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Foundations of Python

Assignment 05

mandubble Python100-Spring-2025

Assignment 5 -

So in this the fifth section of the Foundation of Python Programming course we are reworking a previous assignment labs and demos that we *called a* list of lists but now we could call a list of dictionaries! Introduced into this section as well is the Java-Script Object Notation or (Json) - no this is not Friday the 13th at least for me THAT part wasn't a nightmare actually, I found the JSON module and concepts to be fairly logical and sensical! We also extensively covered error handling, though as extensive as it had seemed to cover, compared to all the (I don't know) hundreds at least of errors, we merely broke a tip off the proverbial programming iceberg.

This mod was somewhat easier to understand than the last one. Since I hit a wall understanding the lists and tables and rows of the last labs and assignment I was motivated to purchase a month subscription to the Claude AI. This would serve as my tutor, and since there is so much abstract thinking and concepts in programming, I really needed a thing that would answer all of my 10,000 questions. Immediately after getting Claude out of the box, so to speak, it helped me get my mind around (not completely but partly) the coding for the lists and tables and rows. I'm still not there yet, like a lot of things about programming just know the right syntax is not usually enough you have to have a STRUCTURAL understanding of how this all works.

So again this paper is about or supposed to be about: documenting your work! However at this point, I am still not there and am not able to complete the assignments which I find frustrating. .So , this paper, MY paper is partly

about documenting my work and also another part is about DOCUMENTING MY CONFUSION! I think it is good to be honest about it, I

really really want to understand this Python programming and I AM, somewhat slower than I would like! I am gaining ground though!: Reading the material , watching the videos, typing out assignments. I am doing the work : why am I not totally getting this? It will take more time perhaps than the average programmer, but I WILL get it and once the information is in, it will be there!

I will say that I did enjoy working with the , or translating the lists into dictionaries, working with the JSON aspect of the code and doing the tranferring to and from the file with the JSON. The error handling was interesting and I got it to work spotting numerical errors (where numbers are mistakenly input by the user instead of string data).

Some hangups I had in this assignment were:

1. The indents are hard to get. I'm getting better though

2. Error handling: I get the basic idea and I think it is kind of a 'form' thing where you figure out what kind of error you have then you just copy three or for lines or more of a premade sentence structure with dialog and remarks. What I didn't figure out or take far enough was going and and experimenting with the errors to find what are the best errors the ones that would hopefully not shut the program down unnecessarily or allow something bad to happen to the computer or software system. It appears that error handling by itself is an art, and you can have a career in just that. I think error handling is interesting and maybe I am like what Randall Root was referring to as "people who are good at breaking stuff!" I HAVE been called someone who "knows enough to be dangerous". So there is that.

3. There are a lot of different ways to do similar things in programming. For instance: you can use the .format method or go with the f-string. Even with those different ways within those ways there are differences.

In summation

The dictionaries and list of dictionaries has been a good module.