React and Node.js Notes

1. React.js
2. Node.js
3. SQL & NoSQL database

Pre-requisites

1. HTML
2. CSS
3. Javascript (ES6 & latest)

Topics to be covered

1. HTML - basic HTML elements, Tables, Lists, Forms
2. CSS - classes, id, types of CSS
3. Javascript - basics to intermediate
4. React.js
5. Node.js
6. SQL & NoSQL

HTML: Hyper Text Markup Language, it is mainly used to display the content on the web page using HTML elements

CSS: Cascading Style Sheet, it is mainly used to style the HTML

JS: Javascript, it is mainly used to add interactivity to the web pages like dynamically changing the content, updating the color and so on.

Software requirement - for React.js & Node.js including HTML, CSS & Javascript

1. VS Code - Editor
2. Browser - Google Chrome
3. Node.js - node & npm commands
4. Permission to download the libraries from the internet

HTML:

It provides HTML elements like html, head, body, div, p, table, and etc.

Heading tags: These are used to display the headings in the web page, there are totally 6 heading tags like h1, h2, h3, h4, h5 and h6

<h1>Some Content</h1>

<h2>Some Content</h2>

Image tag: <img src = “url” width = “100p” height = “100” />

Anchor tag: It is used to create hyper links

<a href = “url”>Link Name</a>

Lists: These are the contents which are displayed in the form of lists either in the order or bullets, there are two types

1. ordered list <ol>
2. unordered list <ul>

both of these tags can display the items using <li>

<ol>

<li>Apples</li>  
 <li>Grapes</li>

</ol>

Tables: When you want to display the contents in a table form you can use <table> tag, along with <tr>, <th> & <td>

<tr>: It creates row

<th>: It creates columns in a bold font

<td>: It creates columns in a normal font

<table border = “1”>  
 <thead>  
 <tr>  
 <th>Heading1</th><th>Heading2</th>  
 </tr>  
 </thead>  
 <tbody>  
 <tr>  
 <td>Content1</td><td>Content2</td>  
 </tr>  
 <tr>  
 <td>Content1</td><td>Content2</td>  
  
 </tr>  
 </tbody>  
</table>

Forms:

When user wants to provide the inputs you can use the form

<form>  
 Enter Name <input type = ‘text’ /> <br />  
 Enter Age <input type = ‘number’ /> <br />  
 Select DOB <input type = ‘date’ /> <br />  
 <input type = ‘submit’ value = ‘Submit’ />  
 <input type = ‘reset’ value = ‘Reset’ />  
</form>

div:

It is a container tag, that can wrap multiple HTML elements together, so that you can style the container which applies to all the children’s of the div

CSS: Cascading Style Sheet

3 types of CSS

1. inline css: You can apply the styles to a particular element
2. internal css: You can apply to the entire HTML document
3. external css: You can apply style to multiple HTML documents, by creating a css file & referencing that css file

How to comment & uncomment: Highlight the lines and press Control and / together

3rd party css

bootstrap.css is one of the widely used external css, it provides 10000’s of inbuilt classes like .btn-primary, alert-danger, alert-primary, text-success, alert-success, container, row, col, table, table-striped and so on

Javascript:

It is a programming language used to provide effects to the HTML, it allows you to dynamically access HTML & CSS so that you can modify the DOM (Document Object Model) which is a tree structure formed when the HTML loaded on the browser

It provides many fundamentals like

* variables
* functions
* event handling
* objects
* arrays

Example on how to access and update HTML



let & const keyword: It is a new keyword introduced in ES6(new feature of Javascript), ES stands for ECMA Script, let & const are the keywords you can use to declare variables, you should avoid using var keyword, because it doesn’t have a scope.

let variables can be modified, however const variables can’t be modified.

How to use arrays in Javascript

Array is a container to store multiple values, in Javascript you use [] to create an array.

let numbers = [20, 30, 10, 50, 40];

let fruits = [“Apple”, “Mango”, “Grapes”];

How to use objects

let employee = {id:100, name:”Rajesh”, salary:35000};

Array of Objects

let employeeArray = [{id:200, name:”Raj”}, {id:300, name:”Vijay”}, {id:400,name:”Ajay”}];

Array iterations

1. It can be done using for loop.
2. It can be done using an inbuilt forEach function, that does the internal iteration
3. It can be done using an inbuilt map function, that is similar to forEach, but it returns a new array after iterating the elements, which can be used to transform the iterated elements.

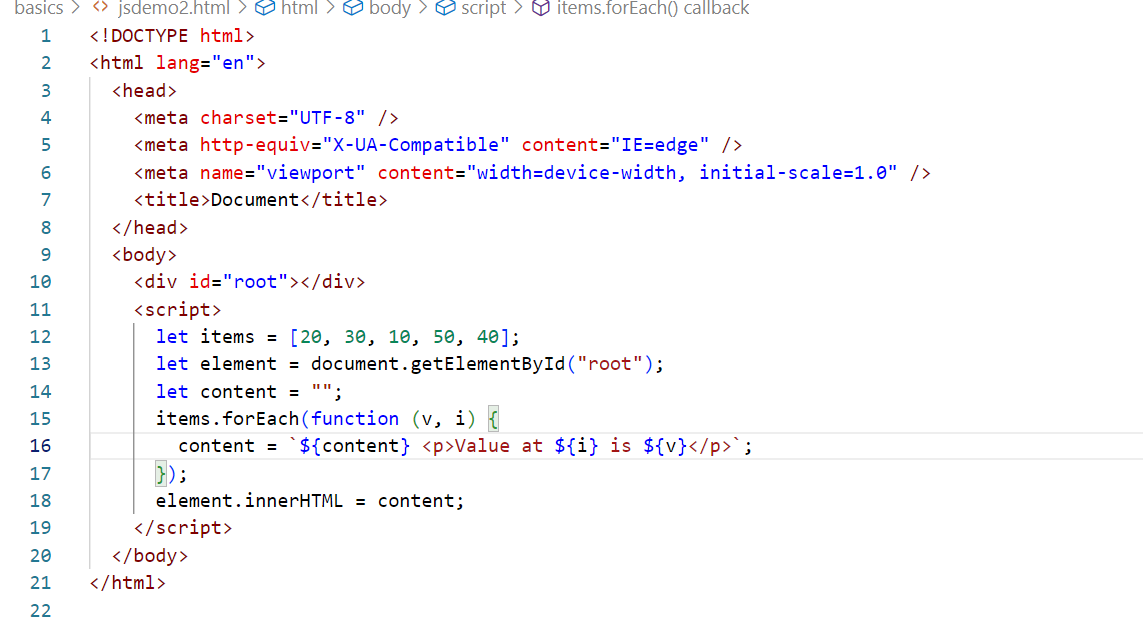
let items = [20, 30, 40, 10, 50];

items.forEach(callbackFn);

callbackFn: it is a callback function, takes 2 arguments which is an element that is iterated and the index of the iterated element.

