<JavaScript - Interpreted />

The Fundamentals

Polyfilling

making a function that doesn't exist due to modern updates

Script tag

- inline JavaScript
- obselete attributes:
 - type (e.g. text/javascript)
 - modern HTML redefined the definition
 - language: JavaScript is default now
- useful attributes:
 - o src = "path_to_js_file"
 - useful because it can be cached
 - if src is set, the inline code will be ignored

Semicolons

- There is implicit semicolons (automatic semicolon insertion)
- based on lexical analysis and terminating token such as ')' or '}'
- should always write semicolons not dependable

Comments

• cannot be nested 😛

Modern JS

- ES5 modified some of the existing functionality and are off by default
- use strict enables the ES5 changes
- always have it on top of the scope (globally or function body)
- cannot be cancelled part way

Variables

- var:
 - o old
 - always processed at the beginning of script (regardless of actual declaration position or if conditions are met) (hoisting)
 - assignments are not hoisted (not pushed to the top): ran sequentially in the order of statement position
 - o has no block scope or loop scope: only function-scoped or global

```
o if (true) {
   var test = true; // use "var" instead of "let"
  }
  alert(test); // true, the variable lives after if
```

- let: has block scope(e.g. inside if)
- const: cannot be assigned after first assignment (usually in capital letters)
- naming: can only use numbers, letters, \$, and _
- tldr: var declarations are hoisted and minimum function scoped while let can be block scoped

IIFE (obscelete)

- immediately invoked function expressions
- used for instant variable declarations
- must be wrapped in ()

```
(function() {
  let message = "x";
})
```

Numbers

- NaN takes precedence: propagates through all expressions if exists
- biggest number is 2^53
- if the number ends in 'n' it means "bigint"

Strings / Characters

- no such thing as a char type in JS
- it is immutable: a+="asdfaDS" actually makes a new string

Null

• just means empty or nothing or unknown

Undefined

- not assigned/defined
- can technically assign undefined, but should just use null

Objects/Symbols

- everything else is **primitive** since it's only 1 single thing
- symbols are used to create unique identifier for objects

typeof

• defined as operator or function

```
typeof undefined // "undefined"
typeof 0 // "number"
typeof 10n // "bigint"
typeof true // "boolean"
typeof "foo" // "string"
typeof Symbol("id") // "symbol"
typeof Math // "object" (1)
typeof null // "object" (2) - techically wrong(error within language)
typeof alert // "function" (3)
```

Boolean

- "0" is true
- " " also true(any non-empty string)

Conversion

- having "+" with a string always results a string(e.g. '3' + 2 = '32')
- it still runs left to right (2 + 2 + '3' = '43')
- all other operators convert to numbers

Increment / decrement

- count++ is the same as ++count unless the return value is used
- count++ returns count and then add
- ++count returns count + 1

Comma operator

• evaluate multiple expressions, but keep only the last one

String comparison

- lexicographical order(O(n) -> compares every string until one differs)
- it compares to the index of the js 'dictionary'(unicode)
- lowercase > uppercase

Special: "0" is true but 0 is false. but 0 == "0"

== (regular) vs === (strict)

- == uses type conversion
- === compares types first
- null === undefined: false
- null == undefined: true
- in math comparisons: null -> 0 and undefined -> NaN
- null == 0 is false while null >= 0 is true

Special: equality check does not convert to number while comparisons (>, >=, etc) does

Conditionals

- 0, empty string, null, undefined, NaN are all falsy
- conditional(ternary) operator should only be used with assignment, not function calls (designed this
 way, but it still works)
- ternary cannot contain break/continues even if it's in a loop, must use if

OR operator (find first truthy value)

• if used as assignment, it will return the first 'truthy' evaluation or the last operand (e.g. x will be undefined under true | | (x = 1))

AND operator (find first falsy value)

if used as assignment, it will return the first 'falsy' evaluation or the last operand

