

Lecture: The (Py)Tesseract Library

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In [33]: # We're going to start experimenting with tesseract using just a simple image of
# Lets first import Image from PIL and display the image text.png.
from PIL import Image

image = Image.open("readonly/text.png")
display(image)
```

Behold, the magic of OCR! Using
pytesseract, we'll be able to read the
contents of this image and convert it to
text

```
In [34]: # Great, we have a base image of some big clear text
# Lets import pytesseract and use the dir() function to get a sense of what might
# functions to play with
import pytesseract
dir(pytesseract)
```

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Out[34]: ['Output',
'TesseractError',
'__builtins__',
'__cached__',
'__doc__',
'__file__',
'__loader__',
'__name__',
'__package__',
'__path__',
'__spec__',
'get_tesseract_version',
'image_to_boxes',
'image_to_data',
'image_to_osd',
'image_to_pdf_or_hocr',
'image_to_string',
'pytesseract']
```

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In [35]: # It looks like there are just a handful of interesting functions, and I think image_to_string
# is probably our best bet. Lets use the help() function to interrogate this a bit
help(pytesseract.image_to_string)
```