Welcome Pradeep Sathyamurthy from Using Python to Access Web Data

**Following Links in Python**

In this assignment you will write a Python program that expands on <http://www.pythonlearn.com/code/urllinks.py>. The program will use **urllib** to read the HTML from the data files below, extract the href= vaues from the anchor tags, scan for a tag that is in a particular position relative to the first name in the list, follow that link and repeat the process a number of times and report the last name you find.

We provide two files for this assignment. One is a sample file where we give you the name for your testing and the other is the actual data you need to process for the assignment

* Sample problem: Start at <http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known_by_Fikret.html>   
  Find the link at position **3** (the first name is 1). Follow that link. Repeat this process **4** times. The answer is the last name that you retrieve.  
  Sequence of names: Fikret Montgomery Mhairade Butchi Anayah   
  Last name in sequence: Anayah
* Actual problem: Start at: <http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known_by_Moad.html>   
  Find the link at position **18** (the first name is 1). Follow that link. Repeat this process **7** times. The answer is the last name that you retrieve.  
  Hint: The first character of the name of the last page that you will load is: N

**Strategy**

The web pages tweak the height between the links and hide the page after a few seconds to make it difficult for you to do the assignment without writing a Python program. But frankly with a little effort and patience you can overcome these attempts to make it a little harder to complete the assignment without writing a Python program. But that is not the point. The point is to write a clever Python program to solve the program.

**Sample execution**

Here is a sample execution of a solution:

$ python solution.py

Enter URL: http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known\_by\_Fikret.html

Enter count: 4

Enter position: 3

Retrieving: http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known\_by\_Fikret.html

Retrieving: http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known\_by\_Montgomery.html

Retrieving: http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known\_by\_Mhairade.html

Retrieving: http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known\_by\_Butchi.html

Retrieving: http://python-data.dr-chuck.net/known\_by\_Anayah.html

The answer to the assignment for this execution is "Anayah".

**Turning in the Assignment**

Top of Form

Enter the last name retrieved and your Python code below:  
Name: (name starts with N)

Bottom of Form