Special: the precedence of && is higher than || so use brackets

Labels

- used for references outer loops in nested loops
- can directly break up to the labeled loop using break <label>;
- usage: <label> : for(let...)...
- must be of higher scoped to break/continue (not a "skip to line x")

Switch

- must include break or it will run all the cases under the truth one
 - can be used to group cases together
- case comparisons are strict (no object conversion)

Function scoping

- will use outer variables unless local one is defined (shadowing)
- if local one is defined, it is *not* linked to the outer variable
- functions will always get a copy when passed in parameter(only primitive types)

Default values

• can define defaults to be anything (not just string, can be function return value)

Return statement

- if a return value is not provided or no return statement, it returns undefined;
- multi-lined return statements must be enclosed in ()

Functions

- declarations: function test() {}
 - o this is visible to everywhere inside the scope, before or after
 - JS looks for global func declarations and creates it first
 - o in use strict, declarations are only available inside code block
- expressions: let x = function() {};
 - o same as assignment; will not exist until the statement has been processed
- function is a "special value": when calling it without (), it shows the source code as a string
- can copy functions (e.g. let y = x; or let y = test; will give y the function of x)
- function expressions require ';' because it's an assignment, so it is used to terminate the statement

Objects: The Basics

Objects

- always stored/accessed by reference to memeory
- object comparisons are done by checking memory, not value
- const objects properties can be changed memory doesn't change since reference is same

```
o allowed: const_object.key = "new value";
```

- o not allowed: const_object = { key: "same value" };
- simple cloning (depth of 1):
 - o option 1: iterate and assign to new object
 - option 2: Object.assign(destination, [object1, object2, ...]);
 - takes all properties of the array of objects and puts into destination object
 - duplicate keys will be overwritten
 - returns the new object
 - this operates the same as option 1, but looks nice
- keys do not require quotes unless it contains spaces
- accessing multi-word keys should be done with object['key with spaces']
- delete object.property
 - o returns true if successful, false otherwise
 - nothing to do with freeing memory, only breaks the reference (otherwise properties would be floating randomly in memory)
- object property names have no restrictions (can use keywords)
- way to test if key has been created (regardless of value): "property" in object
- looping through objects:
 - o for (let key in object) {}
 - o only integral keys are sorted (means if we convert to number and back, it's still the same)
 - can be bypassed by appending "+" infront of the integers so that it's not the same after $f(f^{-1}(x))$
 - o other keys are kepy in creation order
- property value shorthand
 - o if input param is the same as keyname, you can ignore the value input

```
function makeUser(name, age) {
return {
```

```
name, // same as name: name
age // same as age: age
// ...
};
```

}

computed properties

o can use [] to use computed property as the key instead of the word itself

```
let fruit = prompt("Which fruit to buy?", "apple");
let bag = {
    [fruit]: 5, // the name of the property is taken from the variable fruit
};
alert( bag.apple ); // 5 if input to prompt was apple
```

Objects - this

- references the object it is scoped in
- this is evaluated at call time, not the position of declaration
- can be called inside any function
 - if the function is not assigned to an object, it will return undefined
- arrow functions have no this, it will reference the outer 'normal' function

Advanced this

```
let user = {
  name: "John",
  hi() { alert(this.name); },
  bye() { alert("Bye"); }
  };

user.hi(); // John (the simple call works)

// now let's call user.hi or user.bye depending on the name
  (user.name == "John" ? user.hi : user.bye)(); // Error!
```

- object dot method works (user.hi())
- evaluated method doesn't
- *tldr*: obj.method() uses the . to get the property and then () to execute it
- evaluated methods fail to get this because it becomes let hi = user.hi first, which no longer has scoping (global this returns undefined)
 - o it assigns it to the external brackets as a temp variable

