

Strings, Collections, and Iteration



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Overview



`str, bytes, list, and dict`
`for-loop`

Put it all together

Collections

Collections



`str`

`bytes`

`list`

`dict`

`for-loops`

str

Data type for strings in Python

Sequence of Unicode code points

Immutable

String Literals

```
>>> 'This is a string'
'This is a string'
>>> "This is also a string"
'This is also a string'
>>> "inconsistent"
File "<stdin>", line 1
    "inconsistent"
        ^
```

SyntaxError: EOL while scanning string literal

```
>>> "It's a good thing."
"It's a good thing."
>>> '"Yes!", he said, "I agree!"'
'"Yes!", he said, "I agree!"'
>>>
```

Moment of Zen

Practicality beats purity

Beautiful text strings
Rendered in literal form
Simple elegance



String Literals

```
>>> "first" "second"
```

```
'firstsecond'
```

```
>>>
```


Strings with Newlines

Multiline strings

Spread the literal across multiple lines

Escape sequences

Embed escape sequences in a single-line
literal

Multiline Strings

```
>>> """This is
... a multiline
... string"""
'This is\na multiline\nstring'
>>> '''So
... is
... this.'''
'So\nis\nthis.'
>>> m = 'This string\nspans multiple\nlines'
>>> m
'This string\nspans multiple\nlines'
>>> print(m)
This string
spans multiple
lines
>>>
```

Newlines and Operating Systems



Windows Carriage-return, line-feed

`\r\n`



Linux and macOS Carriage-return

`\r`

Universal Newlines

Python translates `\n` to the appropriate newline sequence for your platform

PEP 278: python.org/dev/peps/pep-0278/

Escape Sequences

```
>>> "This is a \" in a string"
'This is a " in a string'
>>> 'This is a \' in a string'
"This is a ' in a string"
>>> 'This is a \" and a \' in a string'
'This is a " and a \' in a string'
>>> k = 'A \\ in a string'
>>> k
'A \\ in a string'
>>> print(k)
A \ in a string
>>>
```

All Escape Sequences

| Sequence | Meaning |
|-----------------------|---|
| <code>\newline</code> | Backslash and newline ignored |
| <code>\\</code> | Backslash (<code>\</code>) |
| <code>\'</code> | Single quotes (<code>'</code>) |
| <code>\"</code> | Double quote (<code>"</code>) |
| <code>\a</code> | ASCII Bell (BEL) |
| <code>\b</code> | ASCII Backspace (BS) |
| <code>\f</code> | ASCII Formfeed (FF) |
| <code>\n</code> | ASCII Linefeed (LF) |
| <code>\r</code> | ASCII Carriage Return (CR) |
| <code>\t</code> | ASCII Horizontal Tab (TAB) |
| <code>\v</code> | ASCII Vertical Tab (VT) |
| <code>\ooo</code> | Character with octal value <code>ooo</code> |
| <code>\xhh</code> | Character with hex value <i>hh</i> |

