

JavaScript Activity: Exploring If/Else if Statements

Student Activity: Exploring If/else if Statements and Prompts

Introduction:

In this self-directed activity, you'll create a JavaScript program that asks the user for their major and displays a message based on what they type. You'll practice using `prompt()`, `if` statements, and comparison operators.

Step 1: Ask for the User's Major

Instructions:

Start by asking the user what their major is using the `prompt()` function. Store their answer in a variable called `major`.

Code to add:

```
const major = prompt("What is your major?");
```

Step 2: Add the First If Statement

Instructions:

Check if the user typed "computer science". If they did, display a message about learning tech skills.

Code to add below the prompt:

```
if (major.toLowerCase() === "computer science") {  
  console.log("You're learning valuable skills for the tech  
industry!");  
}
```

Why do we need `.toLowerCase()`?

Some people enter form fields with a "C" and some with a "c". JS can only compare strings well when they are the same case, so we need to convert all answers to lowercase.

Step 3: Add More Conditions

Instructions:

Add `else if` statements for "engineering" and "arts" with custom messages.

Code to add below the first if statement:

```
else if (major.toLowerCase() === "engineering") {  
  console.log("Your major will equip you to solve challenging  
problems!");  
}  
else if (major.toLowerCase() === "arts") {  
  console.log("You're exploring creativity and expression!");  
}
```

Step 4: Add a Default Message

Instructions:

Add an else statement that displays a message for all other majors.

Code to add:

```
else {  
  console.log("That's an interesting major! I hope you enjoy it.");  
}
```

Step 5: Test Your Script

- Run your program in the browser console
 - Try typing different majors to see the results.
 - ☒ Checkpoint: Does each major display the right message?
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Full Script Example

```
// Prompt user for their major  
const major = prompt("What is your major?");  
  
// Check the major and display a message using if statements  
if (major.toLowerCase() === "computer science") {  
  console.log("You're learning valuable skills for the tech  
industry!");  
}  
else if (major.toLowerCase() === "engineering") {  
  console.log("Your major will equip you to solve challenging  
problems!");  
}  
else if (major.toLowerCase() === "arts") {  
  console.log("You're exploring creativity and expression!");  
}  
else {  
  console.log("That's an interesting major! I hope you enjoy it.");  
}
```

Reflection

Write one or two sentences about what you learned using if and else if statements:

Challenge

Add more majors and custom messages!

For example, add one for "biology" or "education".

```
else if (major.toLowerCase() === "biology") {  
  console.log("You're diving into the science of life!");  
}  
  
else if (major.toLowerCase() === "education") {  
  console.log("You're preparing to inspire and teach others!");  
}
```