Lesson 5: Character ranges

We just learned how to create a pattern that matches or excludes specific characters -- but what if we want to match a character that can be in a sequential range characters? Do we have no choice but to list them all out?

Luckily, when using the square bracket notation, there is a shorthand for matching a character in list of **sequential characters** by using the **dash** to indicate a character range. For example, the pattern **[0-6]** will only match any single digit character from zero to six, and nothing else. And likewise, **[^n-p]** will only match any single character **except** for letters n to p.

Multiple character ranges can also be used in the same set of brackets, along with individual characters. An example of this is the alphanumeric **\w** metacharacter which is equivalent to the character range **[A-Za-z0-9_]** and often used to match characters in English text.

In the exercise below, notice how all the match and skip lines have a pattern, and use the bracket notation to match or skip each character from each line. Be aware that patterns are **case sensitive** and **a-z differs** from **A-Z** in terms of the characters it matches (lower vs upper case).

Exercise 5: Matching Character Ranges

Task	Text	
Match	Ana	✅
Match	Bob	✅
Match	Cpc	✅

Skip   aax

Skip   bby

Skip   ccz

```
[^a-z]
```

Continue ›

Solve the above task to continue on to the next problem, or read the Solution.

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