Q1. Describe the differences between text and binary files in a single paragraph.

Answer =

Binary files typically contain a sequence of bytes, or ordered groupings of eight bits.When creating a custom file format for a program, these bytes are arranged into a format that stores the necessary information for the application. Binary file formats may include multiple types of data in the same file, such as image, video, and audio data. This data can be interpreted by supporting programs, but will show up as garbled text in a text editor.

Text files are more restrictive than binary files since they can only contain textual data.However, unlike binary files, they are less likely to become corrupted. While a small error in a binary file may make it unreadable, a small error in a text file may simply show up once the file has been opened. Text files may be saved in either a plain text (.TXT) format and rich text (.RTF) format. A typical plain text file contains several lines of text that are each followed by an End-of-Line (EOL) character. An End-of-File (EOF) marker is placed after the final character, which signals the end of the file. Rich text files use a similar file structure, but may also include text styles, such as bold and italics, as well as page formatting information. Both plain text and rich text files include a (character encoding) scheme that determines how the characters are interpreted and what characters can be displayed. Since text files use a simple, standard format, many programs are capable of reading and editing text files.

Q2. What are some scenarios where using text files will be the better option? When would you like to use binary files instead of text files?

Answer =

Text files include small size and versatility. Kilobytes or megabytes smaller than the same data stored in other formats, they can be rapidly and massively exchanged via email or disk. Most can be opened on computers running diverse operating systems, using very basic software.

Binary files is that they are more efficient. In terms of memory, storing values using numeric formats, rather than as text characters, tends to use less memory. In addition, binary formats also offer advantages in terms of speed of access.

Q3. What are some of the issues with using binary operations to read and write a Python integer directly to disc?

Answer =

When we read or write a python integer using binary operations

a)Binary operations deal with raw data

b)one needs to identify how many bytes one would read or write.

Q4. Describe a benefit of using the with keyword instead of explicitly opening a file.

Answer =

When a file is opened using the 'with' keyword, if some exceptions occur after opening a file, or at the end of the file it automatically does the closing of the file. There by not leaving an file in open mode and there would no need to explicitly close a file.

Q5. Does Python have the trailing newline while reading a line of text? Does Python append a newline when you write a line of text?

Answer =

While reading a newline of text from atext file, python reads the newline also. While writing the python doesnt append a new line at end of line. It has to be handled explicitly.

Q6. What file operations enable for random-access operation?

Answer =

The file operations like seek(pos,orig), tell() enable random access operations.

Q7. When do you think you'll use the struct package the most?

Answer =

The struct package is mostly used while converting a common python types into 'C' language types.This is done by packing python variables into data fields of specific sizes.So, when we try read , right number of bytes are read. This useful when interacting with existing binary files. Reading and writing a single integer using struct package

Q8. When is pickling the best option?

Answer =

Once a file is created it can be read by other python programs. The functions available in the pickle package take care how to represent the data is written in th file.

Q9. When will it be best to use the shelve package?

Answer =

Shelve package is used to pickle data but treats the treats the entire file as dictionary. The location of any object is looked up according to its key and is returned easily.

Q10. What is a special restriction when using the shelve package, as opposed to using other data dictionaries?

Answer =

A “shelf” is a persistent, dictionary-like object. The difference with “dbm” databases is that the values (not the keys!) in a shelf can be essentially arbitrary Python objects — anything that the pickle module can handle. This includes most class instances, recursive data types, and objects containing lots of shared sub-objects. The keys are ordinary strings.