hand = [(1, 'spade'), (10, 'club'), ...]

But simplest may not be what you want. Maybe you want a class to represent a card:

class Card:

def \_\_init\_\_(self, rank, suit):

self.rank = rank

self.suit = suit

def \_\_repr\_\_(self):

letters = {1:'A', 11:'J', 12:'Q', 13:'K'}

letter = letters.get(self.rank, str(self.rank))

return "<Card %s %s>" % (letter, self.suit)

hand = [Card(1, 'spade'), Card(10, 'club')]