Eric Hall – CS469 – HOS05

```
def hash(self, key, size):
if isinstance(key, str):
    # convert to ascii
    return sum(ord(char) for char in key) % size
else:
    # if int then continue
    return key % size
```

Q: If the user wants to input a string as the key, which function in the above code should we modify? What method would you use to rewrite this function?

To use a string as the key, we'll need to convert the string into a numerical value so we'd use ASCII values. Once they are converted, we can sum them together and then take the modulus of this sum to fit within the bounds of the hash table. The above code will check if the key is a string and the computes the hash by summing the ASCII values of its characters. For anything non-string, it'll return the original behavior.