**Javascript Handbook**

**History:**

* Javascript is a scripting language that was first developed in 1995 by Brendan Eich for making websites at the Netscape navigator browser interactive. It was initially named mocha but associating its name with then popular language Java made it more popular. Although Java and Javascript are very different.
* Soon after that Jscript was launched by Internet explorer with features of javascript along with additional features. But the problem arose when there was no standardization due to which, in order to make interactive websites interactive one had to learn particular scripting language for that browser.
* So, in order to standardize scripting languages, ECMA international generated guidelines to be followed by all scripting languages so that they could be used across multiple browsers without thinking of creating websites in different languages for different browsers.
* ECMA launched ES1(ECMAScript1) in 1997. All scripting languages could then be regarded as the versions providing same functionalities but having different syntax. So even if we use Javascript in reference of ECMAScript its one and the same thing.
* The boost came in 2015 when ES6 was updated with the modern scripting functionalities and after that the TC39 (Technical Community 39) of ECMA International decided to launch new versions every year and the versions would be thereafter be designated by the year: ES2015, ES2016, so on.
* Since Javascript had to follow the standards and was already popular, it gained more users thus highlighting Javascript among all the other scripting languages.

**Features of JavaScript:**

* JavaScript is backward compatible, which means that it can support the older commands in the updated browsers.
* JavaScript is not forward compatible, which means you cannot use latest commands if your browser is not updated. However tools like Babel can be used that transpile the new commands into older ones that can run on outdated versions of browsers.