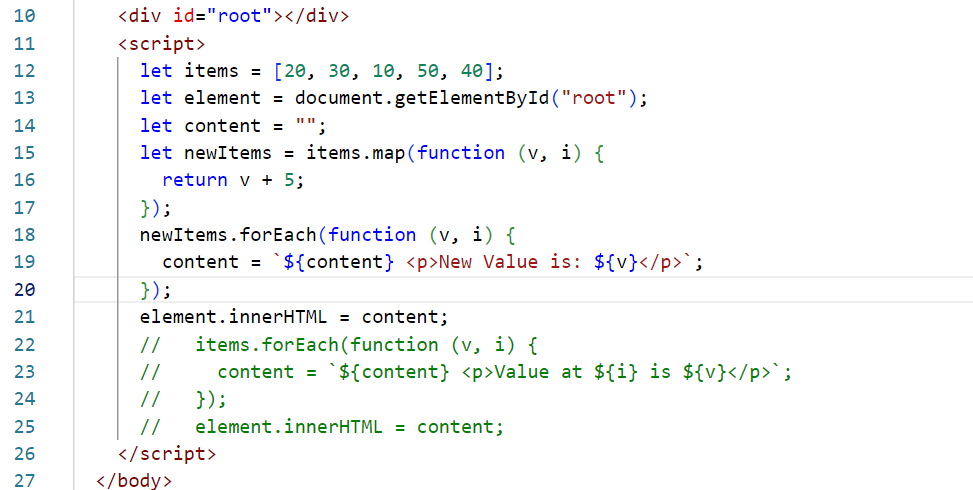
items.forEach( function(v, i) {  
 v : value of the iterated element  
 i : index of the iterated element  
});

Array iteration using forEach



Map: It is an inbuilt function to iterate an array & return each element into another array after the transformation

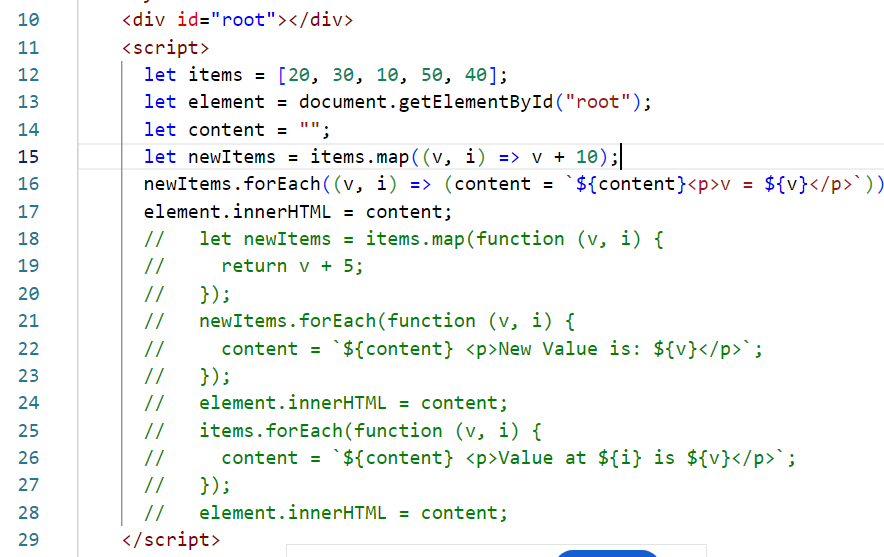
let newItems = items.map(function(value, index) { } );



arrow functions

ES6 introduced arrow functions to simplify writing the anonymous functions/callback functions

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Callback Function | Arrow Function |
| function(x, y) {   stmt1;  return value; } | (x, y) => {  stmt1;  return value; } |
| function (x, y) {   return value; } | (x, y) => value;  [or]  (x, y) => { return value; } |
| function(x, y) { stmt1; } | (x, y) => stmt1; |
| function(x) {  stmt1;  } | x => stmt1; |
| ex: items.forEach(function(v, i) { } ); | ex: items.forEach( (v, i) => {} ) |
| ex: items.map( function(v, i) { return v+5; }); | ex: items.map((v, i) => v + 5; ); |



Destructuring objects & arrays

Suppose you have an object as below:

let employee = { id : 100, name : “Raj”, salary:25000, desig: “Sales”, address: {state: “KA”, city:”BLR”} };

If you want to assign the property to a variable you need to access using the dot operator

let id = employee.id;  
let name = employee.name;  
let salary = employee.salary;  
let desig = employee.desig;  
let state = employee.address.state;

Using employee.name at many places would be difficult if there are too many nested properties   
With destructuring its much more simpler

