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Getting started with Async/Await

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Project Files

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TL;DR

The `async/await` function is part of the ES2017 specification. The purpose of `async/await` functions is to simplify the behavior of using promises synchronously. You can create an `async` function by marking a function `async`:

```
async function myFn() {  
  return 5;  
}
```

When an `async` function is called it returns a `Promise`. If an `async` function returns a value, the `Promise` will be resolved with that value:

```
myFn().then(d => console.log(d)); // -> 5
```

You can use the `await` operator inside an `async` function to pause the function until the `Promise` that is marked with `await` is resolved:

```
async function getUserMessages() {  
  const userInfo = await userService.getUserInfo(); // function  
  const userMessages = messageService.getMessagesFor(userInfo...  
  return userMessages; // userMessages is promise that will res  
}  
  
getUserMessages().then(messages => console.log(messages));
```

Dawn of Doom

I'm sure you are familiar with a variation of this kind of code containing a lot of nested callbacks:

```
first(function (d1) {  
  second(function (d2) {  
    third(function(d3) {  
      forth(function (d4) {  
        console.log(d1 + d2 + d3 + d4);  
      });  
    });  
  });  
});
```

This happens because each operation relies on the result of the previous one. Now, if each function returns a promise, you can

re-write the above:

```
function all() {  
  var r1;  
  var r2;  
  var r3;  
  first()  
  .then(function(d1) {  
    r1 = d1;  
    return second();  
  })  
  .then(function(d2) {  
    r2 = d2;  
    return third();  
  })  
  .then(function(d3) {  
    r3 = d3;  
    console.log(r1, r2, r3);  
  });  
}  
all();
```

Looking at the amount of time that each call takes, you can tell how long it will take in total to see the log result:

- `first()`: 1 second
- `second()`: 2 seconds
- `third()`: 3 seconds
- total time: $1 + 2 + 3 = 6$ seconds

The list above is to emphasize that each promise has to be resolved until we move on to the next one. That's why in total

it will take 6 seconds to print the final message to the