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Assignment 8

*Orientation*

The terms which I am going to be investigating is object-oriented programming, cache, compiler, and interpreter. The term object-oriented programming or OOP is a way of programming which deals with working with objects which is a type of data structure. For example, when you define a list it creates an object which contains all the functions which can be used to operate on that list; in python, the result of the len() function is contained in this object. The term cache is to refer to supplemental memory which can be used to access repeated information faster. For example, when calculating the Fibonacci sequence at some index there are base numbers which are calculated a lot and it could speed up the equation if you add that number to a cache to have it saved in memory for future access to speed up calculations. A compiler is a program which processes the syntax of the code and converts it into a machine language for the computer to use. An example of this is the compiler software g++ which compiles C++ into machine code for the computer to understand. An interpreter is very similar to a compiler but instead of generating machine code it directly executes the code which is written. For example, when writing in Python the interpreter directly translates it into a machine language and has the computer execute it.

*Understanding the Problem*

The problem which we are trying to solve is asking for three different inputs. The first input is a list of names, meanwhile, the second and the third inputs are going to be a list of positive integers. The program is going to calculate the number of occurrences each letter occurs in all the names. For example, if the input of names is Frank and Brian, the frequency will have 1 f, 2 r’s, 2 a’s, 2 n’s, 1 k, 1 b, and 1 i. The program is then going to run five different functions on the two lists of integers. The first function will be returning a true or false boolean if the lengths of the two lists. The second function will add up all the integers in the list and return the sum. The third function will find the average between all the numbers in the list. The fourth function will return a true or false boolean if the lengths of the lists are different. And finally, the fifth function will return the common numbers between the two inputs. The function will do all the error handling prior to performing any operations and there will be no variables defined outside of a functions scope, in the global scope. The program will output the results of all five of the functions that are performed on the two lists of integers.

*Devise a Plan*

In this program I am going to make two different functions to take the inputs of the names and the integers. The names input function will continue to ask for a name until exit is typed and then return all the names that were returned. The numbers input will ask for the list of numbers to be a comma separated all on one line, but the function will be called twice. The numbers input function will remove all non-integer from the function and int cast them post error checking. As well, when I am computing the five functions for the two lists of numbers, I am going to have them called in one main function to streamline the process. As well I am going to describe what is being printed rather than just randomly printing data to the screen.

I am going to use a dictionary to find all the occurrences of letter in the list of names. I am going to iterate through each name in the list of names and then iterate over each character. I am going to make the character lowercase and then see if it exists yet in the dictionary, if it does exist in the dictionary already then I am going to increase the count by one on that key(character) if it does not exist in the dictionary yet I am going to the key equal to the character and then set the initial value to be one. This will return a dictionary of the count of each character in all the names there were inputted from the user.

To find common numbers between the two lists of integers I am going to have an array which is empty which will hold all the common integers. Then I will iterate over each value in one of the lists and then for each value of that it will iterate over the entire next list and see if any of the numbers are equal and not already in the list of common integers. This is a slow process for big lists of numbers but still will work. This function will return a list.

I am going to handle bad input by using the integer checker that we built in the 6th lab. As well when I am parsing the string input of the two different lists of numbers, I am going to split the string at the comma which will return an array based off the string. Then I am going to iterate over that array and use the trim() function to remove all whitespace from the numbers and then use the integer checker to ensure that it is an int. Then I will return the new list of just int casted integers which made it through all the checks.