

Python advanced class

Module 6, Exceptions

- Catch of exceptions
- Standard exception hierachy
- Own exception classes
- Raise and re-raise

Catch of exceptions

Why exceptions

- An error should never pass silently ... unless explicitly silenced
- If an operation is expected to raise an exception it should run in a try block
- The default is that any error that is not handled makes the script stop running
- In old days it was the responsibility of the programmer to notice that an error occurred

try except

- If an exception occur within a try block the execution is abandonned and the except block is executed

```
In [1]: while True:  
    try:  
        filename = input("Enter a file to open (or enter to abort) : ")  
        if filename == "":  
            text = None  
            break  
        f = open(filename, "r", encoding="utf-8")  
        text = f.read()  
        f.close()  
        break  
    except OSError as e:  
        print("The file could not be opened : ", e)
```

The file could not be opened : [Errno 2] No such file or directory: 'xxx.txt'

The exception object

- When an exception is raised, an exception object is passed
- It contains a text message that describes the error
- The exception object may carry additional information

In [2]:

```
try:  
    f = open("badfile.txt", "r", encoding="utf-8")  
except OSError as e:  
    print(e)  
    print(e(errno)  
    print(e.strerror)  
    print(e.filename)
```

```
[Errno 2] No such file or directory: 'badfile.txt'  
2  
No such file or directory  
badfile.txt
```

else

- If the try block runs well without exception, an else block will be executed

In [3]:

```
try:  
    print("The try block")  
except ValueError:  
    pass  
else:  
    print("Everything went well")
```

The try block
Everything went well

finally

- finally is always executed! Even if the exception isn't caught
- Any except blocks or else block is runned before

In [4]:

```
try:  
    x = 1/0  
except ZeroDivisionError:  
    print("The exception")  
finally:  
    print("The finally block")
```

The exception
The finally block

Standard exception
hierarchy

Specific to broad

- Always specify exceptions from the most specific to the broadest
- The first exception type that matches gets the exception

```
In [5]: def bad():
    raise FileNotFoundError("No such file!")
try:
    bad()
except FileExistsError:
    pass
except OSError as e:
    print("This")
except Exception:
    print("Catches everything")
```

This

OSError

- The `OSError` exception also carries OS Specific error information
 - `errno` : A numeric error code from the C variable `errno`.
 - `winerror` : Under Windows, this gives you the native Windows error code.
 - `strerror` : The corresponding error message, as provided by the operating system.
 - `filename` : For exceptions that involve a file system path (such as `open()` or `os.unlink()`), `filename` is the file name passed to the function.
 - `filename2` : For functions that involve two file system paths (such as `os.rename()`), `filename2` corresponds to the second file name passed to the function.

Own exception classes

- When designing a library or application it's best to define your own exception hierarchy
- If an exception is close to a built-in exception, derive from that

```
In [6]: class XYZBaseError(Exception):
    """The base/abstract exception of the XYZ"""
    pass
class XYZDataError(XYZBaseError):
    """Wrong format of the data for XYZ"""
    pass
class XYZIllegalOrderError(XYZBaseError):
    """Illegal order of elements for XYZ"""
    pass
```

Raise and re-raise

Raise

- If a function or method encounters a fault or unsolvable situation, it should raise an exception
- Raising an exception is always better than returning a "magic" value, like -1 or an empty string

```
In [7]: def fac(n):
    if n < 0:
        raise ValueError(f"Negative n is not allowed, {n=}")
try:
    fac(-1)
except ValueError as e:
    print(e)
```

Negative n is not allowed, n=-1

re-raise

- When an exception is caught, but can't be handled, it must be re-raised
 - A simple `raise` alone will just raise the same exception again
 - A `raise OtherError from e` will raise the exception as another exception but keep the traceback

In [8]:

```
import traceback
try:
    try:
        x = 1/0
    except ZeroDivisionError as e:
        raise ValueError("Zero is illegal") from e
except ValueError as err:
    print(traceback.format_exc())
```

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "/tmp/ipykernel_853938/3373147313.py", line 4, in <module>
>
    x = 1/0
    ~~
ZeroDivisionError: division by zero
```

The above exception was the direct cause of the following exception:

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "/tmp/ipykernel_853938/3373147313.py", line 6, in <module>
>
    raise ValueError("Zero is illegal") from e
ValueError: Zero is illegal
```

