SI 506 DYU 5

This week I chose to do a text doc instead of the regular code because I struggled with the coursework of this week. I had way too much on my plate and so I could barely complete the lec prep before the classes. Honestly, I did not understand the coursework thoroughly, but the discussion section and Extra exercises helped me to a certain extent.

1. Lambda expression

The lambda expression is a single line function that is quite useful as the key parameter in sort/ sorted operations on lists/ dictionaries. I understood this easy hack of writing a lambda function from a normal function definition via a friend.

Take the case of a normal function definition that increments the value of an integer and returns it -

def addone(x):
return x+1

To convert it into a lambda expression where the format is 'lambda (parameter to be passed): (parameter to be returned)', we need to just hide the words def and return. So now we have the following left-

def addone(x): ——— which results into ——— lambda x: x+1 return x+1

Nested lists/ dictionaries

I had a hard time grasping how to access items in a nested/ dictionary but the exercises in the discussion section cleared that out for me. The first set to access any element is to check the type of the element it is nested in. That gives us a clear idea of how to access the target element, since list elements need to be accessed through indices while dictionary elements can be accessed through keys. So the main takeaway was, using JSON Online Editor, understand the skeleton of the given list/ dictionary, check the type of the outer elements and then access the inner elements.