

## Problem Set 2

### Problem 1: Basic Hangman

You will implement a variation of the classic word game Hangman. If you are unfamiliar with the rules of the game, read

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hangman\\_\(game\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hangman_(game)) .

#### A) Getting Started

Download the files “hangman.py” and “words.txt”, and **save them both in the same directory** . Run the file hangman.py before writing any code to ensure your files are saved correctly. The code we have given you loads in words from a file. You should see the following output in your shell:

```
Loading word list from file...
55900 words loaded.
```

If you see the above text, continue on to Hangman Game Requirements.

If you don't, double check that both files are saved in the same place!

#### B) Hangman Game Requirements

You will implement a function called hangman that will allow the user to play hangman against the computer. The computer picks the word, and the player tries to guess letters in the word.

Here is the general behavior we want to implement.

1. The computer must select a word at random from the list of available words that was provided in words.txt

**Note that words.txt contains words in all lowercase letters.**

2. The user is given a certain number of guesses at the beginning.
3. The game is interactive; the user inputs their guess and the computer either:
  - a. reveals the letter if it exists in the secret word
  - b. penalize the user and updates the number of guesses remaining
4. The game ends when either the user guesses the secret word, or the user runs out of guesses.

## Problem 2

### Hangman Part 1: Three helper functions

Before we have you write code to organize the hangman game, we are going to break down the problem into logical subtasks, creating three helper functions you will need to have in order for this game to work. This is a common approach to computational problem solving, and one we want you to begin experiencing.

The file hangman.py has a number of already implemented functions you can use while writing up your solution. You can ignore the code in the two functions at the top of the file that have already been implemented for you, though you should understand how to use each helper function by reading the docstrings.

#### 1A) Determine whether the word has been guessed

First, implement the function is\_word\_guessed that takes in two parameters a string, secret\_word , and a list of letters (strings), letters\_guessed. This function returns a boolean True if secret\_word has been guessed (i.e., all the letters of secret\_word are in letters\_guessed ), and False otherwise. This function will be useful in helping you decide when the hangman game has been successfully completed, and becomes an endtest for any iterative loop that checks letters against the secret word.

For this function, you may assume that all the letters in secret\_word and letters\_guessed are lowercase.

Example Usage:

```
>>> secret_word = 'apple'
>>> letters_guessed = ['e', 'i', 'k', 'p', 'r', 's']
>>> print(is_word_guessed(secret_word, letters_guessed) )
False
```

## 1B) Getting the user's guess

Next, implement the function get\_guessed\_word that takes in two parameters a string, secret\_word , and a list of letters, letters\_guessed . This function returns a string that is comprised of letters and underscores, based on what letters in letters\_guessed are in secret\_word . This shouldn't be too different from is\_word\_guessed !

We are going to use an underscore followed by a space ( ) to represent unknown letters. We could have chosen other symbols, but the combination of underscore and space is visible and easily discerned. Note that the space is super important, as otherwise it hard to distinguish whether \_\_\_\_ is four elements long or three. This is called usability it's very important, when programming, to consider the usability of your program. If users find your program difficult to understand or operate, they won't use it! We encourage you to think about usability when designing your program.

Hint: In designing your function, think about what information you want to return when done, whether you need a place to store that information as you loop over a data structure, and how you want to add information to your accumulated result.

Example Usage:

```
>>> secret_word = 'apple'
>>> letters_guessed = ['e', 'i', 'k', 'p', 'r', 's']
>>> print(get_guessed_word(secret_word, letters_guessed) )
'_ pp_e'
```

## 1C) Getting all available letters

Next, implement the function get\_available\_letters that takes in one parameter a list of letters, letters\_guessed . This function returns a string that is comprised of lowercase English letters all lowercase English letters that are not in letters\_guessed .

This function should return the letters in alphabetical order. For this function, you may assume that all the letters in letters\_guessed are lowercase.

Hint : You might consider using string.ascii\_lowercase , which is a string comprised of all lowercase letters:

```
>>> import string
>>> print(string.ascii_lowercase)
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
```

Example Usage:

```
>>> letters_guessed = ['e', 'i', 'k', 'p', 'r', 's']
>>> print get_available_letters(letters_guessed)
abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
```

### Problem 3

#### Hangman Part 2: The Game

Now that you have built some useful functions, you can turn to implementing the function hangman , which takes one parameter the secret word the user is to guess. Initially, you can (and should!) manually set this secret word when you run this function – this will make it easier to test your code. But in the end, you will want the computer to select this secret word at random before inviting you or some other user to play the game by running this function.

