

TOPIC: Asynchronous JavaScript

(Callbacks → Promises → `async/await` • Internals • Interview Traps)

NOTE 1: Why JavaScript needs async behavior

- JavaScript is **single-threaded**
- Only **one call stack**
- Blocking operations would freeze the app
- Async JS allows **non-blocking behavior**

👉 JS doesn't run tasks in parallel

👉 It **delegates work to the runtime** (browser / Node)

NOTE 2: Sync vs Async (mental model)

Sync	Async
Blocks execution	Non-blocking
One task at a time	Tasks overlap
Freezes UI	Keeps UI responsive

CODE 1: Synchronous example

```
js

console.log("Start");

for (let i = 0; i < 1e9; i++) {}

console.log("End"); // UI freezes until loop finishes
```

NOTE 3: Asynchronous delegation

- JS engine executes JS only
- Async work is handled by:
 - Browser Web APIs
 - Node APIs (libuv)
- Completion is notified later

CODE 2: Basic async example

```
js
```

```
console.log("Start");

setTimeout(() => {
  console.log("Async task");
}, 1000);

console.log("End");
```

■ NOTE 4: Callbacks (first async pattern)

- A callback is a function passed to be executed later
- Used in timers, events, old APIs
- Simple but becomes unmanageable

■ CODE 3: Callback example

```
js

function fetchData(cb) {
  setTimeout(() => {
    cb("Data loaded");
  }, 1000);
}

fetchData(data => {
  console.log(data);
});
```

■ NOTE 5: Callback Hell (problem)

- Nested callbacks
- Hard to read
- Hard to debug
- Hard to handle errors

■ CODE 4: Callback hell

```
js

setTimeout(() => {
  console.log("Step 1");
  setTimeout(() => {
    console.log("Step 2");
    setTimeout(() => {
      console.log("Step 3");
    }, 1000);
  }, 1000);
}, 1000);
```

```
    }, 1000);
}, 1000);
}, 1000);
```

■ NOTE 6: Promises (solution to callback hell)

- Promise represents a **future value**
- Has 3 states:
 - `pending`
 - `fulfilled`
 - `rejected`
- State is **immutable once settled**

■ CODE 5: Creating a Promise

js

```
const promise = new Promise((resolve, reject) => {
  setTimeout(() => {
    resolve("Success");
  }, 1000);
});
```

■ NOTE 7: Consuming promises

- `.then()` → success
- `.catch()` → error
- `.finally()` → always runs

■ CODE 6: Promise consumption

js

```
promise
  .then(result => console.log(result))
  .catch(err => console.error(err))
  .finally(() => console.log("Done"));
```

■ NOTE 8: Promise chaining

- `.then()` returns a new promise
- Enables linear async flow
- Errors propagate automatically

■ CODE 7: Promise chaining

js

```
Promise.resolve(1)
  .then(x => x + 1)
  .then(x => x * 2)
  .then(console.log); // 4
```

NOTE 9: Promise error propagation (IMPORTANT)

- Error in any `.then()` skips to `.catch()`
- Single `.catch()` can handle multiple errors

CODE 8: Error propagation

js

```
Promise.resolve()
  .then(() => {
    throw new Error("Oops");
  })
  .then(() => console.log("Not run"))
  .catch(err => console.log(err.message));
```

NOTE 10: `async / await` (syntactic sugar)

- Built on promises
- Makes async code look synchronous
- `async` function **always returns a Promise**

CODE 9: `async function`

js

```
async function greet() {
  re
```