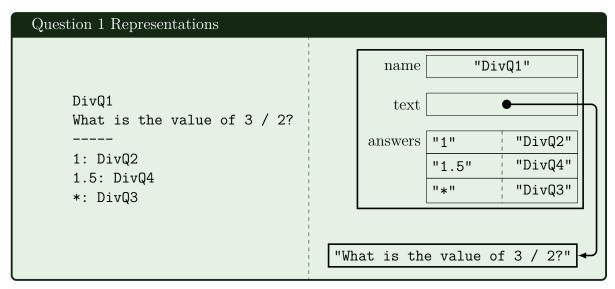
Section 13 CS 151

As you continue working on Adventure, there are a myriad of potential pitfalls or sticking points. This week's questions are geared around helping you through these situations.

1. Diagramming the internal data structure

Before you write the code for the Adventure game, it is important to understand the teaching machine program presented in Chapter 12, which has a nearly identical structure. This problem reinforces your knowledge of the Teaching Machine and begins the process of converting from the Teaching Machine to the Adventure model.

In class and in the text you saw how the internal data structure of the teaching machine program was constructed. Shown below is the human-readable text and corresponding data structure for the first question to serve as a reminder.



Your goal in this problem is to sketch out the corresponding data structure for the AdvRoom class populated with the contents of the first room, shown below:

OutsideBuilding
Outside Building
You are standing at the end of a road before a small brick
building. A small stream flows out of the building and
down a gully to the south. A road runs up a small hill
to the west.
---WEST: EndOfRoad
UP: EndOfRoad
NORTH: InsideBuilding
IN: InsideBuilding
SOUTH: Valley
DOWN: Valley

Pay particular attention to what data types are being used to store different items, and come up with reasonable names for the different attributes. In particular, there is an extra piece of information in the AdvRoom file than in the Teaching Machine that you need to decide where and how it will be stored.

2. Finding Common Mistakes

Adventure is a complex enough program that, as you make progress on the milestones, debugging or troubleshooting the errors that arise may begin to really test your debugging skills. After all, your code is now spread across 3-4 different files and compartmentalized across multiple classes. As such, it becomes imperative to systematically identify where an error is occurring, why that error is occurring, and then what steps you could take to remedy the situation. The strategy of changing something random hoping it will fix the issue will almost assuredly never work in a program of this complexity. As such, this first problem is geared at getting you some more practice debugging an Adventure-like program.

In the template materials for this section is a folder names BrokenAdvTM, which contains an advanced version of the Teaching Machine program wherein someone was trying to add a points and rewards feature to the program. Their hope was to have each problem normally worth a single point, but to have several possible rewards randomly distributed to the problems that would boost or decrease their worth. To do so, they have added an entirely new class (TMReward) whose contents are read in from the rewards.txt file when a new course is created. Unfortunately, there are currently several errors in the code. Your task here is to track down and identify what the issues are, and to then fix them! There are not many errors here: only 3 real issues which require changing 5 lines of code.

3. Adding messages to the teaching machine

As written, the TeachingMachine.py program provides no feedback when the user gives an incorrect answer. Here you will look into possible ways of implementing such feedback, which will also be directly applicable to the Adventure project.

- (a) Devise a strategy that would let the course designer specify an optional message along with each response. How would you need to adjust your data-file and corresponding internal representation?
- (b) While there are many strategies that you could have come up with, one that is easy to implement and mimics what Will Crowther did with Adventure is to allow questions in the Teaching Machine to have a "FORCED" answer. If a question has such an answer, then the user is **not** prompted for a response, and instead the user is taken immediately on to the new question after the text is displayed. An example of a snippet of the data file might thus look like:

```
DivQ1
What is the value of 3 / 2?
----
1: DivMsg
1.5: DivQ4
*: DivQ3

DivMsg
The / operator always produces floats.
----
FORCED: DivQ2

DivQ2
What is the value of 9 / 3?
----
3: DivMsg
3.0: DivQ4
*: DivQ3
```

The FORCED entry in the question named DivMsg tells the Teaching Machine to continue automatically to DivQ2 without asking the user for an answer, as could be seen in the following run transcript:

```
> python TeachingMachine.py

Course name: Python
What is the value of 3 / 2?
> 1
The / operator produces floats.
What is the value of 9 / 3?
> 3
The / operator produces floats.
What is the value of 9 / 3?
> 3
```

Making the necessary changes in the TMCourse class is not difficult, you need only to check if a question has a FORCED answer before prompting the user for input, and set the next question accordingly. An example course is provided in the template file for you to test your program against.