• JavaScript returns using a special type called the 'reference type' which is how the dot and bracket operators work on to get the object reference

function.bind() is a useful tool

Object to Primitive conversion

- happens when operations occur between objects (obj1 + obj2)
- all objects are true in boolean context
- operators usually cause numeric conversion
- outputs usually cause string conversion
- 3 types of conversions (called 'hints')
 - string
 - number
 - o default when not sure what to do
- no boolean hint because all objects are default true
- JS tries all 3 object methods through obj[Symbol.toPrimitive](hint)
 - this can be self defined within the object as well
 - o hint = string: tries obj.toString() before obj.valueOf()
 - hint = number/default: tries obj.valueOf() before obj.toString()
- primitive conversion methods do not *necessarily* return the "hinted" primitive, but they *must* return some sort of primitive

```
const user = {
  name: 'jhon',
  salary: 1000,

[Symbol.toPrimitive](hint) {
    return hint === 'string' ? this.name : this.salary;
  },
  toString() {
    return this[Symbol.toPrimitive]('string');
  },
  valueOf() {
    return this[Symbol.toPrimitive]('number');
  },
};
```

toString / valueOf

- toString() returns a string [object Object] unless overwritten
- valueOf() returns the object itself unless overwritten
- to fully convert, we should implement these methods inside the object and JS will use these during the toPrimitive operation
- toString() will handle all conversions if other methods are absent

Constructor and new

Constructor function

- named capital letter
- only executed with new keyword
- When new is called on constructor functions
 - 1. new empty object is created
 - 2. constructor function is executed and this will reference the new object
 - 3. returns this
- technically any function can be ran with new

Data Types

Primitive Methods

- recall 7 types: string, number, null, undefined, NaN, bigInt, bool
- recall: can store functions inside objects
- objects are 'heavier' than primitives but has many useful default methods
- Primitives are *wrapped* inside an "object wrapper" when it is called that provides extra functionality, but it is destroyed right after it returns the requested method
 - the wrapper works differently per primitive type
 - o goal: provide methods but still lightweight
- null and undefined has wrapper objects hence no methods

Numbers

- stored as 64 bit double precision floating point numbers
- bigInt used to represent numbers larger than 2^53
- scientific notation works in JS: 4e9 for 4 billion
- hex: 0x
- binary: 0b
- octal: 00
- toString(base): converts a number to a base (2 <= base <= 36)
- calling number functions:
 - o 123..toString(2): first dot is decimal so 2 is required
 - (123).toString(2)
- floating point loses precision since it is stored as binary: may see potential decimal errors
 - number.toFixed(2): fix the decimal to remove the precision error
- just like in double precision floating, +0 and -0 exists in JS, but operators treat it as equal
- checking numbers:
 - isNaN(i): the comparison of NaN === NaN actually returns false because each NaN is unique
 - o isFinite(value): checks if it is a regular number
 - empty / space-only strings are treated as 0 in all numeric methods
- number conversion: parseInt() and parseFloat()
 - o using + or Number() is strict, if it is not exactly a number, it fails
 - parseInt and parseFloat read a number from string until they can't
 - if error, the gathered number is returned
 - returns nan when no digits could be read

parseInt takes a 2nd param of radix to change numeric system

Strings

- single quotes and double quotes are essential the same
- backticks:
 - allows multiple lines of string (spaces are kept as well)
 - tagged templates
 - allows a specified template function before first backtick
 - the function is called automatically, recieves the string and then processes it
 - rarely used
 - funcstring
- escaping special characters:
 - o add \ before
 - use backticks/different quotes
 - o special characters do take up length of string!
- str.length is a property, not a function (O(1))
- str[i] is the same as str.charAt(i); modern approach is all
 - [] returns undefined if out of bounds
 - charAt returns empty string if out of bounds
- character iteration for (let char of "asdf")
 - object iteration is Let prop in obj!!!!
- strings are immutable
- searching for substring (O(n))
 - str.indexOf(substr, start_pos) returns first index found
- checking if substring exists: str.includes(substr, pos) returns boolean
 - starts with substring: str.startsWith(substr)
 - o ends with substring: str.endsWith(substr)
- str.slice(start, end?): returns part of the string between start to (but not including) end
 - does not modify the string
 - o can use negative values to count from the end (starts at position -1 at the back)
- str.substr(start, numberOfChars) is legacy, but it returns u the substring
- str.substring(start, end?): almost same as slice
 - o start > end is allowed
 - o negatives are not
- comparing strings
 - lowercase > uppercase always (ascii is like this too)
 - o stored in UTF-16
- internationalization string compare str.localeCompare(str2)
 - o str < str2: return negative
 - str > str2: return positive
 - o str == str2: return 0