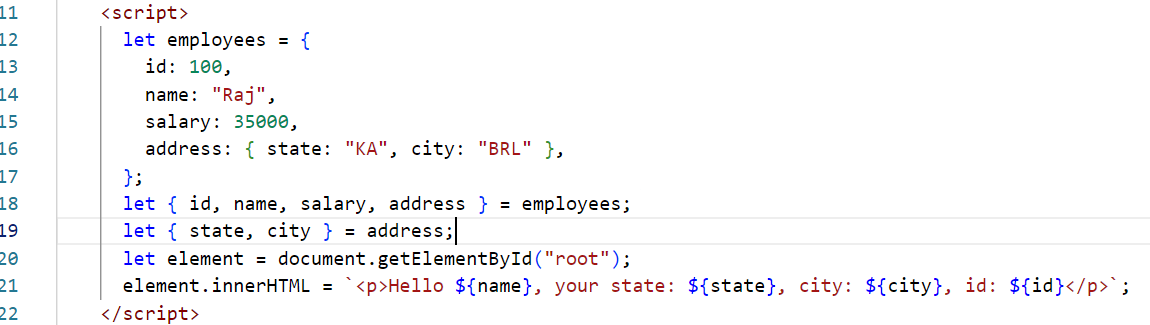
let {id, name, salary, address} = employee;  
let {state, city} = address;

you can use id, name, salary, address directly without using employee.name or employee.address

You can also destructure arrays, but use [ ].

let items = [30, 40, 10]

let [x, y, z] = items; // x = 30, y = 40, z = 10;



React.js

It is a Javascript library used to develop rich UI’s, it helps you to create reusable UI’s which are called as components to build SPA (Single Page Applications).

React.js uses a special syntax i.e., JSX

JSX: It stands for Javascript XML or Javascript Extension, this supports all the JS features along with other features to simplify writing the HTML inside the Javascript

How JSX is written

let content = <p>Some content</p>

To print the content use { content }

let employee = { id : 100, name : “Raj”, salary : 35000 }

<div>{ employee.id } { employee.name } {employee.salary}</div>

Using expressions & JS function in JSX

<p>{ 2 + 3 }</p>

<p>{ Math.pow(3, 2) } </p>// print 9

React.js uses 3 libraries to develop the application

1. React
2. React DOM
3. Babel: Converts JSX to Javascript, so that browser understands

Components: These are the visible part in the page, you can independently create the components & use with other component to create a complex component & build an application

Root component: This is the main component which represents the entire page, it will have other components in it, you need to use all the components inside the root component, because this is the only component loaded to the HTML

Online website to quickly develop create components

Codepen is the website that helps you to quickly create react components & use in the HTML.

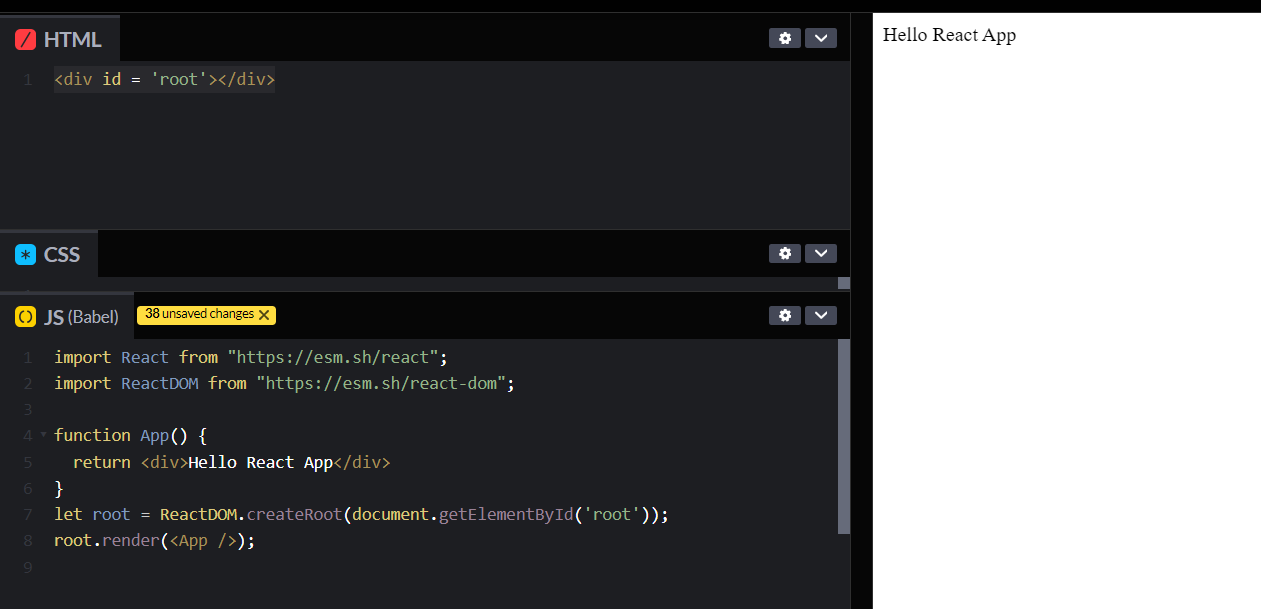
ReactDOM: It is a library that accesses the HTML element in the DOM to map the component developed in the React

let root = ReactDOM.createRoot( document.getElementById(“root”) );

root.render( <RootComponentTag /> )

function RootComponentTag() { return complex components }

Hello World program in React



React Tool Kit:

It is used to create a ready to run & deploy react applications, it follows industry standard structure & provides many automated features like

1. Live server to launch the application
2. Webpack to bundle the application into a build file that can be deployed in any server
3. Compiler to compile react applications
4. Auto-compilation & Live reload features while making changes in the application
5. Git tracking feature

create-react-app: it is the tool that used to create the react applications

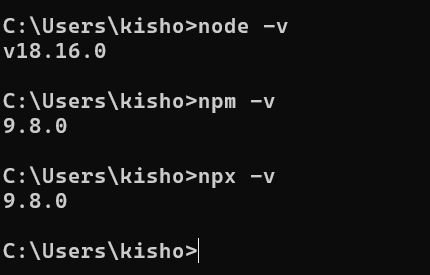
npx create-react-app project-name: This command directly downloads the react project using the latest version of the tool

