**1. To what does a relative path refer?**

Answer 1: A relative path refers to the location of a file or directory relative to the current working directory. It doesn't start from the root directory but from the current working directory.

**2. What does an absolute path start with your operating system?**

Answer 2: An absolute path starts with the root directory of the operating system. On most systems, it begins with a drive letter (e.g., C: on Windows) or a leading slash (e.g., / on Unix-like systems).

**3. What do the functions os.getcwd() and os.chdir() do?**

Answer 3: os.getcwd() returns the current working directory, and os.chdir() changes the current working directory to the path provided as an argument.

**4. What are the . and .. folders?**

Answer 4: The . folder represents the current directory, and the .. folder represents the parent directory. These are used in relative paths to navigate the file system.

**5. In C:\bacon\eggs\spam.txt, which part is the dir name, and which part is the base name?**

Answer 5: In the path C:\bacon\eggs\spam.txt, 'C:\bacon\eggs' is the directory name (dir name), and 'spam.txt' is the base name.

**6. What are the three “mode” arguments that can be passed to the open() function?**

Answer 6: The three "mode" arguments that can be passed to the open() function are:

'r': Read mode (default). Opens the file for reading.

'w': Write mode. Opens the file for writing, and truncates the file if it already exists.

'a': Append mode. Opens the file for writing, and appends to the end of the file if it already exists.

**7. What happens if an existing file is opened in write mode?**

Answer 7: If an existing file is opened in write mode ('w'), it will truncate the file, removing its previous content, and start fresh. Be cautious when using write mode to avoid unintentional data loss.

**8. How do you tell the difference between read() and readlines()?**

Answer 8: read() reads the entire content of a file as a single string, while readlines() reads the lines of the file and returns them as a list of strings.

**9. What data structure does a shelf value resemble?**

Answer 9: A shelf value in Python resembles a dictionary. It is a persistent, dictionary-like object stored in a file, allowing you to store and retrieve Python objects using keys. Shelve uses a file-based database to store its data.