

Objectives

- Be able to open a text file with the `open()` primitive and to read a text file with the `readline()` message
- Be able to comment on the order in which items are stored in a set or dictionary
- Be able to determine the effect on sorting operations of redefining the `<` operator
- Be able to define the sorting problem, to comment on its importance, and to indicate what the “size of the problem” is, as well as to suggest a “significant operation”
- Be able to code the Bubble Sort and the Selection Sort
- Be able to explain the strategy behind the Merge Sort and the Quick Sort

Reading a text file

```
infile = open(filename, "r")  
          (strings)
```

}

```
contents = infile.read()
```

Entire file placed in a string

Line feeds ("\n") are there

infile.readline() reads one line at a time, storing the "\n".

Exercise

- A file called varLenData.txt has been mailed to you
- Write a program to
 - (a) insert all the keys in the file into a set
 - (b) print the keys out in the order in which they are stored in the set
 - (c) print the keys out in sorted order

Redefining order

- Redefine `<` on a homemade string type (derived from `str`), then try the previous exercise.

Sorting

Bubble Sort

Selection Sort

Insertion Sort

Merge Sort

Quick Sort