There’s another way also to download the react project i.e., by installing the toolkit using

npm install create-react-app: Installs the toolkit

create-react-app project-name: creates the project

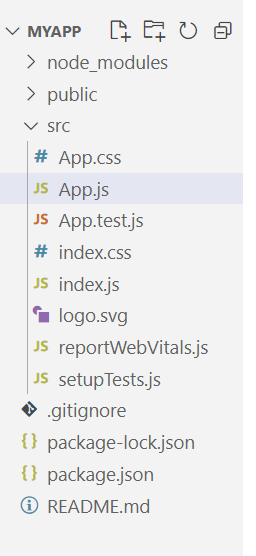
Verifying the commands



create-react-app with npx downloads the project from the latest version of the toolkit, once it downloads the project you need to navigate to the project and can type following commands

1. npm start: This runs the react application on a live server in 3000 port
2. npm run build: This creates a build file for the project using webpack and other libraries, build is mainly used in the production environment which will have optimized code i.e, if in the development environment the project is around 300MB then the build file will be in KB’s like 10KB or 20KB

Project Structure



Types of components

You can create components in 2 ways

1. Using class
2. Using functions

Before React.js 16 there were many differences in class based and function based components, but afterwards they provided same features in both

Creating class based components.

class Hello extends React.Component {  
 render() {  
 return <div>Some Content</div>  
 }  
}  
Function based components

function Hello() {  
 return <div>Some Content</div>  
}

Note: Before React V16, certain things were not able to do with functions hence classes had to be used, but the latest version of React has everything that can be done in function based components, you can avoid using class based components

Rules of JSX, usually its treated limitations of JSX by HTML developers

1. A component must have only one root tag
2. Every tag must be closed, even the self closing tags

ex: <input> is an error

ex: <input></input> is not an error

1. It is strict about the contents, if some tags doesn’t have content you can’t have contents in that tag, JSX throws error

ex: <input type = ‘text”>HELLO</input> this leads to error  
ex: <input type = “text”> </input> this also leads to error because <input> can’t have a space

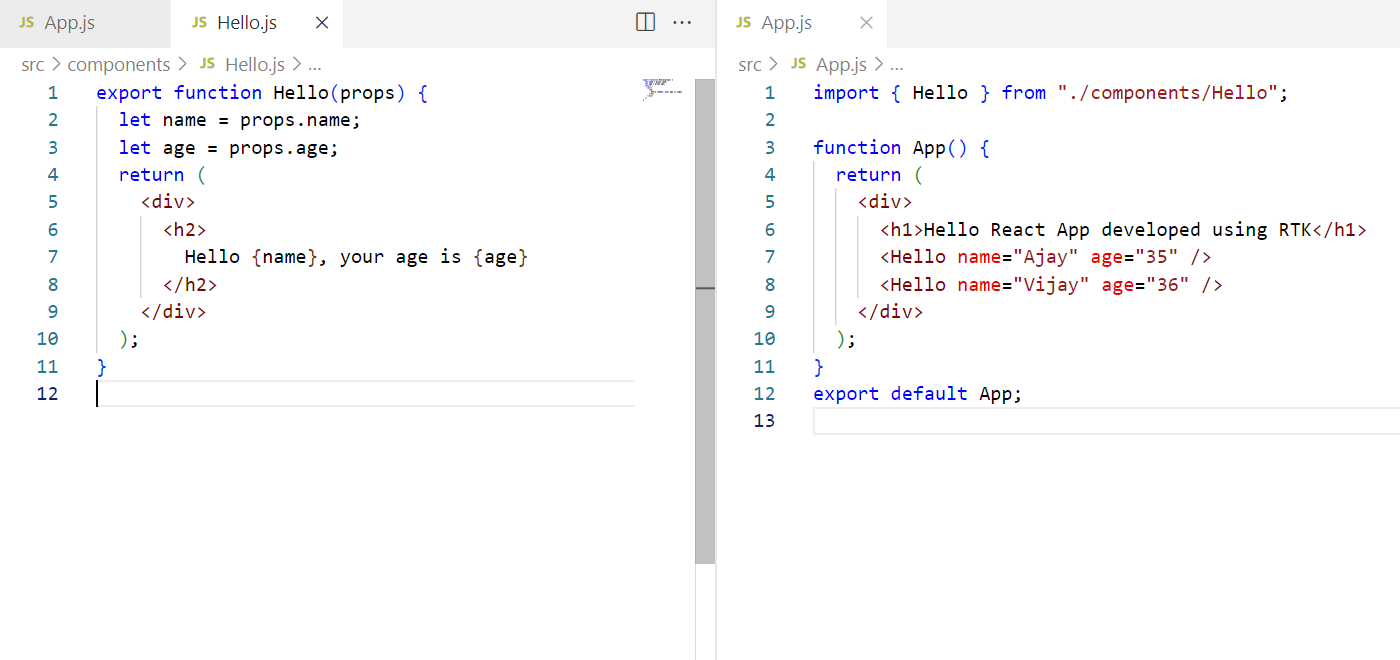
How to display the data in the component

You can use { expression } to display the data

props: You can pass the data from parent to child component

function App() {  
 return (<div>  
 <Hello name = “Ajay” /> // props = { name : “Ajay” }  
 <Hello name = “Vijay” /> // props = { name : “Vijay” }  
 </div>);  
}

