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**#StudentsFirst
#CharacterMust**

**(Software Packages)
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Node.js as a File Server

- The Node.js file system module allows you to work with the file system on your computer.
- To include the File System module, use the `require()` method:

```
var fs = require('fs');
```

- Common use for the File System module:
 - Read files
 - Create files
 - Update files
 - Delete files
 - Rename files

Read Files

- `fs.readFile()` method is used to read files on your computer.

Syntax:

```
fs.readFile( filename, encoding, callback_function )
```

Parameters: The method accept three parameters as mentioned above and described below:

- **filename:** It holds the name of the file to read or the entire path if stored at other location.
- **encoding:** It holds the encoding of file. Its default value is **'utf8'**.
- **Callback function:** It is a callback function that is called after reading of file. It takes two parameters:
 - **err:** If any error occurred.
 - **data:** Contents of the file.

Return Value: It returns the contents/data stored in file or error if any.

fs.readFile()

```
var http = require('http');  
var fs = require('fs');  
http.createServer(function (req, res) {  
  fs.readFile('demofile1.html', function(err, data) {  
    res.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/html'});  
    res.write(data);  
    return res.end();  
  });  
}).listen(8080);
```

Create Files

- `fs.appendFile()`
- `fs.open()`
- `fs.writeFile()`

fs.appendFile()

- The fs.appendFile() method appends specified content to a file. If the file does not exist, the file will be created:

```
var fs = require('fs');  
  
fs.appendFile('mynewfile1.txt', 'Hello content!', function (err) {  
  if (err) throw err;  
  console.log('Saved!');  
});
```

fs.open()

- The fs.open() method takes a "flag" as the second argument, if the flag is "w" for "writing", the specified file is opened for writing.
- If the file does not exist, an empty file is created:

```
var fs = require('fs');  
  
fs.open('mynewfile2.txt', 'w', function (err, file) {  
  if (err) throw err;  
  console.log('Saved!');  
});
```

fs.writeFile()

- fs.writeFile() method replaces the specified file and content if it exists. If the file does not exist, a new file, containing the specified content, will be created:

```
var fs = require('fs');  
  
fs.writeFile('mynewfile3.txt', 'Hello content!', function (err) {  
  if (err) throw err;  
  console.log('Saved!');  
});
```


Update Files

- The File System module has methods for updating files:
 - `fs.appendFile()`
 - `fs.writeFile()`

fs.appendFile()

- The fs.appendFile() method appends the specified content at the end of the specified file:

```
var fs = require('fs');  
  
fs.appendFile('mynewfile1.txt', ' This is my text.', function (err) {  
  if (err) throw err;  
  console.log('Updated!');  
});
```

fs.writeFile()

- The fs.writeFile() method replaces the specified file and content:

```
var fs = require('fs');  
  
fs.writeFile('mynewfile3.txt', 'This is my text', function (err) {  
  if (err) throw err;  
  console.log('Replaced!');  
});
```

Delete Files

- To delete a file with the File System module, use `fs.unlink()` method.
- The `fs.unlink()` method deletes the specified file:

```
var fs = require('fs');  
  
fs.unlink('mynewfile2.txt', function (err) {  
  if (err) throw err;  
  console.log('File deleted!');  
});
```

Rename Files

- To rename a file with the File System module, use the `fs.rename()` method.
- The `fs.rename()` method renames the specified file:

```
var fs = require('fs');  
  
fs.rename('mynewfile1.txt', 'myrenamedfile.txt', function (err) {  
  if (err) throw err;  
  console.log('File Renamed!');  
});
```