

```

1 # Character vector
2
3 # Character is a symbol in a written language like letters, punctuation, etc.
4 # String is a sequence of characters bound together.
5 # a lot of interesting data is in character form e.g., webpages, emails, surveys,...
6
7 # A character vector is a vector of text strings whose elements are specified in quotes.
8
9 name1 <- c("Clinton", "Bush", "Obama");
10 name2 <- c("Reagan", "Carter", "Ford");
11 name <- c(name1, name2);
12 class(name)
13 rev.name <- rev(name);
14 paste(name, collapse = " ") # Combine the components of a vector
15 paste(name, collapse = "") # collapse: separated by the value of
collapse
16
17 num <- nchar(name) # if we use "nchar" for a numeric vector, we can have the number of
digits
18 num2 <- nchar(c("Bill Clinton", "Spider-Man"))
19 size <- length(name) # Also works for a numeric and logical vectors.
20 size2 <- length(c("Bill Clinton", "Spider-Man"))
21
22 # Substring
23 phrase <- "Give me a break"
24 substr(phrase, 1, 4)
25 substr(phrase, nchar(phrase)-4, nchar(phrase))
26 substr(name, 1, 2)
27 substr(name, 1:6, 1:6)
28 substr(name, 1, 1:6)
29
30 # Replacement
31 substr(phrase, 1, 1) <- "L"
32 phrase
33 substr(phrase, 1, 4) <- "Show"
34 phrase
35
36 name
37 first.letters <- substr(name, 1, 1)
38 first.letters.scrambled <- sample(first.letters)
39 substr(name, 1, 1) <- first.letters.scrambled
40 name
41
42 # Converting other data types to strings
43 num_string <- as.character(num)
44 logi_string <- as.character(c(T, T, F, F, NA))
45 as.numeric(c(T, T, F, F, NA))
46
47 # Converting to lower or upper case
48 name_upper <- toupper(name1)
49 name_lower <- tolower(name2)
50
51 # If we want to remove " " in the output, we can use the cat function.
52 cat(c("Annie", "John", "Pam", "Sean", "Tom", "Ken"))
53 cat("What is \"R\"?") # \ : escape character
54
55 # Built-in character vectors in R
56 LETTERS
57 letters
58 month.abb
59 month.name
60
61 # Find a long string of text from the web. The longer, the better. Copy and past this
text below and
62 # save it as my.str.
63
64 Kennedy <- readLines("C:/Users/Min Seong
Kim/Dropbox/R_programming/lecture2019/kennedy_speech.txt")
65 class(Kennedy)

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66 str(Kennedy)
67 length(Kennedy)
68 my.str <- paste(Kennedy, collapse = " ")
69 my.str <- gsub(pattern = "[[:punct:]]", "", my.str) #
  http://www.endmemo.com/program/R/gsub.php
70
71 nchar(my.str)
72 my.list <- strsplit(my.str, split="") # class of my.list is list
73 # strsplit(): split the elements of a character string
74 class(my.list)
75 my.chars <- unlist(my.list) # We want to work with character vector
76
77 class(my.char)
78
79 my.chars_lower <- tolower(my.chars)
80 my.chars <- my.chars[my.chars %in% c(letters)]
81 my.chartab <- table(my.chars)
82 my.chartab
83 plot(my.chartab, xlab="Characters", ylab="Counts")
84
85
86 # Exercises
87 #####
88 presidents <- c("Bill Clinton", "George Bush", "Ronald Reagan", "Jimmy Carter", "Gerald
  Ford")
89 # Split each string in the vector presidents into two strings, according to the first
  and last names
90 # Save the results as "president.list"
91 # create president.first as a vector of president.
92
93 # Substrings, replacement
94 bill <- "Bill Clinton"
95 others.first <- c("George", "Ronald", "Jimmy", "Gerald")
96 others.second <- c("Bush", "Reagan", "Carter", "Ford")
97 # Using paste combine others.first and others.second to have others
98 # Display the president names that include "al" (hint: use grep() function)
99 others <- paste(others.first, others.second)
100 grep("al", others, value=TRUE)
101
102 # Display the last 5 characters from each of the strings in the vector 'others'
103 # Combine 'bill' and 'others' into one vector 'president' and replace the first 3
  letters in each
104 # strings in 'president' with 'abc'
105
106
107

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