


Zelle 3e

Chapter 11

Highlights

1 of 2

- Lists and dictionaries are data collections.
 - Lists are mutable, ordered sequences.
 - Dictionaries are mutable, unordered maps.
 - List entries can be sorted and processed multiple times.
 - `list.sort()` can be configured with *key* and *reversed* keyword parameters.
 - *key* keyword parameter takes either a function or a lambda expression.
 - Passing functions is an example of *inversion of control*.
 - Lambdas are anonymous functions.
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lambda_example.py x

```
1
2 def main():
3     students = get_student_from_file()
4     students.sort(key=by_last_name_comma_first_name)
5     for student in students:
6         print(student)
7
8
9 def by_last_name_comma_first_name(student):
10     return student.last_name + ', ' + student.first_name
11
12 ...
13
14 -----
15
16 def main():
17     students = get_student_from_file()
18     students.sort(key=lambda student: student.last_name + ', ' + student.first_name)
19     for student in students:
20         print(student)
21
22 ...|
```

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2 of 2

- Dictionary entries can be retrieved randomly.
- Lists and dictionaries can be accessed quickly.
- Both lists and dictionaries are memory-intensive.
- Specialized collections (see Python documentation):
 - deque – special list – a double-ended queue
 - defaultdict – special dictionary that supplies missing values
 - And more...

