DWA_02.8 Knowledge Check_DWA2

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1. What do ES5, ES6 and ES2015 mean - and what are the differences between them?

ES5, ES6 (also known as ES2015), and other ECMAScript editions represent different versions of modern JavaScript. Each edition introduced significant features and improvements. For instance, ES5 brought new array manipulation methods like 'foreach', 'map' and 'reduce'. ES6 and ES2015 refer to the same edition, but they use different aliases for clarity and easier reference. The most recent edition of ECMAScript is ES14 or ES2023.

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2. What are JScript, ActionScript and ECMAScript - and how do they relate to JavaScript?

Jscript and ActionScript were competitive scripting languages that closely resembled JavaScript. JScript was used primarily in Internet Explorer, while ActionScript was associated with AdobeFlash. The existence of these competing languages complicated web development, as multiple versions of a web page were necessary to work with different browsers. This complexity eventually led to the standardisation of JavaScript, known as ECMAScript. All three –JScript, ActionScript, and ECMAScript– are connected to JavaScript, as they are scripting languages that have influenced or been influenced by JavaScript in various ways and share foundational elements. ECMAScript is the modern JavaScript we use today, but it can simply be referred to as JavaScript.

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3. What is an example of a JavaScript specification - and where can you find it?

ES14 or ES2023 is an example of the most up-to-date JavaScript specification. You can find all the ECMAScript specifications, including the latest releases, on the ECMA International website. If you want to follow the developments more closely and propose changes you can also go to the ECMA TC39 GitHub repository.

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4. What are v8, SpiderMonkey, Chakra and Tamarin? Do they run JavaScript differently?

V8, SpiderMonkey, Chakra and Tamarin are JavaScript engines used in various web browsers. Theset engines are responsible for interpreting and executing JavaScript code. V8 is the most popular engine used today, it powers google chrome and node.js. While these engines all execute JavaScript, there are differences to performance and supported features. To ensure compatibility, it is important for developers to use resources like the MDN compatibility table or caniuse.

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5. Show a practical example using caniuse.com and the MDN compatibility table.

When looking at arrow functions using Can I Use and MDN it shows clearly that arrow functions are supported by the major browsers that are used today. It is also widely supported for mobile browsers. However it does not have support for older browsers that aren't commonly used anymore.
