1. Setting up the Environment:
    a. Installed *requests*, *mido*, and *python-rtmidi* libraries in Python to handle HTTP requests, MIDI processing, and MIDI I/O.
    b. Set up loopMIDI, a software that creates virtual MIDI ports for communication between my Python script and Reaper. Created a new virtual MIDI port in loopMIDI.

2. API Configuration and Data Retrieval:
    a. Used the World Air Quality Index API, configuring my script to retrieve air quality data near NYU Steinhardt.
    b. Made HTTP requests to the API, handling the responses and parsing the JSON data to extract necessary air quality metrics.

3. Data Parsing and MIDI Message Preparation:
    a. implemented functions in your script to parse and normalize the API data, preparing it for conversion into MIDI messages.
    b. mapped air quality metrics (such as pm 2.5) to MIDI parameters, such as note pitch and velocity.

4. Reaper Configuration:
    a. In Reaper, created a new track and loaded a virtual instrument onto this track to synthesize sound from incoming MIDI data.
    b. Configured the track to receive MIDI input from the virtual MIDI port created in loopMIDI.

5. MIDI Communication and Script Testing:
    a. Script sent MIDI messages through the virtual MIDI port by running my code
    b. Adjusted MIDI message parameters and virtual instrument settings in Reaper to modify the sounds and make the sounds more audible.

6. Repeated Testing and Modification in Script