Calling the hangman function starts up an interactive game of Hangman between the user and the computer. In designing your code, be sure you take advantage of the three helper functions, is\_word\_guessed , get\_guessed\_word , and get\_available\_letters , that you've defined in the previous part!

Below are the game requirements broken down in different categories. Make sure your implementation fits all the requirements!

#### Game Requirements

##### A. Game Architecture:

1. The computer must select a word at random from the list of available words that was provided in words.txt. The functions for loading the word list and selecting a random word have already been provided for you in hangman.py.
2. Users start with 6 guesses.
3. At the start of the game, let the user know how many letters the computer's word contains and how many guesses s/he starts with.
4. The computer keeps track of all the letters the user has not guessed so far and before each turn shows the user the “remaining letters”

Example Game Implementation:

```
Loading word list from file...
55900 words loaded.
Welcome to the game Hangman!
I am thinking of a word that is 4 letters long.
-----
You have 6 guesses left.
Available letters: abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
```

## B. User-Computer Interaction:

The game must be interactive and flow as follows:

1. Before each guess, you should display to the user:
  - a. Remind the user of how many guesses s/he has left after each guess.
  - b. all the letters the user has not yet guessed
2. Ask the user to supply one guess at a time. (Look at the user input requirements below to see what types of inputs you can expect from the user)
3. Immediately after each guess, the user should be told whether the letter is in the computer's word.
4. After each guess, you should also display to the user the computer's word, with guessed letters displayed and unguessed letters replaced with an underscore and space ( \_ )
5. At the end of the guess, print some dashes ( ) to help separate individual guesses from each other

Example Game Implementation:

(The **blue** color below is only there to show you what the user typed in, as opposed to what the computer output.)

You have 6 guesses left.

Available letters: abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **a**

Good guess: \_ a \_ \_

-----

You have 6 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **b**

Oops! That letter is not in my word: \_ a \_ \_

## C. User Input Requirements:

1. You may assume that the user will only guess one character at a time, but the user can choose any number, symbol or letter. Your code should accept capital and lowercase letters as valid guesses!
2. If the user inputs anything besides an alphabet (symbols, numbers), tell the user that they can only input an alphabet. Because the user might do this by accident, they should get 3 warnings at the beginning of the game. Each time they enter an invalid input, or a letter they have already guessed, they should lose a warning. If the user has no warnings left and enters an invalid input, they should lose a guess.

Hint #1: Use calls to the input function to get the user's guess.

a. Check that the user input is an alphabet

b. If the user does not input an uppercase or lowercase alphabet letter, subtract one warning or one guess.

Hint #2: you may find the string functions `str.isalpha('your string')` and `str.lower('Your String')` helpful! If you don't know what these functions are you could try typing `help(str.isalpha)` or `help(str.lower)` in your Spyder shell to see the documentation for the functions.

Hint #3: Since the words in `words.txt` are lowercase, it might be easier to convert the user input to lowercase at all times and have your game only handle lowercase.

#### Example Game Implementation:

You have 3 warnings left.

You have 6 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: s

Oops! That letter is not in my word: \_ a \_ \_

-----

You have 5 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: \$

Oops! That is not a valid letter. You have 2 warnings left: \_ a \_ \_

#### D. Game Rules:

1. The user starts with 3 warnings.
2. If the user inputs anything besides an alphabet (symbols, numbers), tell the user that they can only input an alphabet.
  - a. If the user has one or more warning left, the user should lose one warning. Tell the user the number of remaining warnings.
  - b. If the user has no remaining warnings, they should lose one guess.
3. If the user inputs a letter that has already been guessed, print a message telling the user the letter has already been guessed before.
  - a. If the user has one or more warning left, the user should lose one warning. Tell the user the number of remaining warnings.
  - b. If the user has no warnings, they should lose one guess.
4. If the user inputs a letter that hasn't been guessed before and the letter is in the secret word, the user loses no guesses.
5. Consonants: If the user inputs a consonant that hasn't been guessed and the consonant is not in the secret word, the user loses one guess if it's a consonant.
6. Vowels: If the vowel hasn't been guessed and the vowel is not in the secret word, the user loses two guesses. Vowels are a, e, i, o, and u. y does not count as a vowel.

