

Lecture 9

Topics to be covered:

- Dictionary basics
- Common data types summary
- String formatting

Dictionary basics

Consider typing the word “infinite” in the Google search:

The screenshot shows a Google search for the word "infinite". The search bar at the top contains the word "infinite" and a microphone icon. Below the search bar, the Google logo is on the left, and navigation links for "All", "Videos", "News", "Images", "Books", "More", "Settings", and "Tools" are on the right. The "All" link is underlined. Below the navigation bar, it says "About 318,000,000 results (0.51 seconds)". The main content area is titled "Dictionary" and contains a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter a word, e.g. 'pie'". Below this, the word "in·fi·nite" is displayed in a large font, followed by its phonetic transcription "/ 'infənət /" and a speaker icon. The word is classified as an "adjective". The first definition is "limitless or endless in space, extent, or size; impossible to measure or calculate." with an example "the infinite mercy of God" and a list of synonyms: "boundless, unbounded, unlimited, limitless, never-ending, interminable; More". The second definition is under the heading "GRAMMAR" and states "another term for nonfinite.". Below the adjective section, the word is classified as a "noun". The first definition is "a space or quantity that is infinite.". At the bottom of the dictionary section, there is a chevron icon and the text "Translations, word origin, and more definitions".

Google

infinite

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About 318,000,000 results (0.51 seconds)

Dictionary

Enter a word, e.g. "pie"

in·fi·nite

/ 'infənət /

adjective

1. limitless or endless in space, extent, or size; impossible to measure or calculate.
"the infinite mercy of God"
synonyms: boundless, unbounded, unlimited, limitless, never-ending, interminable; More
2. GRAMMAR
another term for nonfinite.

noun

1. a space or quantity that is infinite.

Translations, word origin, and more definitions

Dictionary basics

A *dictionary* is a Python *container* used to describe associative relationships.

A *dictionary* is represented by the **dict** object type.

A *dictionary* *associates* (or "*maps*") *keys* with *values*.

A *key* is a term that can be located in a *dictionary*, such as the word "infinite" in the Google search.

A *value* describes some data associated with a *key*, such as a definition.

A *key* can be any immutable type, such as a number, string, or tuple; a *value* can be any type.

Dictionary basics

A **dict** object is created using curly braces `{ }` to surround the **key:value** pairs that comprise the dictionary contents.

Example:

```
myDict = {  
    "street address": "2155 University Avenue",  
    "city": "Bronx",  
    "state": "New York",  
    "zip code": 10453,  
    "phone": "(718) 289-5100",  
    "admissions": "(718) 289-5895"}  
}
```

Dictionary basics

Dictionaries are typically used in place of lists when an associative relationship exists.

Example: If a program contains a collection of anonymous student test scores, those scores should be stored in a list. However, if each score is associated with a student name, a dictionary could be used to associate student names to their score.

Dictionary basics: in-class work

I have 5 students: Cute Princess, Fairy Queen, Evil Don, Fussy Cat, and Lazy Daisy.

I also have the record of 4 of their test scores.

Let's create a dictionary **students**, where student's IDs will serve as *keys*, and the *value* will be a *list* with five elements/members: student's name, and 4 test scores.

Name	ID	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Test 4
Cute Princess	846563	89	67	98	100
Fairy Queen	736542	76	56	83	99
Evil Don	287563	52	81	79	27
Fussy Cat	294512	27	38	100	75
Lazy Daisy	975321	88	99	66	77

Download and save file **Dict1.py** from our web-site

Dictionary basics: in-class work

`students` dictionary we got:

keys		0	1	2	3	4
846563	→	"Cute Princess"	89	67	98	100
736542	→	"Fairy Queen"	76	56	83	99
287563	→	"Evil Don"	52	81	79	27
294512	→	"Fussy Cat"	27	38	100	75
975321	→	"Lazy Daisy"	88	99	66	77

Dictionary basics: in-class work

Now, let's print some information: put the following lines into *Dict1.py*:

```
print(students[975321])  
print(students[846563])
```

See what happens!

keys		0	1	2	3	4
846563	→	"Cute Princess"	89	67	98	100
736542	→	"Fairy Queen"	76	56	83	99
287563	→	"Evil Don"	52	81	79	27
294512	→	"Fussy Cat"	27	38	100	75
975321	→	"Lazy Daisy"	88	99	66	77

Dictionary basics: in-class work

Let's now calculate Lazy Daisy's average test score: add the following lines of code into *Dict1.py*

```
s = students[975321]
averageTestScore = (s[1]+s[2]+s[3]+s[4])/4
print("Lazy Daisy average test score is",
      averageTestScore)
```

keys		0	1	2	3	4
846563	→	"Cute Princess"	89	67	98	100
736542	→	"Fairy Queen"	76	56	83	99
287563	→	"Evil Don"	52	81	79	27
294512	→	"Fussy Cat"	27	38	100	75
975321	→	"Lazy Daisy"	88	99	66	77

s → *s*[0] *s*[1] *s*[2] *s*[3] *s*[4]

Dictionary basics: in-class work

Now, let's add one more record and display the dictionary:

Name	ID	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Test 4
"Glad Lad"	625342	98	76	48	80

By adding the following line in *Dict1.py*:

```
students[625342] = ["Glad Lad", 98, 76, 48, 80]  
print(students)
```

keys		0	1	2	3	4
846563	→	"Cute Princess"	89	67	98	100
736542	→	"Fairy Queen"	76	56	83	99
287563	→	"Evil Don"	52	81	79	27
294512	→	"Fussy Cat"	27	38	100	75
975321	→	"Lazy Daisy"	88	99	66	77
625342	→	"Glad Lad"	98	76	48	80

Dictionary basics: in-class work

Now, let's delete the record about Fussy Cat from the dictionary
By adding the following line in *Dict1.py*:

```
del students[294512]  
print(students)
```

keys		0	1	2	3	4
846563	→	"Cute Princess"	89	67	98	100
736542	→	"Fairy Queen"	76	56	83	99
287563	→	"Evil Don"	52	81	79	27
294512	→	"Fussy Cat"	27	38	100	75
975321	→	"Lazy Daisy"	88	99	66	77
625342	→	"Glad Lad"	98	76	48	80

Dictionary basics: in-class work

Do the items 9-10 in the in-class handout

Common data types summary

Numeric types `int` and `float` represent the most common types used to store data.