function Hello(props) {  
 return {props.name}  
}



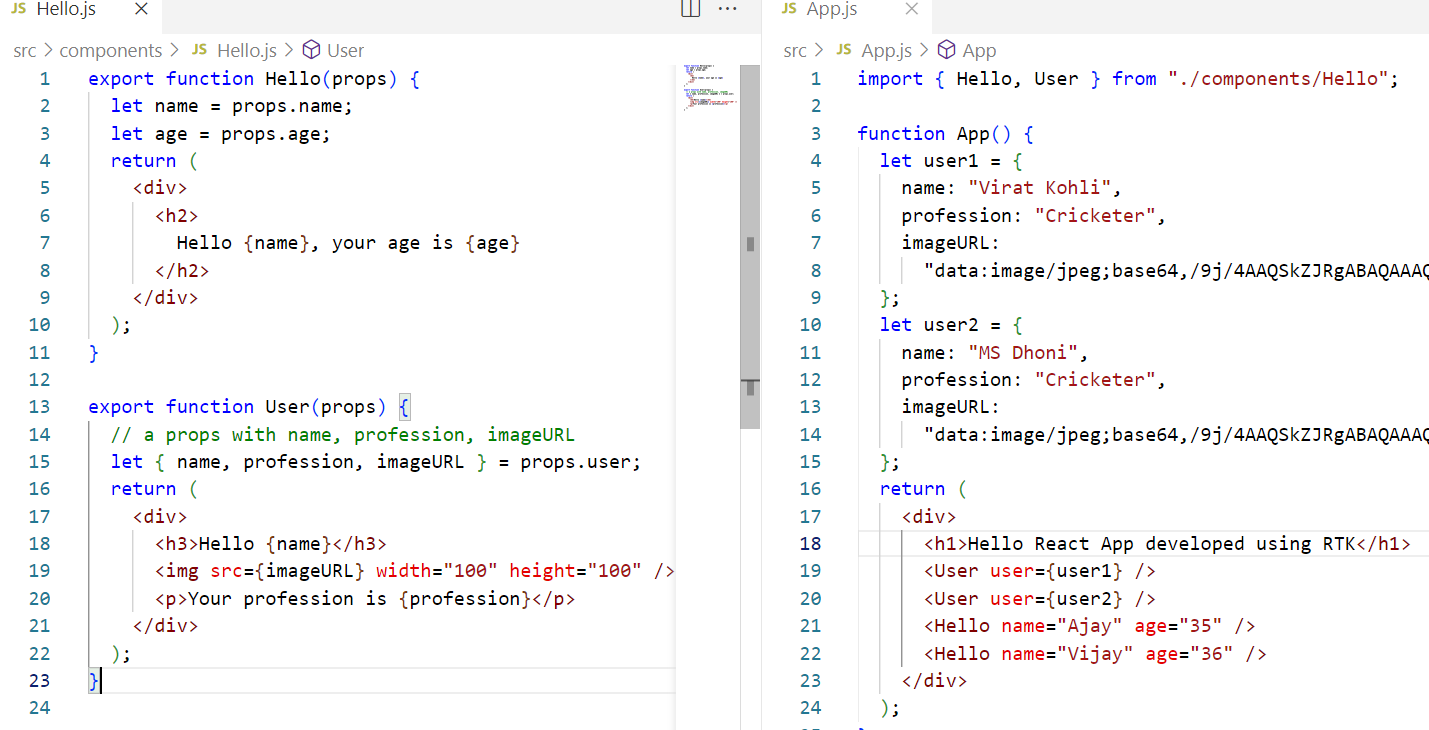
How to pass the complex data i.e., objects

You can have an object and pass that to the components, so that components can use props to access those data.

let user1 = { name : “Sachin”, profession: “Cricketer”}

<User user = {user1} />  
function User(props) {  
 let name = props.user.name;  
 let profession = props.user.profession;  
 [or] let {name, profession} = props.user; // because user has name & profession property - destructure  
}

Example on passing the object



Rules while creating the components

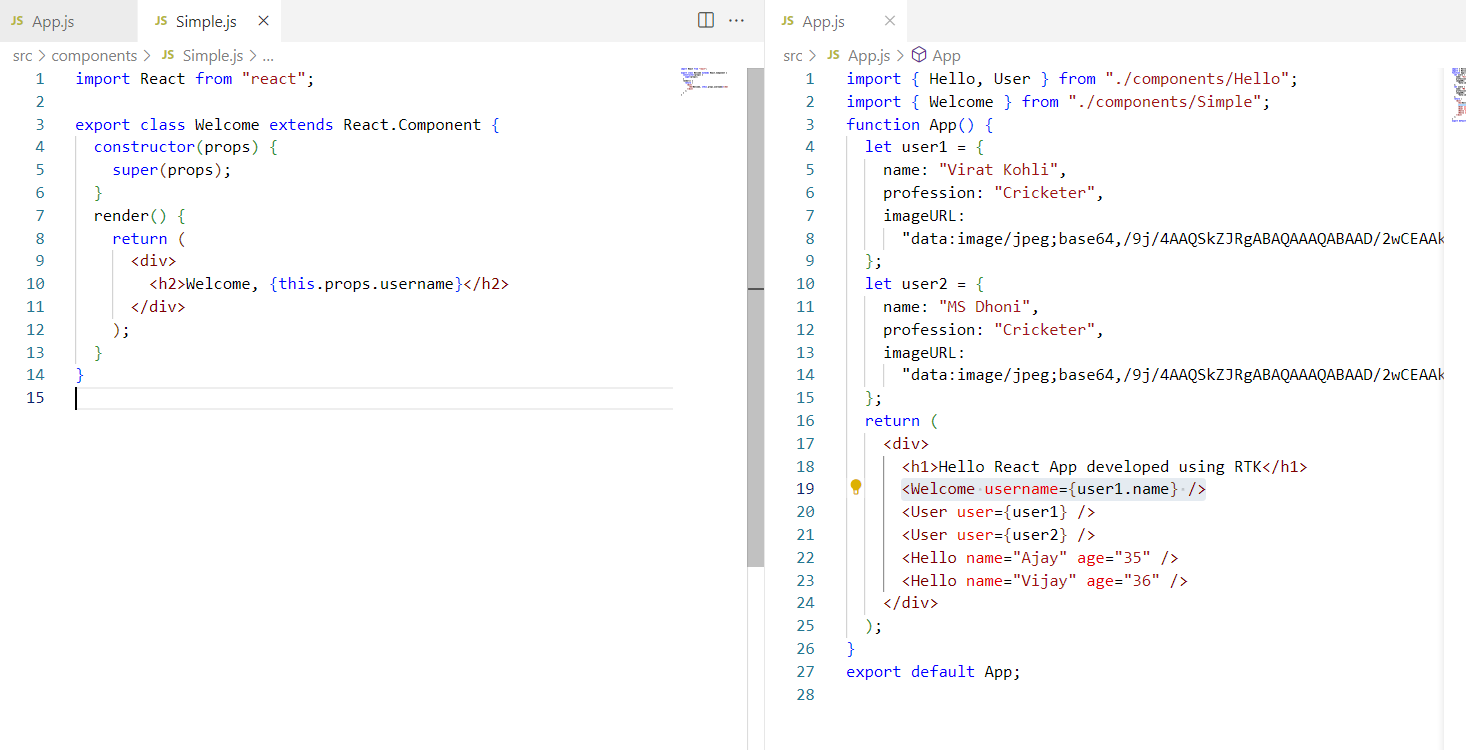
1. Your component names must begin with uppercase & can follow the camel case i.e., HelloWorld, EmployeeList and so on.
2. Your components must have only one root tag or parent tag else JSX error will occur
3. Create components in separate files when they are independent, and the components related to other components in the same file

