Exercise 24: More Practice

You are getting to the end of this section. You should have enough Python "under your fingers" to move on to learning about how programming really works, but you should do some more practice. This exercise is longer and all about building up stamina. The next exercise will be similar. Do them, get them exactly right, and do your checks.

```python
1   print "Let's practice everything."
2   print 'You\'d need to know \'bout escapes with \\ that do
3   \n newlines and \t tabs.'
4
5   poem = """
6   \tThe lovely world
7   with logic so firmly planted
8   cannot discern \n the needs of love
9   nor comprehend passion from intuition
10  and requires an explanation
11  \n\t\twhere there is none.
12  """
13
14  print "--------------"
15  print poem
16  print "--------------"
17
18
19  five = 10 - 2 + 3 - 6
20  print "This should be five: %s" % five
21
22  def secret_formula(started):
23      jelly_beans = started * 500
24      jars = jelly_beans / 1000
25      crates = jars / 100
26      return jelly_beans, jars, crates
27
28
29  start_point = 10000
30  beans, jars, crates = secret_formula(start_point)
31
32  print "With a starting point of: %d" % start_point
33  print "We'd have %d beans, %d jars, and %d crates." %
34  (beans, jars, crates)
```

```
35    start_point = start_point / 10
36
37    print "We can also do that this way:"
      print "We'd have %d beans, %d jars, and %d crates." %
      secret_formula(start_point)
```

What You Should See

```
$ python ex24.py
Let's practice everything.
You'd need to know 'bout escapes with \ that do
 newlines and   tabs.
-------------


      The lovely world
with logic so firmly planted
cannot discern
 the needs of love
nor comprehend passion from intuition
and requires an explanation


            where there is none.


-------------
This should be five: 5
With a starting point of: 10000
We'd have 5000000 beans, 5000 jars, and 50 crates.
We can also do that this way:
We'd have 500000 beans, 500 jars, and 5 crates.
```

Study Drills

1. Make sure to do your checks: read it backward, read it out loud, and put comments above confusing parts.

2. Break the file on purpose, then run it to see what kinds of errors you get. Make sure you can fix it.

Common Student Questions

How come you call the variable `jelly_beans` but the name `beans` later?

That's part of how a function works. Remember that inside the function the variable is temporary, and when you return it then it can be assigned to a variable for later. I'm just making a new variable named `beans` to hold the return value.

What do you mean by reading the code backward?

Start at the last line. Compare that line in your file to the same line in mine. Once it's exactly the same, move up to the next line. Do this until you get to the first line of the file.

Who wrote that poem?

I did. Not all of my poems suck.

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