

# Foundations of Computing

Tutorial/Workshop    ○ ○ ○ ○

Week 8

# Today's Tutorial

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1

libraries and defaultdict

2

Debugging

3

Types of errors

# Libraries



A **group** of methods and/or variables

Gives us more things to use

```
import <library>
```

```
from <library> import <name>
```

# defaultdict



a data type from the **collections** library

```
from collections import defaultdict
```

same as dictionary but does not throw **KeyError**

if accessing keys that don't exist, will instead initialise them

# defaultdict

**initialise** it with the desired type

will add in a key with the **empty** of that type

useful for counting frequencies

main.py

+

```
1 from collections import defaultdict
2
3 i_dict = defaultdict(int)
4 print(i_dict["age"])
5
6 s_dict = defaultdict(str)
7 print(s_dict["Bob"])
8
9 l_dict = defaultdict(list)
10 print(l_dict["flowers"])
```

0

[]

\*\* Process exited - Return Code: 0 \*\*

Press Enter to exit terminal

# Exercise 1



# Exercise 1 answer



1. Rewrite the following with a default dictionary

```
my_dict = {}  
for i in range(10):  
    if i % 3 in my_dict:  
        my_dict[i % 3].append(i)  
    else:  
        my_dict[i % 3] = [i]
```

**A:**

```
from collections import defaultdict  
  
my_dict = defaultdict(list)  
for i in range(10):  
    my_dict[i % 3].append(i)
```

# Debugging



a "bug" is an error in the code

to fix the bug:

- find sections which might be causing it
- use **print** statements to check the variables

e.g. print the variable before, during, and after the suspected code section



# Types of errors



## **Syntax error**

Incorrect syntax; code will not compile

## **Run-time error**

Code will compile, but will crash while running

e.g. index out of bounds

## **Logic error**

Code compiles and runs, but the output is wrong

# Exercises

## 2-4

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## Exercise 2 answer

2. Find the errors in the following programs, classifying them as (a) syntax, (b) runtime or (c) logic errors. Fix them with a correct line of code.

```
(a) def disemvowel(text):  
    2     """ Returns string `text` with all vowels removed """  
    3     vowels = ('a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u')  
    4     answer = text[0]  
    5     for char in text:  
    6         if char.lower() is not in vowels:  
    7             answer = char + answer  
    8     print(answer)
```

## Exercise 2 answer

2. Find the errors in the following programs, classifying them as (a) syntax, (b) runtime or (c) logic errors. Fix them with a correct line of code.

```
(a) def disemvowel(text):  
    2     """ Returns string `text` with all vowels removed """  
    3     vowels = ('a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u')  
    4     answer = text[0]  
    5     for char in text:  
    6         if char.lower() is not in vowels:  
    7             answer = char + answer  
    8     print(answer)
```

- line 4; logic/run-time (if empty string); `answer = ''`
- line 6; syntax; `if char.lower() not in vowels:`
- line 7; logic; `answer = answer + char` or `answer += char`
- line 8; logic; `return answer`

## Exercise 2 answer

```
1 def disemvowel(text):  
2     vowels = ('a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u')  
3     answer = text[0]  
4     for char in text:  
5         if char.lower() not in vowels:  
6             answer = char + answer  
7     print(answer)  
8 disemvowel("Test my code")
```

 Run

 Share

Command Line Arguments



dc ym tsTT

## Exercise 2 answer

```
(b) def big_ratio(nums, n):  
    """ Calculates and returns the ratio of numbers  
    in list `nums` which are larger than `n` """  
    n = 0  
    greater_n = 0  
    for number in nums:  
        if number > n:  
            greater_n += 1  
            total += 1  
    return greater_n / total  
  
12 nums = [4, 5, 6]  
13     low = 4  
14 print(f"{100*big_ratio(nums, low)}% of numbers are greater than {low}")
```

- A:**
- line 1; syntax; `def big_ratio(nums, n):`
  - line 4; logic/(run-time as well since it would cause error as `total` is undefined); `total = 0`
  - line 9; logic; remove one level of indentation (outside `if` block)
  - line 13; syntax; remove indentation

# Exercise 3 answer

**A:** Test cases to consider include: The empty list `[]`, a list with no negative numbers `[0, 1, 2]` and a list with only negative numbers `[-1, -2, -3]`.