ex: Profile component may want to perform crud operations, then UpdateProfile, DeleteProfile, DisplayProfile all can be kept in a single js file, then other related components can be another js file

How to create components using classes

You need to extend React.Component and use constructor to initialize the props

class Welcome extends React.Component {  
 constructor(props) { super(props); }  
 render() {  
 return {this.props};  
 }  
}



How to add styles in React.js

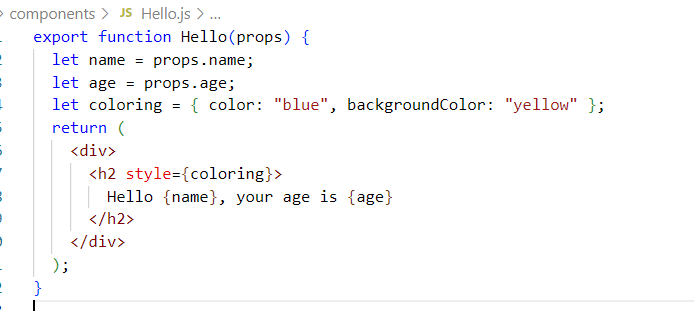
1. We can create our own CSS files and import in the JS file
2. We can create inline CSS using style attribute
3. We can include 3rd party CSS also

Inline CSS: It is used inside the JS code, hence you must access the property and the value like a Javascript object

In CSS you write { “color”:”red”, “background-color”:”yellow” }

In Javascript / React you write let styles = { color : “red”, backgroundColor : “yellow” }

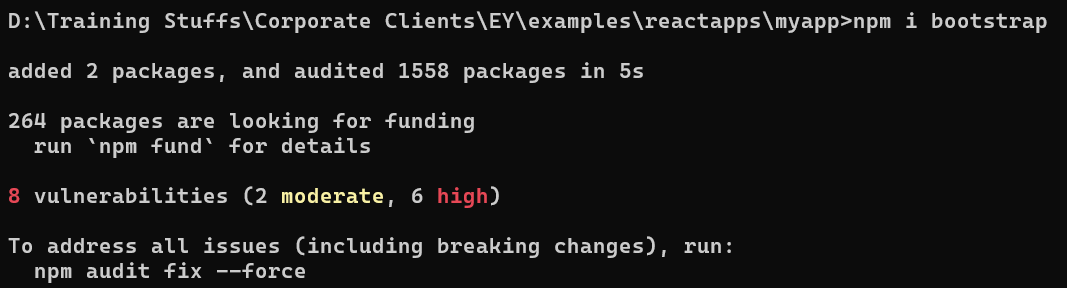
<p style = { styles } >Some content</p>



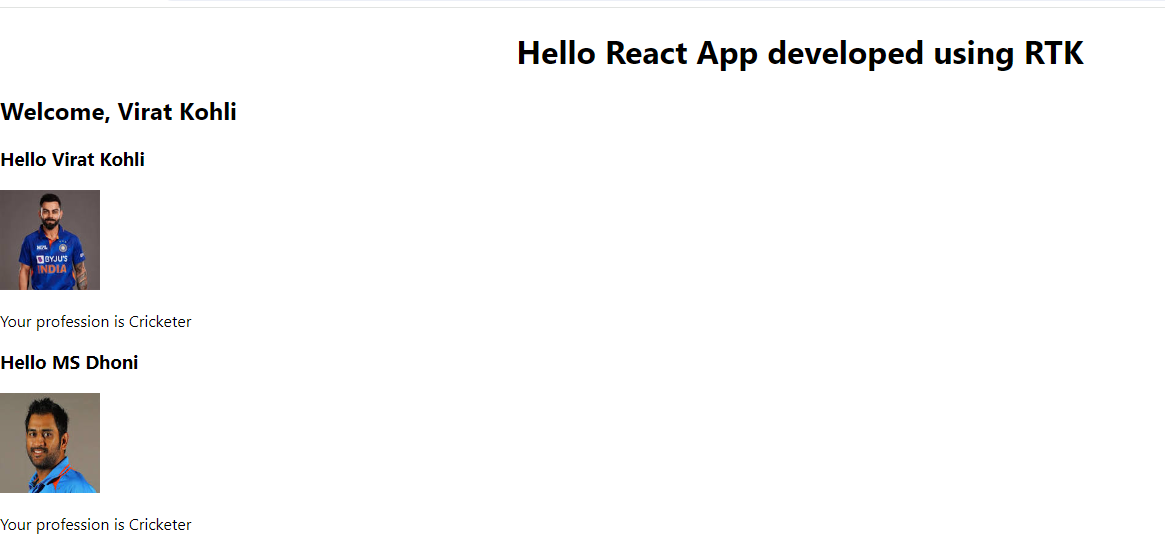
Adding the bootstrap in the react application

1. Install the bootstrap using npm install bootstrap in the project
2. You need to import the css of bootstrap in the index.css file (global stylesheet), using @import url(path)
3. You can use their classes in any component.