Only recognized in string literals

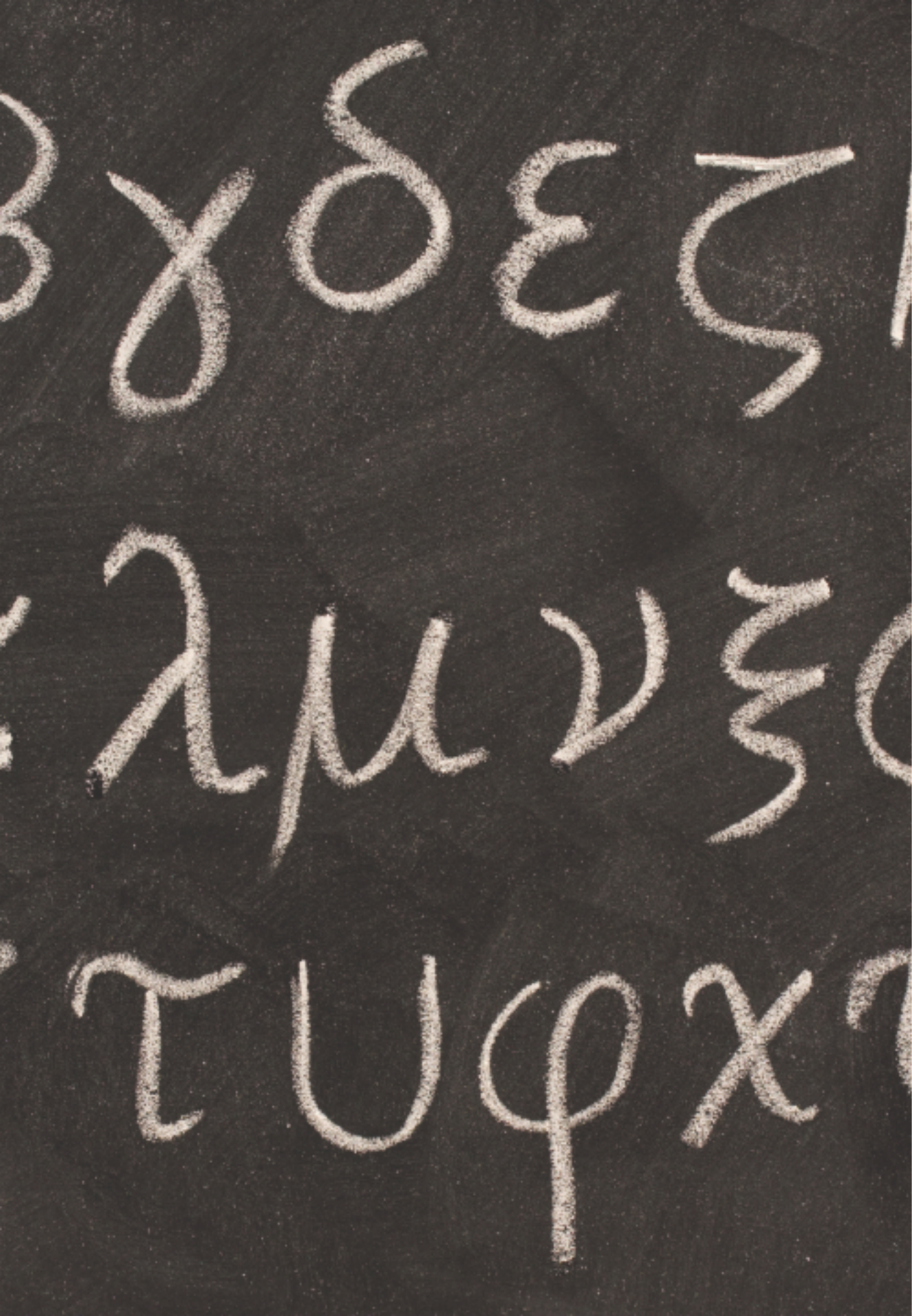
String Features

```
>>> path = r'C:\Users\Merlin\Documents\Spells'
>>> path
'C:\\Users\\Merlin\\Documents\\Spells'
>>> print(path)
C:\Users\Merlin\Documents\Spells
>>> str(496)
'496'
>>> str(6.02e23)
'6.02e+23'
>>> s = 'parrot'
>>> s[4]
'o'
>>> type(s[4])
<class 'str'>
>>>
```

String Features

```
|  
| __sizeof__(self, /)  
|     Return the size of the string in memory, in bytes.  
|  
| __str__(self, /)  
|     Return str(self).  
|  
| capitalize(self, /)  
|     Return a capitalized version of the string.  
|  
|     More specifically, make the first character have upper case and the rest  
lower  
|     case.  
|  
| casefold(self, /)  
|     Return a version of the string suitable for caseless comparisons.  
|
```

```
>>> c = "oslo"  
>>> c.capitalize()  
'Oslo'  
>>> c  
'oslo'  
>>>
```

str is Unicode

Python 3 source encoding is UTF-8

Unicode in Strings

```
>>> "Vi er så glad for å høre og lære om Python!"  
'Vi er så glad for å høre og lære om Python!'  
>>> "Vi er s\u00e5 glad for \u00e5 h\u00f8re og l\u00e6re om Python!"  
'Vi er så glad for å høre og lære om Python!'  
>>> '\xe5'  
'å'  
>>> '\345'  
'å'  
>>>
```