Arrays

- ordered collections
- common usages: stack/queue (known as dequeue (double ended queue))

- queue: push and shift
- stack: push and pop
- unshift(): add to start of array
- internals:
 - o arrays extend object methods (they use accessors like objects as well [])
 - o copied by reference like object
 - o to make arrays fast, JS engine stores it in a contiguous(right next to each other) area
 - JS provides optimizations to this "object" to make it fast, but there are ways to "turn it off" or misuse array intrepretations
 - arr.prop -> turns into real object
- performance:
 - o pop/push are fast
 - shift/unshift are slow
 - needs to re-number all the other elements
 - update length
- for(let key of arr) loop through array/string
- for(let key in obj) loop through object
- for (let i=0; i<arr.length; i++) works fastest, old-browser-compatible.
- for (let item of arr) the modern syntax for items only,
- for (let i in arr) never use.
- arr.length: returns the length
 - o can change array length through this property
 - empty an array arr.length = 0
- s = [] is the same as s = new Array();
 - o new Array(length): sets the array as undefined
- toString(): comma separated string
 - o do not have their own toPrimitive or valueOf() conversion
- array.concat(args): returns a new array with all args inside (does not modify the original)
 - way slower than push(), but since it returns a new array instead of modifying, it's better for state management (e.g. reducer for react)
- array.sort() (optimized quick sort divide and conquer: splitting array into "more than" and "less than" until length of 1)
 - o by default, the elements are sorted by strings
 - o to do otherwise, pass in a comparator function
- array.from(input): converts input into an array
- Other array methods: https://javascript.info/array-methods

Iterables

- objects that can be used in for..of are iterables
- Symbol.iterator is called automatically by for...of but can also self-define

Мар

- keyed data items
- map.delete(key): removes key
- map.set(key,val): creates a mapping

- since map.set returns the map, you can chain it like map.set().set()...
- map.get(key): gets the mapped value
- can use map[key] but should not because it is treating the map as regular JS object, which has limitations
- can use an object as key! (cannot in normal JS object as it will use toString() to convert into [object Object] before setting it as key)
- key comparison:
 - uses the algorithm SameValueZero, which is similar to === except NaN === NaN (means NaN can be a key)
- uses for...of or forEach to iterate
 - o insertion order will be output order
- can change JS object to Map through new Map(Object.entries(obj))
 - will map key => value

Set

- unique values
- set.add(val): adds value
- set.delete(val): delete
- iterate using for..of or forEach
 - 2 params are the same value for forEach to match compatibility with map

```
// the same with forEach:
set.forEach((value, valueAgain, set) => {
  alert(value);
});
```

Destructuring Assignment

- destorying the structore and split into variables
- · can throw unwanted elements in array using additional comma
- works with any iterable (strings)
- ...: can use this to get *the rest* of the elements

```
let [name1, name2, ...rest] = ["Julius", "Caesar", "Consul", "of the Roman
Republic"];

alert(name1); // Julius
alert(name2); // Caesar

// Note that type of `rest` is Array.
alert(rest[0]); // Consul
alert(rest[1]); // of the Roman Republic
alert(rest.length); // 2
```

- object destructoring is more common
- order doesn't matter (will match keys)

```
• let {a,b,c} = this.state;
```

