Week 7, Lecture 1

Today's topic deals with file input and file output .... so reading from files and writing onto files. We already saw one example of this in the previous week. Today we will do a few more examples so that you get comfortable with reading/writing files and doing simple data manipulation and computation. We will continue with this on Wednesday.

You should know

- How to read data from a file
- How to write data onto a file, in an appropriate format
- How to manipulate the data in memory, once you have read it in
- How to use string methods and list methods
- How to use simple random number generators

It is very important that you write many programs to get comfortable with loops (while, for) and strings and list manipulations. You can invent your own little problems, such as how to reverse a list, how to rearrange list elements so that they are in order (increasing or decreasing), how to put them in a random order; how to randomize a list of names so that each person gets some other person's last name, etc. You can make up all sorts of little problems like this and write functions to do these tasks. As you do this, you will encounter small things you have not thought of before, and along

with that you will earn how to use list and string methods to help you accomplish the task.

The programs you write will usually only need a few lines of code. The more you do this, the better and the faster you will get at writing correct code.

Read the last part of Chapter 5 (pertaining to file I/O).