The debugging process will be different for everyone, but here is an example:  
Begin by observing the function's failure to process the following test case.

```
lst = [-1, -2, 3]
remove_negative(lst)
print(lst)
```

Include a print statement to observe the values of the variables within the for loop.

```
def remove_negative(nums):
    for num in nums:
        print(num, nums)
        if num < 0:
            nums.remove(num)
```

Repeating the above test case, one will find that `num` takes the value `-1` and `3`, but skips `-2` entirely. With any luck, this will lead to the recollection/realisation that it is dangerous to remove elements from list whilst iterating over them, as Python can skip elements. Instead, the following solution may be attained:

## Exercise 3 answer

```
def remove_negative(nums):  
    to_remove = []  
    for num in nums:  
        if num < 0:  
            to_remove.append(num)  
  
    for num in to_remove:  
        nums.remove(num)
```



This question is based on a previous exam question. The code below is intended to validate a data entry, being a list of the following string elements.

- (a) a *staff ID*, valid if it is a 5 digit number (e.g. "00520" or "19471")
- (b) a *first name*, valid if non-empty and only containing alphabetical letters
- (c) a *password*, valid if including at least one lower-case letter, one upper-case letter, and one punctuation mark from the following [',', '.', '!', '?']

The function should return `True` if the data entry contains entirely valid values (according to the above rules) and `False` if any of the fields are invalid. A valid data example is: ['10001', 'Chris', 'Comp!']

```
STAFFID_LEN = 5

def validate(data):
    staffid = data.pop(0)
    if not 10**(STAFFID_LEN-1) <= int(staffid) < 10**STAFFID_LEN:
        return False

    first_name = data.pop(0)
    if not first_name and first_name.isalpha():
        return False

    password = data.pop(0)
    contains_lower = contains_upper = contains_punct = False
    for letter in password:
        if letter.islower():
            contains_lower = True
        elif letter.isupper():
            contains_upper = True
        elif not letter.strip(',.!?_'):
            contains_punct = True

    if not contains_lower and contains_upper and contains_punct:
        return False

    return True
```

```

STAFFID_LEN = 5

def validate(data):
    staffid = data.pop(0)
    if not 10**(STAFFID_LEN-1) <= int(staffid) < 10**STAFFID_LEN:
        return False

    first_name = data.pop(0)
    if not first_name and first_name.isalpha():
        return False

    password = data.pop(0)
    contains_lower = contains_upper = contains_punct = False
    for letter in password:
        if letter.islower():
            contains_lower = True
        elif letter.isupper():
            contains_upper = True
        elif not letter.strip('.,!?!_'):
            contains_punct = True

    if not contains_lower and contains_upper and contains_punct:
        return False

    return True

```

- (a) Valid data that is correctly classified: [ '12345', 'Kim', 'Ron!' ] (Function returns True correctly - input is valid)
- (b) Invalid data that is correctly classified: [ '12345', 'Kim', 'RON!' ] (Function returns False correctly - password has no lowercase)
- (c) Invalid data that is *\*in\**correctly classified: [ '12345', '', 'Ron!' ] (Function returns True incorrectly since empty name is invalid but check is incorrect)
- (d) Valid data that is *\*in\**correctly classified: [ '00117', 'Kim', 'Ron!' ] (Function returns False incorrectly since staff ID is correct but check is not)

# Testing our code



Want our code to run in **all** situations

Write **test cases**

Think of all possible types of inputs

Such as large input, small input, empty input, divide by 0

Make sure the code checks and handles them

# WORKSHOP

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Grok, problems from sheet, ask me questions :)

**See you  
next week!**