- can assign by destructoring as well (variable name = key name)
- ...: can use this to get the rest of the props (same syntax as array will create object)

Date Object

- new Date(): creates Date object for current time
- new Date(num): num is the timestamp since Jan 1, 1970
 - o num = 0: Jan 1, 1970
- new Date(string): runs Date.parse to parse the string and return time
- Date.now(): grabs current time
- JS gets the time from proxy, UTC offset of the client's local env

JSON

- JSON.stringify(): the resulting json string is called JSON-encoded or serialized
 - only double quotes need to work for all languages through API
 - o object prop names are double quotes as well
 - works for Primitives + object + array
- since it needs to work for all languages
 - o will skil function properties, symbolic properties, and properties that are undefined
- there cannot be circular references
- JSON.parse(): decode the json string
 - new not allowed
 - allowed custom parse function as 2nd param incase it's a special object (like Date)

Rest parameters

- ...lastVar: "gather the remaining params into an array"
- rest parameter *must* be at the end

```
function sumAll(...args) { // args is the name for the array
  let sum = 0;

  for (let arg of args) sum += arg;

  return sum;
}

alert( sumAll(1) ); // 1
  alert( sumAll(1, 2) ); // 3
  alert( sumAll(1, 2, 3) ); // 6
```

Spread

- opposite of Rest: trying to define inputs to a function, not the function's paramters
- breaks array into separate variables
- will break any iterable (has internal interator to gather elements)

```
o e.g. [..."Hello"] -> [H,e,1,1,o]
```

- only works with iterables
 - Array.from() works with array-like and iterables

Argument variable

- deprecated: used to capture inputs if there are no input params (just log arguments in a function without params)
- arrow functions have no arguments variable
 - o similar to this, will reference outer "normal" function

Variable Scope

- if a variable is declared inside a code block ({...}) it is only visible inside that block
- for(let i =...): i is declared inside the block

Higher order functions (closures!)

```
function makeCounter() {
   let count = 0;

   return function() {
      return count++;
   };
}

let counter = makeCounter(); // closure happens here

alert( counter() ); // 0
   alert( counter() ); // 1
   alert( counter() ); // 2
```

- Explanation: Lexical Environment!
 - 1. variables
 - every running function (code block) and the script as a whole have an associated object called the *Lexical Environment* which consists of
 - Environment record stores all local variables and properties
 - reference to outer lexical environment
 - global lexical environment has no outer scope so the outer is null
 - the LE is populated as the code gets interpreted, starting with declared variables as uninitialized (but will not allow usage until it runs the let statement)
 - 2. function declaration (not expression!)
 - same as variables, but becomes instantly usable from the start
 - 3. inner & outer LE

when a function is ran, a LE is created for that function to store the properties and the outer pointer will point to the scope that the function is called on

- when a variable is required, inner LE is searched all the way back up to global LE (if strict mode is on, will return error. otherwise it's created)
- every function call creates a new LE, but the reference to the outer LE is only created once
- in this case, the LE is created only at the line return count++
- All functions are naturally closures in JS except new Function
- if a new reference is made to the same function, a **new LE reference** is made so all the properties are reset for the new reference
- Definition: function that remembers its outer variables, and can access them
- Another definition: functions that preserve data

Double function calls

```
function sum(a) {
   return function(b) {
     return a + b; // takes "a" from the outer lexical environment
   };
}

alert( sum(1)(2) ); // 3
   alert( sum(5)(-1) ); // 4
```

Global Object

- · built into language/environment
- browser: window
- global variables can only be defined with var (not recommended)
 - should write it as window.importantVar = "asdf"
 - can directly access as importantVar without window
- can be used to test browser compatibility
 - if (!window.Promise) {console.log('browser old!)}

