Lab: Regular Expressions

1. Match Full Name

Write a JavaScript function to match full names from a list of names and print them on the console.

Writing the Regular Expression

First, write a regular expression to match a valid full name, according to these conditions:

- A valid full name has the following characteristics:
 - o It consists of two words.
 - Each word starts with a capital letter.
 - o After the first letter, it only contains lowercase letters afterwards.
 - Each of the two words should be at least two letters long.
 - The two words are separated by a single space.

To help you out, we've outlined several steps:

- 1. Use an online regex tester like https://regex101.com/
- 2. Check out how to use **character sets** (denoted with square brackets "[]")
- 3. Specify that you want two words with a space between them (the space character ' ', and not any whitespace symbol)
- 4. For each word, specify that it should begin with an uppercase letter using a character set. The desired characters are in a range - from 'A' to 'Z'.
- 5. For each word, specify that what follows the first letter are only lowercase letters, one or more use another character set and the correct quantifier.
- 6. To prevent capturing of letters across new lines, put "\b" at the beginning and at the end of your regex. This will ensure that what precedes and what follows the match is a word boundary (like a new line).

In order to check your RegEx, use these values for reference (paste all of them in the Test String field):

Match ALL of these	Match NONE of these		
Ivan Ivanov	ivan ivanov, Ivan ivanov, ivan Ivanov, IVan Ivanov, Ivan IvAnov, Ivan Ivanov		

By the end, the matches should look something like this:

```
TEST STRING
                                                                        SWITCH TO UNIT TESTS >
Vankata IvAnov, Ivan ivanov, Ivan Ivanov, ivan ivanov, ivan Ivanov, IVan Ivanov
```

After you've constructed your regular expression, it's time to write the solution in JavaScript.

Implementing the Solution in JavaScript

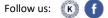
Create a new JavaScript file and copy your regular expression into a variable:

```
1
   function solve(names) {
2
```

Note: You should put "/" before and after the pattern so that it is interpreted as a RegEx pattern. Also, place the 'g' (global) flag after it, so that you get all the matches in the text.



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Now, it's time to read the input, to extract the matches from it and push them into an array. For this we can use exec():

```
let validNames = [];
while ((validName = pattern.exec(names)) !== null) {
    validNames.push (validName[0]);
}
```

The exec method matches the string and the pattern keeps the first index after the match. This way the next time exec runs it starts looking after the last match. If there are no more matches, it will return null.

We are declaring a variable in the while loop's condition because we need to check every time if there are any more matches.

Now we have an array (validNames), which holds all of the valid names in the input. All that is left is to join it by **space** and **print** it (do this by using **join()**):

```
console.log(validNames.join(' '));
```

Examples

```
Input
"<mark>Ivan Ivanov</mark>, Ivan ivanov, ivan Ivanov, IVan Ivanov, <mark>Test Testov</mark>, Ivan Ivanov"
                                              Output
Ivan Ivanov Test Testov
```

2. Match Phone Number

Write a regular expression to match a valid phone number from Atlanta. After you find all valid phone numbers, print them on the console, separated by a comma and a space ", ".

Compose the Regular Expression

A valid number has the following characteristics:

- It starts with "+404"
- After that, it's followed by the **number** itself:
 - The number consists of **7 digits** (separated in **two groups** of **3** and **4 digits** respectively).
- The different parts are separated by either a space or a hyphen ('-').

You can use the following RegEx properties to **help** with the matching:

- Use quantifiers to match a specific number of digits
- Use a capturing group to make sure the delimiter is only one of the allowed characters (space or hyphen) and not a combination of both (e.g. +404-111 111 has mixed delimiters, it is invalid). Use a group backreference to achieve this.
- Add a word boundary at the end of the match to avoid partial matches (the last example on the right-hand side).
- Ensure that before the '+' sign there is either a space or the beginning of the string.













You can use the following table of values to test your RegEx against:

Match ALL of these	Match NONE of these
+404 222 2222	+404-222-2222, +404/222/2222, +404-222 2222
+404-222-2222	+404 222-2222, +404-222-222, +404-222-2222

Implement the Solution in JavaScript

Now it's time to write the solution, so let's start writing!

