CoderDojo

An **if statement** is a way of asking your computer to make a decision on whether something is true. We ask questions like this every day like:

```
if(isItRaining) {
    // then get my umbrella
}
```

```javascript
 1▼ $(document).ready(function() {
 2      var numClicks = 0;
 3      var ball = $("#magic8ball");
 4      var ballText = $("#magic8balltext");
 5
 6▼     $("#submit_button").click(function() {
 7          ball.effect("shake", "slow");
 8          ballText.effect("shake", "slow");
 9          var input = $.trim($("#input_box").val());
10          console.log(input);
11          numClicks++;
12          console.log("Number of clicks: " + numClicks);
13
14      });
15▼ });
```

1 We need to check that the input box isn't empty when the submit button is clicked.
To do this, we need to **check** using an **if statement**. **Inside** the click function, **add** an **if** statement that checks if the value of **"input"** variable is not empty. It will look like this:

```
if(input.length == 0) {  // if the number of characters that the
                         // person enters is equal to zero

}
```

Tip: length counts how many characters/letters are inside a variable with a string data type.