#### Example Implementation:

You have 5 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: t

Good guess: ta\_ t

-----

You have 5 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: e

Oops! That letter is not in my word: ta\_ t

-----

You have 3 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdfghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: e

Oops! You've already guessed that letter. You now have 2 warnings :

ta\_ t

### E. Game Termination:

1. The game should end when the user constructs the full word or runs out of guesses.
2. If the player runs out of guesses before completing the word, tell them they lost and reveal the word to the user when the game ends.
3. If the user wins, print a congratulatory message and tell the user their score.
4. The total score is the number of guesses\_remaining once the user has guessed the secret\_word times the number of unique letters in secret\_word .

Total score = guesses\_remaining\* number unique letters in secret\_word

#### Example Implementation:

```
You have 3 guesses left.  
Available letters: bcd fghijklnopquvwxyz  
Please guess a letter: c  
Good guess: tact  
-----  
Congratulations, you won!  
Your total score for this game is: 9
```

#### Example Implementation:

```
You have 3 guesses left.  
Available letters: bcd fghijklnopquvwxyz  
Please guess a letter: n  
Good guess: dolphin  
-----  
Congratulations, you won!  
Your total score for this game is: 21
```

### F. General Hints:

1. Consider writing additional helper functions if you need them.
2. There are four important pieces of information you may wish to store:
  - a. secret\_word : The word to guess. This is already used as the parameter name for the hangman function.
  - b. letters\_guessed : The letters that have been guessed so far. If they guess a letter that is already in letters\_guessed , you should print a message telling them they've already guessed that but do not penalize them for it.
  - c. guesses\_remaining : The number of guesses the user has left. Note that in our example game, the penalty for choosing an incorrect vowel is different than the penalty for choosing an incorrect consonant.
  - d. warnings\_remaining : The number of warnings the user has left. Note that a user only loses a warning for inputting either a symbol or a letter that has already been guessed.

### G. Example Game:

Look carefully at the examples given above of running hangman , as that suggests examples of information you will want to print out after each guess of a letter.

Note: Try to make your print statements as close to the example game as possible!

The output of a **winning** game should look like this. (The **blue** color below is only there to show you what the user typed in, as opposed to what the computer output.)

Loading word list from file...

55900 words loaded.

Welcome to the game Hangman!

I am thinking of a word that is 4 letters long.

You have 3 warnings left.

-----

You have 6 guesses left.

Available letters: abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **a**

Good guess: \_ a \_ \_

-----

You have 6 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **a**

Oops! You've already guessed that letter. You have 2 warnings left : \_ a \_ \_

-----

You have 6 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **s**

Oops! That letter is not in my word.

Please guess a letter: \_ a \_ \_

-----

You have 5 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **\$**

Oops! That is not a valid letter. You have 1 warnings left: \_ a \_ \_

-----

You have 5 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **t**

Good guess: ta \_ t

-----

You have 5 guesses left.

Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **e**

Oops! That letter is not in my word: ta \_ t

-----

You have 3 guesses left.

Available letters: bcd fghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: **e**

Oops! You've already guessed that letter. You have 0 warnings left : ta \_ t

-----

You have 3 guesses left.

Available letters: bcd fghijklmnopqrtuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: e

Oops! You've already guessed that letter. You have no warnings left so you lose one guess: ta\_ t

-----

You have 2 guesses left.

Available letters: bcd fghijklmnopquvwxyz

Please guess a letter: c

Good guess: tact

-----

Congratulations, you won!

Your total score for this game is: 6

And the output of a **losing** game should look like this...

Loading word list from file...

55900 words loaded.

Welcome to the game Hangman!

I am thinking of a word that is 4 letters long

You have 3 warnings left.

-----

You have 6 guesses left

Available Letters: abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: a

Oops! That letter is not in my word: \_ \_ \_ \_

-----

You have 4 guesses left

Available Letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: b

Oops! That letter is not in my word: \_ \_ \_ \_

-----

You have 3 guesses left

Available Letters: cdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: c

Oops! That letter is not in my word: \_ \_ \_ \_

-----

You have 2 guesses left

Available Letters: defghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: 2

Oops! That is not a valid letter. You have 2 warnings left: \_ \_ \_ \_

-----

You have 2 guesses left

Available Letters: defghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: d

Oops! That letter is not in my word: \_ \_ \_ \_

-----

You have 1 guesses left

Available Letters: efghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

Please guess a letter: e

Good guess: e \_ \_ e



```
-----  
You have 1 guesses left  
Available Letters: fghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz  
Please guess a letter: f  
Oops! That letter is not in my word: e__e  
-----  
Sorry, you ran out of guesses. The word was else.
```