bytes

Data type for sequences of bytes

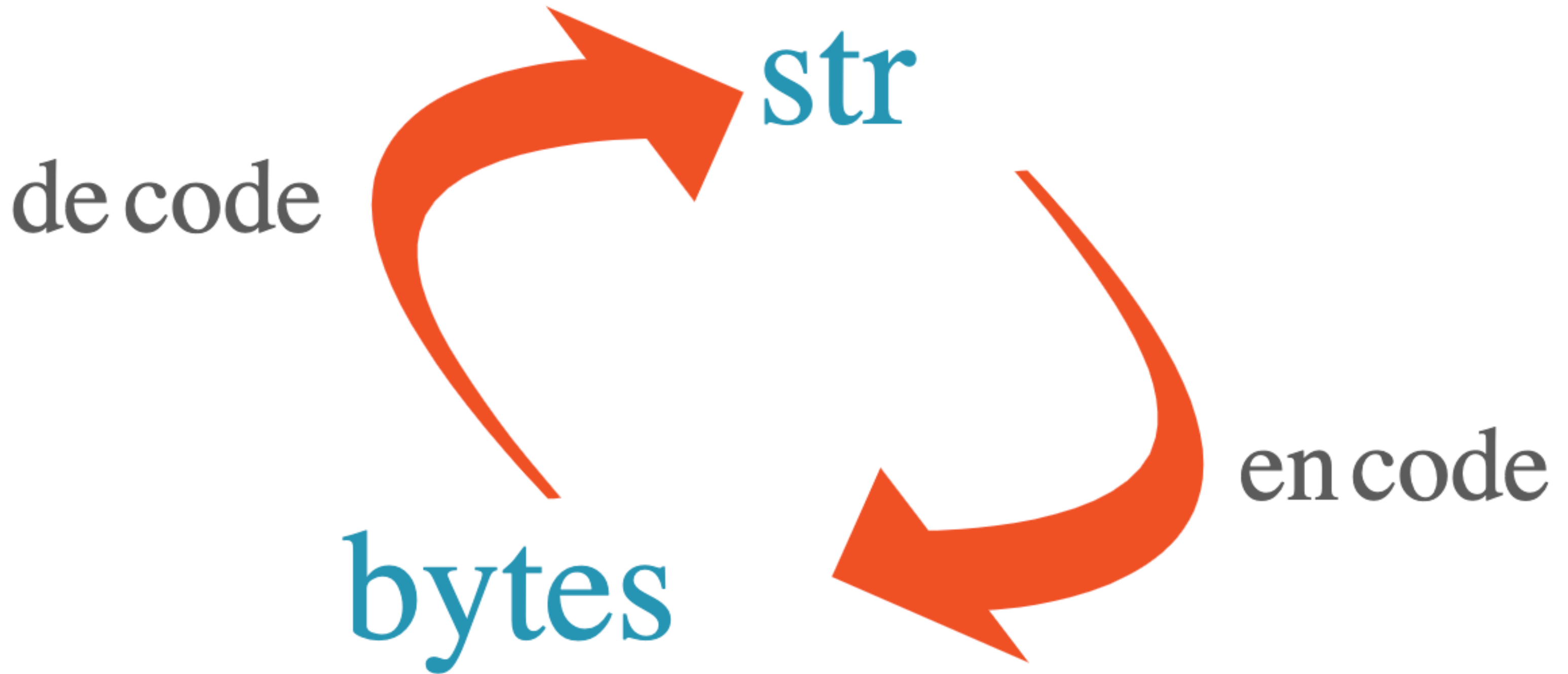
Raw binary data

Fixed-width single-byte encodings

Bytes

```
>>> b'data'
b'data'
>>> b"data"
b'data'
>>> d = b'some bytes'
>>> d[0]
115
>>> d.split()
[b'some', b'bytes']
>>>
```


Converting Between Strings and Bytes



docs.python.org/3/library/codecs.html#standard-encodings

Encode/Decode

```
>>> norsk = "Jeg begynte å fortære en sandwich mens jeg kjørte taxi på vei til quiz"
>>> data = norsk.encode('utf8')
>>> data
b'Jeg begynte \xc3\xa5 fort\xc3\xa6re en sandwich mens jeg kj\xc3\xb8rte taxi p\xc3\xa5\n\xca5 vei til quiz'
>>> norwegian = data.decode('utf8')
>>> norwegian == norsk
True
>>> norwegian
'Jeg begynte å fortære en sandwich mens jeg kjørte taxi på vei til quiz'
>>>
```

list

Sequences of objects

Mutable

A workhorse in Python

Lists

```
>>> [1, 9, 8]
[1, 9, 8]
>>> a = ["apple", "orange", "pear"]
>>> a[1]
'orange'
>>> a[1] = 7
>>> a
['apple', 7, 'pear']
>>> b = []
>>> b.append(1.618)
>>> b
[1.618]
>>> b.append(1.414)
>>> b
[1.618, 1.414]
>>> list("characters")
['c', 'h', 'a', 'r', 'a', 'c', 't', 'e', 'r', 's']
>>> c = ['bear',
...      'giraffe',
...      'elephant',
...      'caterpillar',]
>>> c
['bear', 'giraffe', 'elephant', 'caterpillar']
>>>
```