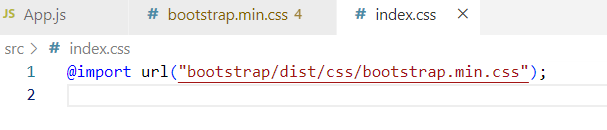
Installing bootstrap



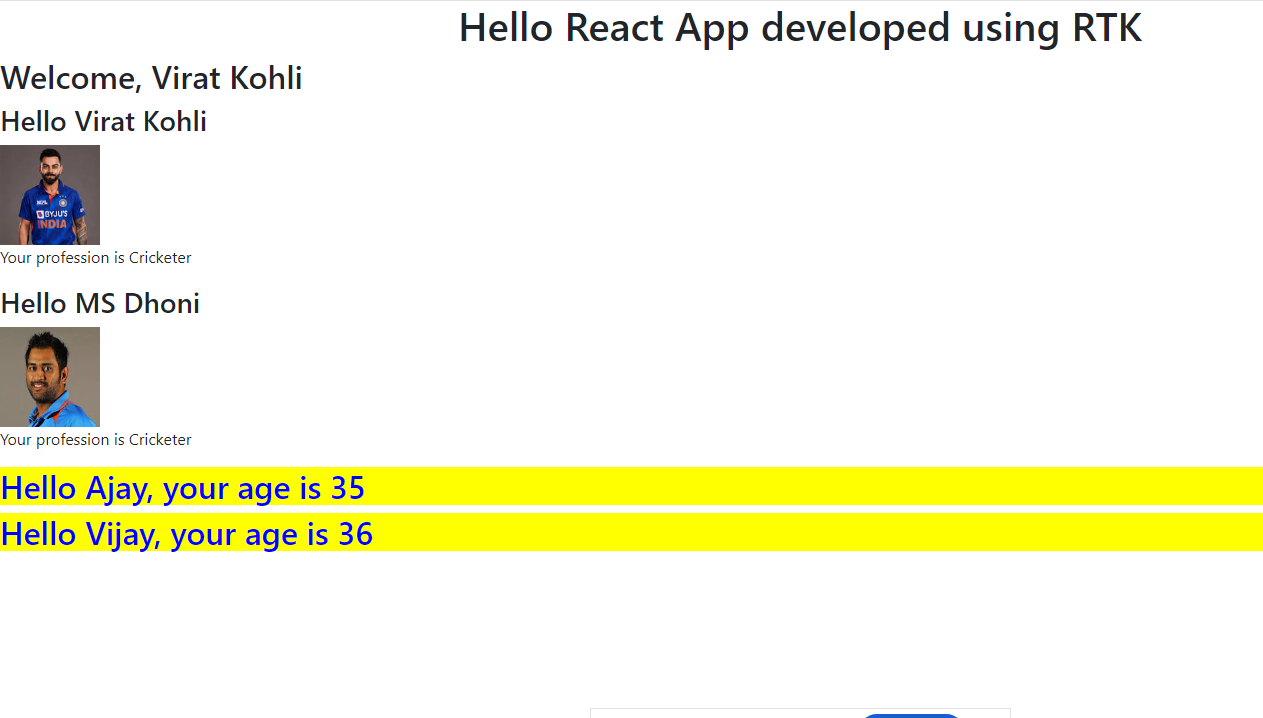
Before adding bootstrap in the index.css the output looks as below



Adding the bootstrap in the index.css



After importing the bootstrap the output looks as below



Difference in using CDN link vs Downloading the bootstrap

CDN must be avoided because it needs network connectivity and accessed over the internet, whereas downloading is better because it is always part of the project.

Rendering arrays

We must use List & Keys to iterate the arrays, list is a collection of elements which is an array & key is used to uniquely identify the element in the List

While rendering the array we must generate HTML elements for each iteration hence we must use the inbuilt map function as it transforms the data, it can be used to transform the array element into array of HTML element.

let iplTeams = [“KKR”, “DC”, “RCB”, “CSK”, “RR”];

{   
 iplTeams.map( (v, i) => <p key = {i}>{v}</p> );  
}

You can display the elements in the <ol> or <ul> or in the table using <tr>

<ol>  
 { iplTeams.map((v, i) => <li key = {i}>{v}</li>) }  
</ol>

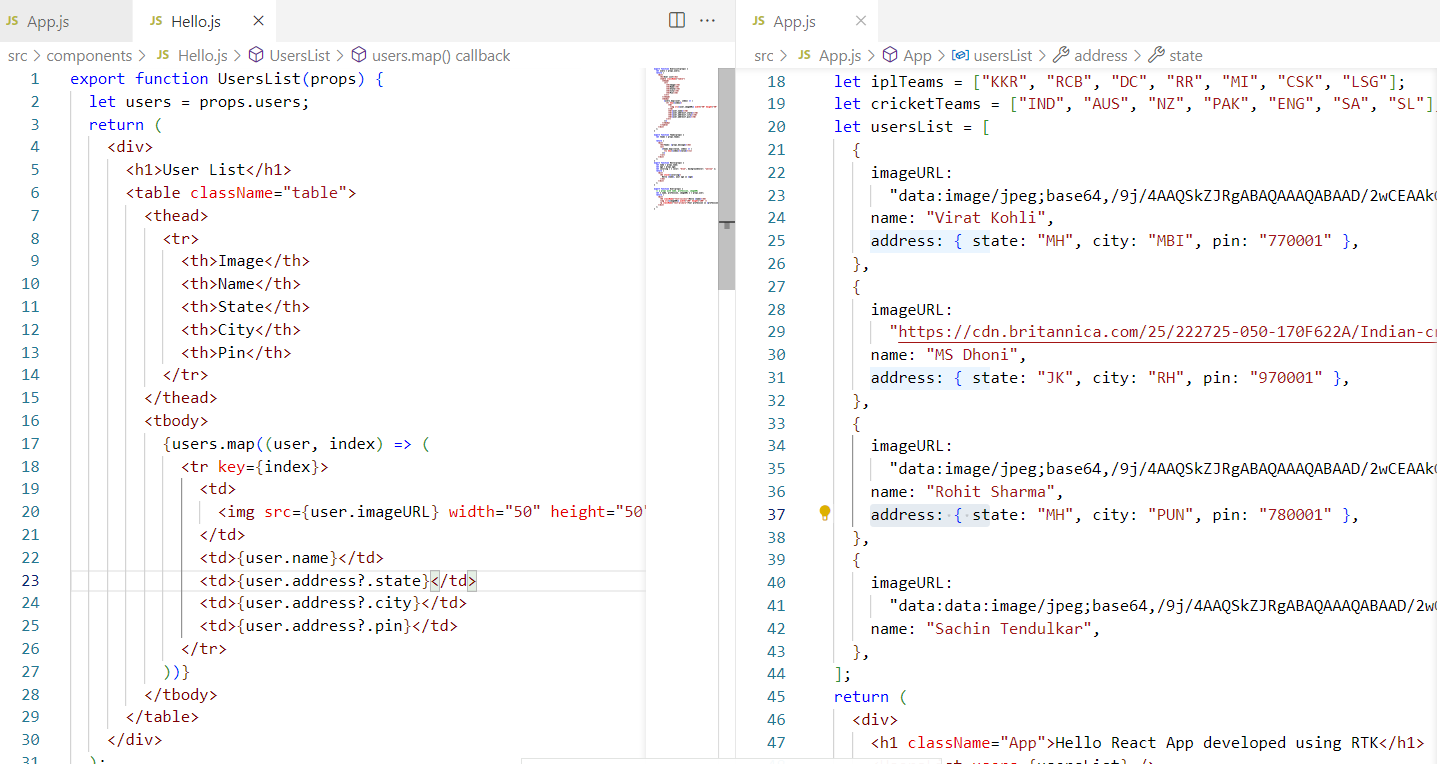
Activity:

