Object

Data structure

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

Exists only inside a language
(Python/JS)

Already parsed

Type = string

Type = dict (Python) / object (JS)



Think of it like this:

JSON Object = actual table in memory

JSON String = photo of the table

You cannot ship the table through internet.

But you can ship the photo (string).



Why is this important?

In Python:

- `json.loads()` → JSON String → Python dict (JSON object equivalent)
- `json.dumps()` → Python dict → JSON String

In JavaScript:

- `JSON.parse()` → JSON String → JS Object
 - `JSON.stringify()` → JS Object → JSON String
-



Visual Understanding

JSON String (text):

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

JSON Object (structured):

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

One is **text**, one is **actual data structure**.

⭐ Super Short Summary

- **JSON OBJECT** = data structure (Python dict / JS object)
 - **JSON STRING** = text representation of that object
 - Internet and files **only handle JSON STRING**, not JSON OBJECT.
 - Software converts JSON STRING → JSON OBJECT for easy usage.
-

Perfect — here is the **exact workflow**, step-by-step, showing what REALLY happens underneath when you call an API and get JSON.

I'll show you the whole journey:

Python dict → **JSON string** → **bytes** → **HTTP** → **bytes** → **JSON string** → **Python dict**

Let's go slowly 



1. Python prepares a dictionary

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

This **cannot be sent** over the internet because it is an in-memory Python object.



2. Convert dict → JSON STRING

```
import json  
  
json_string = json.dumps(data)
```

Now:

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

This is **text**, not JSON object.



3. Convert JSON string → BYTES (UTF-8 encoded)

Every HTTP request MUST be bytes.

```
bytes_to_send = json_string.encode("utf-8")
```

Now it looks like:

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

This is what actually travels over the network.



4. HTTP request sends BYTES over the internet

Example:

```
import requests  
  
requests.post("https://example.com", data=bytes_to_send)
```

The browser / `requests` library wraps those bytes inside an HTTP packet and sends them.



5. Server receives BYTES

The server does **not** receive a dict.

It receives raw bytes like:

7B 22 6E 61 6D 65 22 3A 20 22 53 75 79 ...

(Those are hex codes representing characters.)



6. Server decodes BYTES → JSON STRING

Server runs something like:

```
json_string = received_bytes.decode("utf-8")
```

Now it's readable text:

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

7. Server parses JSON STRING → JSON OBJECT

In Python backend:

```
data = json.loads(json_string)
```

Now the server gets a **Python dict**:

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

This is the **JSON Object representation inside Python**.

**8. When server sends a response:

It reverses the whole process**

Python dict → JSON string

```
json_string = json.dumps(response_data)
```

JSON string → bytes

```
response_bytes = json_string.encode("utf-8")
```

Bytes sent back to client via HTTP



9. Client receives BYTES response

In Python `requests.get()`:

```
response.content    # bytes  
response.text      # string (decoded)  
response.json()    # dict (parsed JSON)
```

Internally:

Step A — Receive BYTES

```
b'{"name": "Suyash"}'
```

Step B — Convert BYTES → JSON STRING

```
response.text  
# '{"name": "Suyash"}'
```

Step C — Convert JSON STRING → Python dict

```
response.json()  
# {"name": "Suyash"}
```



Entire Flow in One Picture

Python dict

↓ `json.dumps()`

JSON STRING

↓ encode()

BYTES

↓ HTTP request

INTERNET

↓ HTTP request

BYTES

↓ decode()

JSON STRING

↓ json.loads()

Python dict

⭐ One-Line Summary

- Internet can only send **bytes**
 - JSON must be turned into **string**, then encoded into **bytes**
 - On the receiving side, bytes → string → JSON object
-

If you want, I can also show:

- ✓ How to print the raw bytes exactly
- ✓ How to manually decode JSON without `response.json()`
- ✓ How FastAPI automatically converts dict → JSON → bytes

Just tell me!