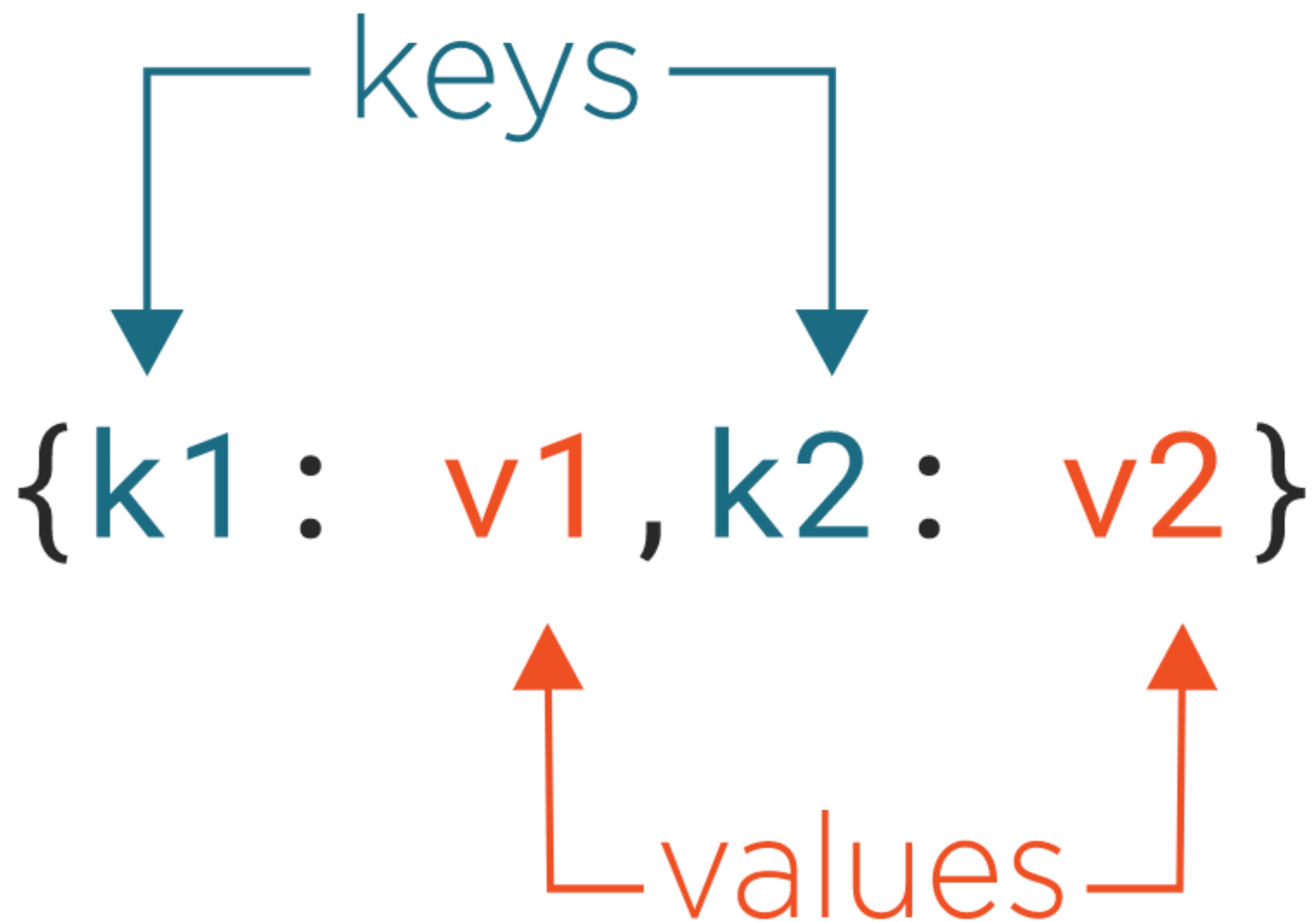

dict

Fundamental data structure in Python

Map keys to values

Also known as maps or associative arrays

Dict Literals



Dict

```
>>> d = {'alice': '878-8728-922', 'bob': '256-5262-124', 'eve': '198-2321-787'}
>>> d['alice']
'878-8728-922'
>>> d['alice'] = '966-4532-6272'
>>> d
{'alice': '966-4532-6272', 'bob': '256-5262-124', 'eve': '198-2321-787'}
>>> d['charles'] = '334-5551-913'
>>> d
{'alice': '966-4532-6272', 'bob': '256-5262-124', 'eve': '198-2321-787', 'charle
s': '334-5551-913'}
>>> e = {}
>>>
```

for-loop

Visit each item in an iterable sequence

For-loops

```
for item in iterable:  
    ...body...
```

For-loop

```
>>> cities = ["London", "New York", "Paris", "Oslo", "Helsinki"]
>>> for city in cities:
...     print(city)
...
London
New York
Paris
Oslo
Helsinki
>>> colors = {'crimson': 0xdc143c, 'coral': 0xff7f50, 'teal': 0x008080}
>>> for color in colors:
...     print(color, colors[color])
...
crimson 14423100
coral 16744272
teal 32896
>>>
```

