6.9. Splitting and Joining Strings

Two of the most useful methods on strings involve lists of strings. The split method breaks a string into a list of words. By default, any number of whitespace characters is considered a word boundary.

```
"leaders and best".split()
```

["leaders", "and", "best"]

```
Save & Run 4/30/2021, 7:57:22 PM-2 of 2 Show in CodeLens

1 song = "The rain in Spain..."
2 wds = song.split()
3 print(wds)
4

['The', 'rain', 'in', 'Spain...']

Activity: 1 -- ActiveCode (ac5_9_1)
```

An optional argument called a **delimiter** can be used to specify which characters to use as word boundaries.

'leaders and best'.split("e") ['l', 'ad', 'rs and b', 'st']

The following example uses the string ai as the delimiter:

```
Save & Run

1 song = "The rain in Spain..."
2 wds = song.split('ai')
3 print(wds)

4

['The r', 'n in Sp', 'n...']

Activity: 2 -- ActiveCode (ac5_9_2)
```

Notice that the delimiter doesn't appear in the result.

The inverse of the split method is join. You choose a desired separator string, (often called the glue) and join the list with the glue between each of the elements.

```
"/".join(["leaders","and","best"])

"leaders/and/best"
```

```
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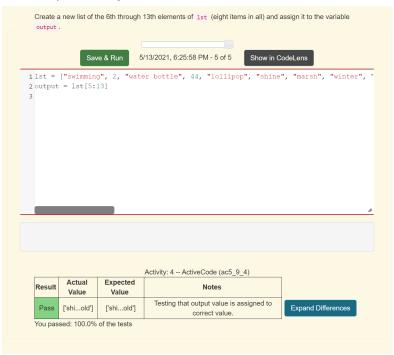
1 wds = ["red", "blue", "green"]
2 glue = ';'
```

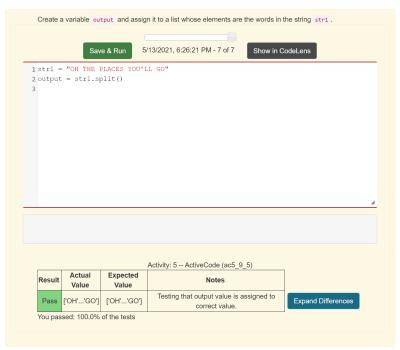
```
3 s = glue.join(wds)
4 print(s)
5 print(wds)
6
7 print("***".join(wds))
8 print("".join(wds))
9

red;blue;green
['red', 'blue', 'green']
red***blue***green
redbluegreen
Activity: 3 -- ActiveCode (ac5_9_3)
```

The list that you glue together (wds in this example) is not modified. Also, you can use empty glue or multi-character strings as glue.

Check your understanding





6.8. Count and Index">

✓ Completed. Well Done!

6.10. Exercises">Next Section - 6.10. Exercises

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