First, just like in the previous problem, put your RegEx in a variable:

```
function solve(numbers)
2
```

After that, let's make an array of matches using like in the previous exercise:

```
let validPhones = [];
while ((validPhone = pattern.exec(phoneNumbers)) !== null) {
    validPhones.push (validPhone[0]);
```

Now let's print all the matches, separated by ", ":

```
console.log(validPhones.join(', '));
```

Examples

```
Input
"<mark>+404 222 2222</mark>,404-222-2222, +404/222/2222, +404-222 2222 +404 222-2222, +404-222-
222, +404-222-22222 +404-222-2222"
                                           Output
+404 222 2222, +404-222-2222
```

3. Match Dates

Write a program, which matches a date in the format "dd{separator}MMM{separator}yyyy".

Compose the Regular Expression

Every valid date has the following characteristics:

- Always starts with **two digits**, followed by a **separator**
- After that, it has one uppercase and two lowercase letters (e.g. Jan, Mar).
- After that, it has a **separator** and **exactly 4 digits** (for the year).
- The separator could be either of three things: a period ("."), a hyphen ("-") or a forward slash ("/")
- The separator needs to be the same for the whole date (e.g. 13.03.2016 is valid, 13.03/2016 is NOT). Use a group backreference to check for this.













You can follow the table below to help with composing your RegEx:

Match ALL of these	Match NONE of these
13/Jul/1928, 10-Nov-1934, 25.Dec.1937	01/Jan-1951, 23/sept/1973, 1/Feb/2016

Use named capturing groups for the day, month and year.

Since this problem requires more complex RegEx, which includes named capturing groups, we'll take a look at how to construct it:

First off, we don't want anything at the **start** of our date, so we're going to use a **word boundary "\b"**:



Next, we're going to match the day, by telling our RegEx to match exactly two digits, and since we want to **extract** the day from the match later, we're going to put it in a **capturing group**:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 /\b(\d{2})
```

We're also going to give our group a name, since it's easier to navigate by group name than by group index:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 /\b(?<day>\d{2})
```

Next comes the separator – either a hyphen, period or forward slash. We can use a character class for this:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 /\b(?<day>\d{2})[-.\/]
```

Since we want to use the separator we matched here to match the same separator further into the date, we're going to put it in a capturing group:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 [ / \b(?<day>\d{2})([-.\/])
```

Next comes the month, which consists of a capital Latin letter and exactly two lowercase Latin letters:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 / \b(?<day>\d{2})([-.\/])(?<month>[A-Z][a-z]{2})
```

Next, we're going to match the same separator we matched earlier. We can use a backreference for that:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 [ / \b(?<day>\d{2})([-.\/])(?<month>[A-Z][a-z]{2})\2
```













Next up, we're going to match the year, which consists of exactly 4 digits:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 / \b(?<day>\d{2})([-.\/])(?<month>[A-Z][a-z]{2})\2(?<year>\d{4})
```

Finally, since we don't want to match the date if there's anything else glued to it, we're going to use another word boundary for the end:

```
REGULAR EXPRESSION
 /\b(?<day>\d{2})([-.\/])(?<month>[A-Z][a-z]{2})\2(?<year>\d{4})\b
```

Now it's time to find all the valid dates in the input and print each date in the following format: "Day: {day}, Month: {month}, Year: {year}", each on a new line.

Implement the Solution in JavaScript

First off, we're going to put our RegEx in a variable and get the matches from the string:

```
let pattern = /\b(?<day>\d{2})([-./])(?<month>[A-Z][a-z]{2})\2(?<year>\d{4})\b/g;
while ((validDate = pattern.exec(dates)) !== null) {
```

Next, we're going to iterate over every single element in the array and extract the day, month and year by making new patterns and matching them:

```
while ((validDate = pattern.exec(dates)) !== null) {
    let day = validDate.groups['day'];
    let month = validDate.groups['month'];
    let year = validDate.groups['year'];
    console.log(`Day: ${day}, Month: ${month}, Year: ${year}`);
```

Examples

```
Input
"<mark>13/Jul/1928</mark>, <mark>10-Nov-1934</mark>, , 01/Jan-1951,f <mark>25.Dec.1937</mark> 23/09/1973, 1/Feb/2016"
                                              Output
Day: 13, Month: Jul, Year: 1928
Day: 10, Month: Nov, Year: 1934
Day: 25, Month: Dec, Year: 1937
```







