



React Essential Training – Notes



1. JSX – Writing HTML in JavaScript

Concept

JSX = JavaScript + XML. Lets you write HTML-like syntax inside JavaScript. React compiles this into `React.createElement`.

Example


```
const element = <h1>Hello, React!</h1>;
```

Behind the scenes

```
const element = React.createElement("h1", null, "Hello, React!");
```

How it works

- JSX is just syntactic sugar.
- Must return one parent element (wrap children in `<div>` or `<>`).
- Values inside `{}` are pure JavaScript.

 **Why important?** Makes UI code readable and declarative.

2. Props – Passing Data

Concept

Props = inputs to a component. They make components reusable.

Example

```
function Greeting({ name }) {  
  return <h1>Hello {name}</h1>;  
}
```

```
}
```

```
<Greeting name="Jinalee" />
```

How it works

- Greeting gets props.name = "Jinalee".
- {name} is replaced with value.
- Props are immutable – the child cannot change them.

👉 **Why important?** Lets you reuse the same component for different data.

3. State – Memory Inside Components

Concept

State = a component's internal memory. Lets UI change without page reload.

Example

```
import { useState } from "react";
```

```
function Counter() {
```

```
  const [count, setCount] = useState(0);
```

```
  return (
```

```
    <>
```

```
    <p>{count}</p>
```

```
    <button onClick={() => setCount(count + 1)}>Add</button>
```

```
  </>
```

```
);
```

```
}
```

How it works

1. `useState(0)` initializes `count = 0`.
2. `setCount` updates state.
3. Updating triggers a re-render with the new value.

👉 **Why important?** Without state, your app is static.

📖 4. Toggling State

Concept

Common pattern: switch true/false.

Example

```
const [isOn, setIsOn] = useState(false);
```

```
<button onClick={() => setIsOn(!isOn)}>
```

```
  {isOn ? "ON" : "OFF"}
```

```
</button>
```

How it works

- State starts as false.
- Clicking flips value.
- React re-renders, showing “ON” or “OFF”.

👉 **Why important?** Builds interactivity (menus, toggles, dark mode).

📖 5. `useReducer` – Complex State

Concept

Alternative to useState. Better for complex updates.

Example

```
function reducer(state, action) {  
  switch (action.type) {  
    case "increment": return { count: state.count + 1 };  
    case "decrement": return { count: state.count - 1 };  
    default: return state;  
  }  
}  
  
const [state, dispatch] = useReducer(reducer, { count: 0 });
```

How it works

- dispatch({type: "increment"}) triggers reducer.
- Reducer calculates new state.
- React re-renders with updated data.

👉 **Why important?** Keeps logic organized when multiple actions affect state.

📘 6. useEffect – Handling Side Effects

Concept

Side effects = things outside React's rendering (fetching data, timers, subscriptions).

Example

```
useEffect(() => {  
  console.log("Component mounted");  
});
```

```
}, []);
```

How it works

- Runs after render.
- [] = run once on mount.
- [dependency] = runs again when dependency changes.

👉 **Why important?** React only handles rendering; useEffect connects your app to the outside world.

7. Fetching Data

Concept

Combine useState and useEffect for data fetching.

Example

```
function Users() {  
  const [users, setUsers] = useState([]);  
  
  useEffect(() => {  
    fetch("https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/users")  
      .then(res => res.json())  
      .then(data => setUsers(data));  
  }, []);  
  
  return <ul>{users.map(u => <li key={u.id}>{u.name}</li>)}</ul>;  
}
```

How it works

1. Initial render → empty list.
2. useEffect runs → fetch data.
3. Data stored in state.
4. React re-renders with updated UI.

👉 **Why important?** Modern apps almost always fetch from APIs.

■ 8. Next.js Routing

Concept

File-based routing = every file becomes a page.

Example

pages/about.js → /about

How it works

- Next scans pages/ directory.
- Each file = route.
- Nested folders = nested routes.

👉 **Why important?** No need to configure routers manually.

■ 9. Server vs Client Components

Concept

- **Server Components:** Rendered on server, no JS sent to client (fast, SEO-friendly).
- **Client Components:** Run in browser, handle events, state, interactivity.

How it works

- Use server components for heavy data fetching.
- Use client components for buttons, forms, state.

👉 **Why important?** Balances speed and interactivity.

📘 10. Tailwind CSS – Styling Made Easy

Concept

Utility-first CSS. Apply styles directly as classes.

Example

```
<div className="bg-pink-200 text-lg p-4 rounded shadow">
```

Styled with Tailwind

```
</div>
```

How it works

- Classes are pre-made utilities (bg-pink-200 = background color).
- Combine small classes to design UI.

👉 **Why important?** No writing CSS files, speeds up UI design.

📘 11. Advanced Next.js

Concepts

- **Caching:** Next caches results for faster loads.
- **SSR (Server-Side Rendering):** Generate at request → fresh data.
- **SSG (Static Site Generation):** Generate at build → fast for static pages.
- **Server Actions:** Run form submissions/data logic securely on server.

👉 **Why important?** Professional apps rely on these patterns for speed and scalability.

🌱 **Quick Map to Remember**

- **Props** → External data passed to a component.
 - **State** → Internal memory of a component.
 - **useEffect** → Side effects (fetching, timers, APIs).
 - **Reducer** → Complex state management.
 - **Next.js** → Routing + server optimizations.
 - **Tailwind** → Fast, utility-based styling.
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So now you have:

- ✓ Deep explanations (like a textbook)
 - ✓ Examples (code snippets)
 - ✓ Step-by-step "how it works" (like flashcards)
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