Python file handling - 2

tell()

Definition and Usage

The tell() method returns the current file position in a file stream.

Tip: You can change the current file position with the seek() method.

Syntax

file.tell()

Example

Find the current file position:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.tell())
```

seek()

Definition and Usage

The seek() method sets the current file position in a file stream.

The seek() method also returns the new postion.

Syntax

file.seek(offset)

Parameter Values

Offset : Required. A number representing the position to set the current file stream position.

Example

Return the new position:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.seek(4))
```

readline()

Definition and Usage

The readline() method returns one line from the file.

You can also specified how many bytes from the line to return, by using the size parameter.

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Syntax

file.readline(size)

Parameter Values

Parameter	Description
size	Optional. The number of bytes from the line to return. Default -1, which means the whole line.

Example

Call readline() twice to return both the first and the second line:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.readline())
print(f.readline())
```

Example

Return only the five first bytes from the first line:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.readline(5)
```

readlines()

Definition and Usage

The readlines() method returns a list containing each line in the file as a list item.

Use the hint parameter to limit the number of lines returned. If the total number of bytes returned exceeds the specified number, no more lines are returned.

Syntax

file.readlines(hint)

Parameter Values

Hint : Optional. If the number of bytes returned exceed the hint number, no more lines will be returned. Default value is -1, which means all lines will be returned.

Example

Do not return the next line if the total number of returned bytes are more than 33:

```
f = open("demofile.txt", "r")
print(f.readlines(33))
```

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