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def get_package_versions(requirements_path, output_path):
  try:
     with open(requirements_path) as file:
       requirements = file.readlines()
  except FileNotFoundError:
     print(f"Error: The file '{requirements_path}' was not found.")
     return
  package_versions = []
  for requirement in requirements:
     # Skip empty lines and comments
     if (
       requirement.strip() == ""
       or requirement.strip().startswith("#")
    ):
       continue
     # Extract package name
    package_name = requirement.split("==")[0].strip()
     try:
       version = pkg_resources.get_distribution(
          package_name
```

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).version
    package_versions.append(f"{package_name}=={version}")
    except pkg_resources.DistributionNotFound:
    package_versions.append(f"{package_name}: not installed")

with open(output_path, "w") as file:
    for package_version in package_versions:
        file.write(package_version + "\n")
    print(f"Versions written to {output_path}")

# Usage
get_package_versions("requirements.txt", "installed_versions.txt")
```