Pass an array of objects to a component and display the result in a table format, use the array as below

let users = [   
 { imageUrl : “googleImageURL”, name : “..”, address : {state:”…”, city:”…”, pin: “…”},  
 { imageUrl : “googleImageURL”, name : “..”, address : {state:”…”, city:”…”, pin: “…”},  
 { imageUrl : “googleImageURL”, name : “..”, address : {state:”…”, city:”…”, pin: “…”},  
 { imageUrl : “googleImageURL”, name : “..”, address : {state:”…”, city:”…”, pin: “…”},  
] ;

In App component pass users to a component  
ex: <UsersList usersList = {users} />

Display the result in table which will have headings like Profile Pic, Name, State, City & Pin



Optional Chain (?.):   
It is one of the Javascript feature which enables you to access the nested property only if its present, else it stops accessing the nested properties, this avoids runtime error

ex: { user.address.state } may lead to an error compare to {user.address?.state}.

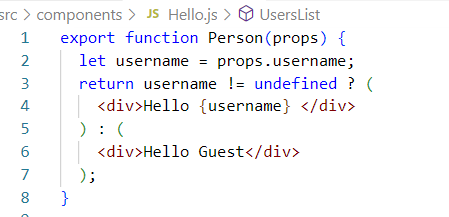
Conditional Rendering

Rendering the content based on the conditions, you can use if else logics or ternary operator if only two conditions need to be evaluated.

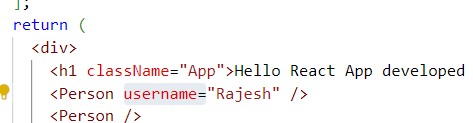
if( x > y ) { return <div>Hello</div> }   
else { return <div>Welcome</div> }

Using ternary operator

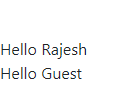
return ( x > y ) ? <div> Hello </div> : <div>Welcome</div>



App.js



Output:



States: These are components data that can be updated, as well as can be displayed and also can be passed as props to other components.

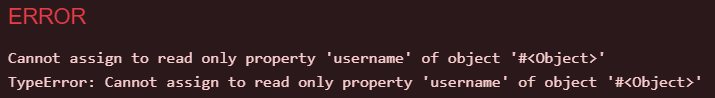
Components will have two types of data

1. props: read-only data
2. state: read and write data

Trying to modify the props gives error



Output:



State: This is a modifiable data in the component, you must first create the state with an initial value and update the state based on some actions like

* User enters an input
* When backend data is ready
* When some other actions need to make changes

How to create a state

Before React V16, function components were used only for props and can’t be used for states, at that time developers had to use classes to use the state, because React.Component was providing a state property for every components created with class.

V16 onwards React.js introduced some special functions which are called as React Hooks which made functional components to get all the features what class components get.

Before V16, you can use state as below

class User extends React.Component {   
 constructor(props) {   
 super(props);  
 this.state = initialValue; // state is inherited from the React.Component  
 }  
 // to update the state you need to use a setState() function  
 update() {   
 this.setState( newValue );  
 }  
}  
React released hook functions to create states in the function components from V16 onwards, to create states there’s a hook function called useState(initialValue), it must be imported from the React library.

import { useState } from ‘react’;  
  
function User(props) {   
 let [name, setName] = useState(initialValue);  
 let update = () => {   
 setName(newValue);  
 }   
 return { name }   
}

In Class you can’t give your own state names or set methods to modify you need to work around state & setState

ex:

In class to initialize:   
this.state = {name : “Alex”, age : 30}

To modify the state you must use setState({ });

this.setState( { name : “Raj”, age : 31 } );

In function to initialize

let [age, setAge] = useState(30); // initialize value is 30  
let [name, setName] = useState(“Alex”); // initialize value is Alex

To modify the age & name you use setAge & setName

setAge(35);  
setName(“Raj”);

Databinding:

binding the data or assigning the data from UI to the component function or vice versa

props is a data binding between the components i.e., from parent to child

We can read the input from the front-end and assign its value to the state using events, in React.js you need to handle events slightly different compare to the normal Javascript event handling.

In Javascript

<button onclick = “update()”>MyButton</button>  
function update() {   
 read inputValue using some code & assigns value to some variable  
}

In React.js: You always start the event names in lower case followed by camel case for each new words

<button onClick = {update}>MyButton</button>

let update = () => {   
 read the value & assign value to the state  
}

This is one way, but you can also write callback in the same line, i.e., called as inline callback

<button onClick = { () => { read value and assign value to the state } } >MyButton</button>