Putting It All Together

```
or', b'good', b'or', b'for', b'evil', b'in', b'the', b'superlative', b'degree',  
b'of', b'comparison', b'only']
```

```
>>>
```

```
>>>
```

```
>>>
```

```
.decode('utf8').split()
```

```
...
```

```
...
```

```
...
```

```
>>>
```

```
>>>
```

```
['It', 'was', 'the', 'best', 'of', 'times', 'it', 'was', 'the', 'worst', 'of', 'times',  
'it', 'was', 'the', 'age', 'of', 'wisdom', 'it', 'was', 'the', 'age', 'of', 'foolishness',  
'it', 'was', 'the', 'epoch', 'of', 'belief', 'it', 'was', 'the', 'epoch', 'of', 'incredulity',  
'it', 'was', 'the', 'season', 'of', 'Light', 'it', 'was', 'the', 'season', 'of', 'Darkness',  
'it', 'was', 'the', 'spring', 'of', 'hope', 'it', 'was', 'the', 'winter', 'of', 'despair', 'we',  
'had', 'everything', 'before', 'us', 'we', 'had', 'nothing', 'before', 'us', 'we', 'were',  
'all', 'going', 'direct', 'to', 'Heaven', 'we', 'were', 'all', 'going', 'direct', 'the',  
'other', 'way', 'in', 'short', 'the', 'period', 'was', 'so', 'far', 'like', 'the', 'present',  
'period', 'that', 'some', 'of', 'its', 'noisiest', 'authorities', 'insisted', 'on',  
'its', 'being', 'received', 'for', 'good', 'or', 'for', 'evil', 'in', 'the', 'superlative',  
'degree', 'of', 'comparison', 'only']
```

```
>>>
```

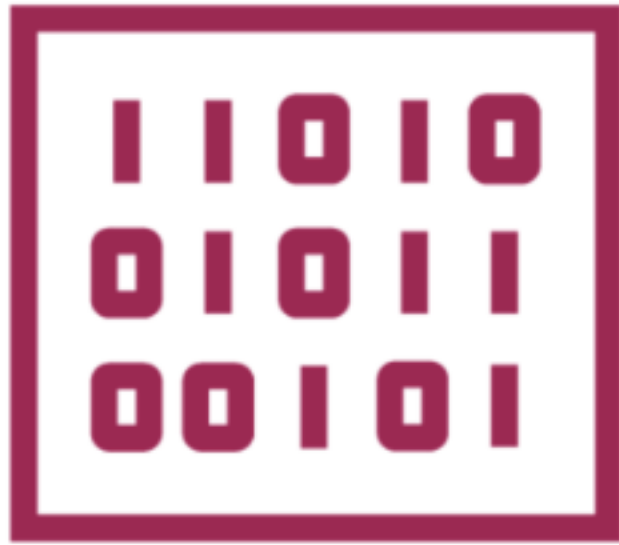

Check for Errors



Carefully check and re-enter code if there are errors.

An `HTTPError` indicates a network problem.

Recall Bytes



Bytes literals prefixed with lowercase 'b'

HTTP data is provided as bytes

Use `bytes.decode()` to get strings

From REPL to IDE



The REPL is good for short-lived work and experimentation.

Use an editor/IDE for larger or longer-lived projects.

Summary



Strings

- Single- and multi-line literals
- Concatenation of adjacent literals
- Universal newlines
- Escape sequences
- Raw strings
- Use str constructor to convert other types
- Access individual characters with square bracket indexing
- Rich API
- String literals can contain Unicode

Summary



Bytes

- Sequence of bytes rather than codepoints
- Literals prefixed with lowercase "b"
- Use `str.encode()` and `bytes.decode()` for conversion

Summary



Lists

- Mutable, heterogeneous sequences
- Literals delimited by square brackets
- Literal items separated by commas
- Access elements with square brackets
- Elements can be replaced by assigning to an index
- Grow lists with `append()`
- Use `list` constructor to create lists from other sequences

Summary



Dicts

- Associate keys with values
- Literals are delimited by curly braces
- Key-value pairs are separated by commas
- Keys are separated from values by colons

For-loops

- Bind each item from an iterable one at a time to a name
- Called for-each loops in other languages