Debugging Errors: Takeaways 🖻

by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2018

Syntax

- SyntaxError occurs when the Python interpreter can't parse the code as valid Python code:
 - Input:

```
the_answer = "42
```

• Output:

```
File "ipython-input-1-85ffad3b5465", line 1

the_answer = "42

^

SyntaxError: EOL while scanning string literal
```

- IndentError occurs when the Python interpreter can't accurately determine a line's intended indentation:
 - Input:

```
def find():
    print("42")
    print("what, really?")
```

• Output:

```
File "ipython-input-2-dd6a6ca22a8f", line 3
    print("what, really?")
    ^
IndentationError: unexpected indent
```

- TypeError occurs when the Python interpreter didn't know how to apply a function or operator to a specific value type:
 - Input:

```
42 + "42"
```

• Output:

```
TypeError
ipython-input-5-6061d7365225 in ()
     42 + "42"
TypeError: unsupported operand type(s) for +: 'int' and 'str'
```

- ValueError occurs when an operation or function received a value of the right type but an inappropriate value:
 - Input:

```
float("guardians")
```

• Output:

```
ValueError
ipython-input-8-325ad4dda32a in ()
    float("guardians")
ValueError: could not convert string to float: 'guardians'
```

- IndexError:
 - Input:

```
lives = [1,2,3]
lives[4]
```

• Output:

- AttributeError:
 - Input:

```
f = open("story.txt")
f.split(" ")
```

• Output:

```
AttributeError Traceback (most recent call last)

ipython-input-10-4cad13e731cc in ()

1 f = open("story.txt")

---> 2 f.split(" ")

AttributeError: '_io.TextIOWrapper' object has no attribute 'split'
```

Concepts

- The two main types of errors are:
 - Syntax errors. Some examples of syntax errors include:
 - Missing ending quotes or starting quotes
 - Using improper indentation
 - Using improper keywords
 - Runtime errors. Some examples of runtime errors include:
 - Calling a function before it's defined
 - Calling a method or attribute that the object doesn't contain
 - Attempting to convert a value to an incompatible data type

Resources

• Python Documentation: Errors and Exceptions



Takeaways by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2018