Polls support data   The Real Clear Politics website archives many political polls. The data polls are stored as XML pages, with URL's like:

http://charts.realclearpolitics.com/charts/[id].xml

Here, [id] is a unique integer, found at the end of the URL of the page. For example, The id for the Obama-Romney race is 1171:

http://charts.realclearpolitics.com/charts/1171.xml

Opening this page with your browser will show you the XML content in an easy to read format. We have to explore the HTML/XML source in a browser to get a sense of its hierarchy. In this particular case the structure of the file is very simple. To access the data we will use the R package *XML* and the functions xmlParse, xpathSApply

Tasks:

1. Read the data from the file `1171.xml` and construct a data frame with three columns: dates, Obama (support form Obama) and Romney (support for Romney).

2. Plot the two series of support in the same plot to compare them.

3. Compute their mean value weekly and monthly, and plot them.

Plant catalog   You cand found a catalog of plants in a .xml file at:

http://www.stat.berkeley.edu/classes/s133/data/plant_catalog.xml

Import and store the data into a file in R. Construct a data frame with six columns: common, botanical, zone, light, price and availability.