Function Objects

- all functions are objects in JS: can access object methods
 - e.g. function.name returns function name
 - function.length returns # of params (rest params don't count)
- named function expression: let x = function func() {}
 - externally cannot access func()
 - internally allowed func() (e.g. recursion)
 - o good for when x is reassigned to something else, can still access func
 - does not work for pure function declaration

new functions

- will convert the passed in "string" and convert into functional code
- has no outer lexical environment as it will use the global LE (cannot access outside variables)

Cache decorators

 used for "slow" functions that doesn't change - can cache the result using a wrapper object and a Map()

setTimeout and setInterval

- cannot pass a function execution into setTimeout, it expects a reference (the string)
- setTimeout: returns a timerId, can cancel using clearTimeout(timerId)
- setInterval: runs indefinitely by the interval passed in
 - cancel using clearInterval(timerid)
 - less accurate than *nested setTimeout* because timer starts when the function starts
 - nested setTimeout: starts the timer after function is finished since it's synchronous

```
let i = 1;
setInterval(incI(i++), 2000); // timer goes right when incI() runs

let id = setTimeout(function incI(i) {
  func(i); // function that increases i
  setTimeout(incI(i), 2000); // runs after func() is done - synchronous
}, 2000);
```

- internal references are created when functions are passed into timer functions so even when no reference exist, it remains in memory (they also reference outer lexical envs as well)
 - o good to clear the timer function when done, so garbage collector can take it away

Function Binding

- recall: passing function with this referencing outer object to another value will lose the scoping
 - same with setTimeout(object.function, 200) as it separated the function and passed it into timeout
 - setTimeout sets the this reference to global window
 - solution 1: to fix for setTimeout, run a wrapper function setTimout(() =>
 user.sayHi(), 100); // sayHi uses this reference
 - solution 2: bind(object)
 - creates a bounded variant of the function call to the object passed in
 - binding only happens once per object

Arrow functions

- has no this access outer lexical environment
- forEach sets this to undefined by default for function(){}, but since () => {} has no this, it is uneffected (will reference outer lexical env)
- not having this also means cannot create new with it cannot be constructors

- calling bind will not work on arrow functions
- has no arguments variable
- has no super

Prototype Inheritance

- if reading a property from object and **it's missing**, JS takes it from the prototype (prototype inheritance)
- set an object's prototype to another to use their functions

```
o object1.__proto__ = object2
```

- can set directly within object: object = {prop: true, __proto__: otherObject}
- can chain any number of objects (no cycle) and will inherit all objects chained
- the value of __proto__ can only be object or null
- prototypes do not effect this this only binds to the object before the dot operator

Setters and Getters

inside the object, you can directly set set or get functions

```
• let user = {
    name : "asdf",
    set fullName(value) {
        this.name = value;
    }
    get fullName() {
        return this.name;
    }
}
```

Try...catch

- runs the try code block
- if no errors, catch is ignored
- if error occurs, the control flows to catch and the error object is available
 - will ignore the rest of try
- only works for runtime errors
 - o parse time: when engine is reading the code
 - o runtime: code is syntactically correct, but something else went wrong
- only works synchronously (setTimeout errors cannot be tested)
 - must put try..catch inside the setTimeout so it runs together
- errors are split into 3 properties
 - o name: error name
 - o message: error details
 - o stack: where it happened
 - logging errors will show all 3 in a string
- can throw new errors return new Error(message)

Callbacks

- async functions will run by itself (e.g. script loading, setTimeout, module loading)
- callbacks are used to ensure the previous async method finishes running
 - documentElement.onload and documentElement.onerror are callbacks for when the element is rendered
- should not use callbacks on deep-nested async chains (use promises)

