Lesson 4: Excluding specific characters

In some cases, we might know that there are specific characters that we don't want to match too, for example, we might only want to match phone numbers that are **not** from the area code 650.

To represent this, we use a similar expression that **excludes specific characters** using the **square brackets** and the **^** (**hat**). For example, the pattern **[^abc]** will match any **single** character **except for** the letters a, b, or c.

With the strings below, try writing a pattern that matches only the live animals (hog, dog, but not bog). Notice how most patterns of this type can also be written using the technique from the last lesson as they are really two sides of the same coin. By having both choices, you can decide which one is easier to write and understand when composing your own patterns.

Exercise 4: Excluding Characters

Task	Text	
Match	hog	✅
Match	dog	✅
Skip	bog	

```
[^bog]
```

Continue ›

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

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