Part 5

File I/O (input & output)

and escape sequences

Sometimes when are setting the value of a string, there are characters that you can't type.

For these situations, there is something called an escape sequence:

To create a character that you can't type literally, you use a backslash followed by a letter that stands for the special character

Example:

If you want a "new line" in a string:

mytwolines="line1\nline2"

since "\n" is the escape sequence

for a "new line" character

Since backslash is the escape character, you also need escape sequence to use it itself:

"\\" is the escape sequence for '\'

This is important when writing files.

If you say:

myfile="H:\new folder\myfile.txt"

You will get this:

H:

ew folder\myfile.txt

because \n is an escape sequence

so, to use the path 'H:\new folder'

you need to type:

myfolder="H:\\new folder"

To find a complete list

of escape sequences,

you can use docs.python.org

or google:

python escape sequences