Once you have completed and tested your code (where you have manually provided the “secret” word, since knowing it helps you debug your code), you may want to try running against the computer. If you scroll down to the bottom of the file we provided, you will see two commented lines underneath the text

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    #secret_word = choose_word(wordlist)  
    #hangman(secret_word)
```

These lines use functions we have provided (near the top of hangman.py), which you may want to examine. Try “uncommenting” these lines, and reloading your code.

This will give you a chance to try your skill against the computer, which uses our functions to load a large set of words and then pick one at random.

#### Problem 4

##### Hangman Part 3: The Game with Hints

If you have tried playing Hangman against the computer, you may have noticed that it isn’t always easy to beat the computer, especially when it selects an esoteric word (like “esoteric”!). It might be nice if you could ask the computer for a hint, such as a list of all the words that match what you have currently guessed.

For example, if the hidden word is “tact”, and you have so far guessed the letter “t”, so that you know the solution is “t\_\_t”, where you need to guess the two missing letters, it might be nice to know that the set of matching words (at least based on what the computer initially loaded) are:

tact tart taut teat tent test text that tilt tint toot tort tout trot tuft twit

We are going to have you create a variation of Hangman (we call this hangman\_with\_hints, and have provided an initial scaffold for writing it), with the property that if you guess the special character \* the computer will find all the words from its loaded list that might match your current guessed word, and print out each of them. Of course, we don’t recommend trying this at the first step, since this will print out all 55,900 words that we loaded! But if you are getting close to an answer and are running out of guesses, this might help.

To do this, we are going to ask you to first complete two helper functions:

#### 3A) Matching the current guessed word

`match_with_gaps` takes two parameters: `my_word` and `other_word`. `my_word` is an instance of a guessed word, in other words, it may have some `_`'s in places (such as `'t__t'`). `other_word` is a normal English word.

This function should return `True` if the guessed letters of `my_word` match the corresponding letters of `other_word`. It should return `False` if the two words are not of the same length or if a guessed letter in `my_word` does not match the corresponding character in `other_word`.

Remember that when a letter is guessed, your code reveals all the positions at which that letter occurs in the secret word. Therefore, the hidden letter (`_`) cannot be one of the letters in the word that has already been revealed.

Example Usage:

```
>>> match_with_gaps("te_t", "tact")
False
>>> match_with_gaps("a__le", "banana")
False
>>> match_with_gaps("a__le", "apple")
True
>>> match_with_gaps("a_ ple", "apple")
False
```

Hint: You may want to use `strip()` to get rid of the spaces in the word to compare lengths.

### 3B) Showing all possible matches

`show_possible_matches` takes a single parameter: `my_word` which is an instance of a guessed word, in other words, it may have some `_`'s in places (such as `'t__t'`).

This function should print out all words in `wordlist` (notice where we have defined this at the beginning of the file, line 51) that match `my_word`. It should print "No matches found" if there are no matches.

Example Usage:

```
>>> show_possible_matches("t__t")
tact tart taut teat tent test text that tilt tint toot tort tout trot tuf t twit
>>> show_possible_matches("abbbb_")
No matches found
>>> show_possible_matches("a_pl_")
ample amply
```

### 3C) Hangman with hints

Now you should be able to replicate the code you wrote for hangman as the body of `hangman_with_hints`, then make a small addition to allow for the case where the user can guess an asterisk (\*), in which case the computer will print out all the words that match that guess.

The user should not lose a guess if the guess is an asterisk.

Comment out the lines of code you used to play the original Hangman game:

```
secret_word = choose_word(wordlist)
hangman(secret_word)
```

And uncomment out these lines of code we've provided at the bottom of the file to play your new game Hangman with Hints:

```
#secret_word = choose_word(wordlist)
#hangman_with_hints(secret_word)
```

### Sample Output:

The output from guessing an asterisk should look like the sample output below. All other output should follow the Hangman game described in Part 2 above.

```
Loading word list from file...
55900 words loaded.
Welcome to the game Hangman!
I am thinking of a word that is 5 letters long.
-----
You have 6 guesses left.
Available letters: abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
Please guess a letter: a
Good guess: a _ _ _ _
-----
You have 6 guesses left.
Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
Please guess a letter: l
Good guess: a _ _ l _
-----
You have 6 guesses left.
Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
Please guess a letter: *
Possible word matches are:
addle adult agile aisle amble ample amply amyls angle ankle appl e
apply aptly arils atilt
-----
You have 6 guesses left.
Available letters: bcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
Please guess a letter: e
Good guess: a _ _ le
-----
This completes the problem set!
```