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IT FDN 101 A - Foundations in Programming: Python  
Assignment05  
<https://github.com/every-place/IntroToProg-Python-Mod05>

## Assignment05 – Advanced Collections and Error Handling

### Introduction

This document provides a record of my experience in completing the Week 05 assignment for this Python class. This week, we covered the dictionary/JSON data collection, error handling, and an introduction to GitHub.

### Python Dictionary Structure and JSON

I am very familiar with JSON, because I have spent countless hours parsing and packaging parameters for API calls in other languages. I am glad that the Python dictionary structure is in the same key-value pair format. Since I deal mostly with human-readable data from database tables and spreadsheets, I prefer to access individual record data by the key name rather than an index. I'm sure that there are instances where the index method has advantages in keeping the code clean, but I like to be able to read what I'm writing.

### Error Handling

This is where you have to put your big boy pants on. I have avoided error handling, because I have been working in a low code/no code environment that has built-in "sandbox" features that make it easy to get away with it. Now that I've seen it in action, I realize that it is more than worth the time and effort. There is a recognizable pattern to incorporating it into the code. I think it separates professionals from hobbyists to implement the discipline into one's modus operandi. It also demonstrates how important it is to have repositories to keep large chunks of reusable code.

### GitHub

I could not believe how easy it is to use GitHub. I have let the mystique of understanding repositories keep me from utilizing this indispensable tool. There have been so many times when I wish I had blocks of old code that I had spent hours to figure out, only to have to relearn the concept. Not anymore. I appreciate the instruction and the fact that I will be able to use this industry standard to collaborate with fellow developers from now on.

### Summary

Learning to work with dictionaries was a little puzzling. Facing the intimidation of error handling was a revelation. Discovering GitHub was satisfying. I am enjoying getting to learn the fundamentals of best practices and developing as a professional. I am eagerly anticipating what comes next.