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|  | Chapter 8 Practice Questions – Reading and Writing Files |
| **Q1** | **What is a relative path relative to ?** |
| A | The relative path is relative to the program’s (Python) current working directory e.g. so if current working directory is: C:\Users\segun.longe\AppData\Local\Programs\Python\Python39 then relative path is ‘.’ *Since Python39 is the current working directory*  For: 'C:\\Users\\segun.longe\\AppData\\Local\\Programs\\Python\\Python39\\Scripts' the relative path is ‘Scripts’  *Since Python39 is the current working directory* |
| **Q2** | **What does an absolute path start with?** |
| A | An absolute path starts with .\  Absolute paths start with the root folder, such as / or C:\ |
| **Q3** | **What do the os.getcwd() and os.chdir() functions do?** |
| A | os.getcwd(): Gets the current working directory i.e. for python  os.chdir(): Changes the current working directory |
| **Q4** | **What are the . and .. folders?** |
| A | The . folder represents the current working directory or this directory  The .. folder represents the parent folder |
| **Q5** | **In C:\bacon\eggs\spam.txt, which part is the dir name, and which part is the base name?** |
| A | The dir name is: C:\bacon\eggs  The base name is: spam.txt |
| **Q6** | **What are the three “mode” arguments that can be passed to the open() function?** |
| A | The 3 mode arguments are:   * Read mode (default) or specifying ‘r’ as the second argument * Write mode by specifying ‘w’ as the second argument * Append mode by specifying ‘a’ as the second argument |
| **Q7** | **What happens if an existing file is opened in write mode?** |
| A | The contents of the existing file will be overwritten |
| **Q8** | **What is the difference between the read() and readlines() methods?** |
| A | Read: Reads the entire content of the file  Readlines: Reads each line as a string value that is stored as a list |
| **Q9** | **What data structure does a shelf value resemble?** |
| A | Shelf files allow python to save variables from running programs so that they can be retrieved for variables within the program again.  It resembles a dictionary i.e. with key/value pairs with the same methods |