Promises

- let promise = new Promise((resolve, reject) => {})
 - the function passed into the Promise is called executor and it is executed automatically
 - resolve and reject are callbacks provided by JS
 - run these appropriately with respective to your executor
- initial state of promise = **pending**
- if it is resolve/rejected, it is in a **settled** state
- state of "resolved" = fulfilled
 - result: value passed into resolve(value)
- state of "rejected" = error
 - result: error passed into reject(error)
 - recommended to use the new Error() object
- Comsumers (functions that call the promise)
 - o access the result using promise.then(res, rej) where res, rej are receiving functions
- if only interested in errors: promise.catch(f) (same as .then(null, f))
- .finally() runs regardless of the settled state
 - o will pass the resolve/reject onto the next .then call

```
new Promise((res, rej) => {
    res("done!");
})
.finally() {
    // will always run here - pass state to next .then
}
.then(res, rej) => {
    // value is done
}
```

• can call many handlers on the same promise

Promise Chaining

- flow:
 - initial promise resolves
 - o first .then called
 - the returned value of the .then is passed onto the next .then
- the returned value of .then handlers always become the next result of the promise
- can return a new Promise() inside a .then call same effect as a normal promise

• .then can also return a **thenable** object, which acts the same way as a promise inside classes

Promise - Error handling

- promises have an invisible try..catch in the sense that if error is thrown/rejected, the catch will treat it as exception
 - o not only the executor, but in every .then statement, the .catch after will catch it
- can chain .then after a .catch if the error is handled properly (returning inside a .catch will be a resolved)
- can also throw another error if it cannot handle (will skip all the .then calls until it hits the next .catch)
- if the promise handler has **no error handlers**, it will generate a global error
 - o can be read using

```
window.addEventListener('unhandledrejection', (ev) => {
  console.log(ev.promise); // promise that generated the error
  console.log(ev.reason); // most likely unhandled error
});
```

Promise API

- wait for n promises to resolve: let promise = Promise.all([...promises])
 - o if one fails, it will go to error
 - o common trick: use array.map to return a list of promises
 - for network request, can transform into object through response.json()
- wait for n promises to settle: allSettled

```
Promise.allSettled(/* iterable */)
.then(res => {
    // res.status: fulfilled or rejected
    // res.value: the value or error
})
```

• wait for first promise to settle and returns the status, value: Promise.race([...])

Promisification (promisfy)

- process of turning a regular function into a promise
- creating a wrapper and returning a new promise

Promises - background

- ECMA specifies an internal queue PromiseJobs or microtask queue
- all .then/.catch/.finally is placed inside the queue
- execution of the task inside the queue is initiated only when nothing else in the current node is running

```
let promise = Promise.resolve();
promise.then(() => alert("promise done!"));
alert("code finished"); // this alert shows first
```

Async/wait

- easy way to work with promises
- keyword async infront of function declaration
 - o function now returns a promise!
- keyword await: makes JS wait until promise has settled
 - o can only use inside async functions
 - allows other things to run while this function waits
- cannot use async/await in global scope
- to do error checking inside async function, run try{}catch{} inside
- do not need to use .then for async functions since the wait should do the job for you, and use try..catch inside

Extras

Console.log()

- not the same as alert()
 - it does not "expect" a certain type
 - will print it to the console (object -> prints object tree)
 - o alert() expects a string

Garbage Collection

- reachability: any values that can be accessed (in any way) will be stored in memeory (e.g. references, local variables, etc)
 - e.g. if an (and only) object reference is overwritten, then garbage collector will clear the old object since it's unreachable
- the outgoing links do not matter, if the object cannot be accessed it's garbage
- the mark-and-sweep algorithm
 - o garbage collector (gc) will mark all roots
 - o traverse through the graph and marks all references
 - repeats until all reachable references are visited
 - o all objects that are unmarked will be freed
- additional optimizations to MS algo
 - o generational collection: split objects into "new" and "old"
 - the old ones are checked less often
 - o incremental collection:
 - break apart massive objects so that engine isn't delayed for a long time but instead n *
 short periods

o idle-time collection: only run the MS algorithm when CPU is idle so that user isn't effected

Cache:

- files will be cached when attached as a source using the script tag
- allows a response to be re-used without calling it again
 - o can be controlled by passing a max-age header
- any other pages that references the same script will not need to download again
- reduces traffic and faster renders

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