All numeric types support the normal mathematical operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, among others.

Type	Notes
<code>int</code>	Numeric type: Used for variable-width integers. 0 9 -19 10286 -1937464
<code>float</code>	Numeric type: Used for floating-point numbers. 1.2 -8.876 1.00000008 -0.00000009

Common data types summary

Sequence types `string`, `list`, and `tuple` are all containers for collections of objects *ordered by position in the sequence*.

The first object has an index of 0 and subsequent elements have indices 1, 2, etc.

A `list` and a `tuple` are very similar, except that a `list` is *mutable* and individual elements may be edited or removed. Conversely, a `tuple` is *immutable* and individual elements may not be edited or removed .

`Lists` and `tuples` can contain any type.

A `string` contains only single-characters.

`len()` and `[]` can be applied to any sequence type.

Common data types summary

The only mapping type in Python is the `dict` type.

Like a sequence type, a `dict` serves as a container. However, each element of a dict is independent, having no special ordering or relation to other elements.

A dictionary uses `key-value` pairs to associate a `key` with a `value`.

Common data types summary

Choosing a container type

New programmers often struggle with choosing the types that best fit their needs.

In general:

- a programmer might use a `list` when data has an order, such as lines of text on a page.
- a programmer might use a `tuple` instead of a `list` if the contained data should not change.
- if order is not important, a programmer might use a `dictionary` to capture relationships between elements, such as student names and grades.

Common data types summary

Example: plotting a graph of a function

Assume I have a bunch of points that I want to use to plot a graph of a function.

Here is what I have for now, but I believe there will be more...

$(-3,6)$, $(-2,1)$, $(-1,-2)$, $(0,-3)$, $(1,-2)$, $(2,1)$

What type should I use?

Common data types summary

Example: passwords

I'm building a web service where each user would need to login into their account in order to use the services.

How should I store the passwords? What type should use?

Common data types summary

Example: phone numbers

I'm going to store a phone number of a friend of mine.

What type should I use?

Type conversions

Conversion methods

Sometimes we need explicitly convert an item's type. It can be done by using the following conversion methods:

Function	Notes	Can convert
int()	creates integers	int, float, strings w/ integers only
float()	creates floats	int, float, strings w/ integers or fractions
str()	creates strings	any

Type conversions : in-class work

Type the following in the Python interpreter:

```
>>> a = 12.876  
>>> b = int(a)  
>>> print(b)
```

what do you see?

```
>>> c = str(a)  
>>> print(c)
```

what do you see?

```
>>> d = "15.6"  
>>> e = float(d)  
>>> print(e)
```

String formatting

Program output commonly includes the value of variables as a part of the text.

Example: for the following code

```
num = 18  
tum = 9.8  
print("I have a number", num, "and a number", tum)
```

String formatting

Program output commonly includes the value of variables as a part of the text.

Example: for the following code

```
num = 18  
tum = 9.8  
print("I have a number", num, "and a number", tum)
```

will produce:

I have a number 18 and a number 9.8

Note that we have to keep track of those double quotes (") and commas in the print statement.

String formatting

Compare the following two `print` statements:

```
num = 18, tum = 9.8
```

```
print("I have a number", num, "and a number", tum)
```

```
print("I have a number %d and a number %f" %  
(num, tum))
```

The first one produced:

```
I have a number 18 and a number 9.8
```

The second one produced:

```
I have a number 18 and a number 9.800000
```


String formatting

A *string formatting expression* allows a programmer to create a string with placeholders that are replaced by the value of variables.

Such a placeholder is called a *conversion specifier*.

Different conversion specifiers are used to perform a conversion of the given variable value to a different type when creating the string.

String formatting

A *string formatting expression* allows a programmer to create a string with placeholders that are replaced by the value of variables.

Such a placeholder is called a *conversion specifier*.

Different conversion specifiers are used to perform a conversion of the given variable value to a different type when creating the string.

Example:

```
num = 5.5
```

```
print("The integer part is %d" % num)
```

will yield:

The integer part is 5

String formatting

Example: Consider the following code fragment

```
price = 119 # in dollars
discount = 30 # in percent %
print("A $%d jacket at %d%% discount is now
priced at %f" % (price, discount, price*0.7))
```

Produces the output:

```
A $119 jacket at 30% discount is now priced at
83.300000
```

String formatting

Example: Consider the following code fragment

```
price = 119 # in dollars
discount = 30 # in percent %
print("A $%d jacket at %d%% discount is now
priced at %f" % (price, discount, price*0.7))
```

Produces the output:

```
A $119 jacket at 30% discount is now priced at
83.300000
```

String formatting

Example: Consider the following code fragment

```
name1 = "Chris"  
name2 = "John"  
print("%s and %s are heading to the movies  
tonight" % (name1,name2))
```

Produces the output:

```
Chris and John are heading to the movies  
tonight
```

Practice

Proceed to in-class activity for Day 9 in the handout