24.10. Requests Cookbook

The basic process involves three steps:

- 1. Make the appropriate call to requests.get(). If you have trouble, print out the URL that's generated and work with it in the browser.
- 2. Extract content from response object, by accessing the .text attribute and calling json.loads if the string is in ison format.
- 3. Process the data you've extracted. Often, when you get back data in json format, it will be a highly nested data structure. You may only need a little of that data. You may want to review the chapter on nested data and nested iteration, especially the section on the cycle of Understand. Extract. Repeat. (../NestedData/WPExtractFromNestedData.html#debug-nested-chap)

The key to success is to make sure that you debug each of those steps before going on to the next one. This is just a particular case of the general advice we gave early in the course: start small and keep it working at every stage, growing the amount that your program does over time.

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