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Lesson 23. Capstone project: analyze your friends









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Lesson 24. Mutable and immutable objects

**Unit 6. Working with mutable data types**

In the previous unit, you learned how to organize your code with functions. Functions are used to write modular code whose parts can be reused in different sections of a bigger program.

In this unit, you'll learn about two new data types in Python: lists and dictionaries. These data types are *mutable* because you can modify them directly rather than having to make copies of them. Mutable data types are commonly used when writing complex programs, especially ones in which you store larger collections of data that's likely to change. For example, you want to maintain inventory of your company's products or all the employees who work there and their information. Mutable objects don't have the extra overhead of having to copy the object with every change.


In the capstone project, you'll write a program that assigns a similarity score to two documents. You'll read two files and use a metric to determine how similar the two pieces of work are based on the number of words in the two documents and the number of words that they have in common. You'll use dictionaries to pair words to how often they occur. Then you'll use a formula to calculate the difference between the documents based on these frequencies.

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