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Summary 2

I have just used ajax and json not long ago in your advanced programming classes. Ajax, which stands for Asynchronous JavaScript and XML, is used to gather information from a webserver which can then be utilized or displayed to the user. The way Ajax works is that it requests information from an API, Application Programming Interface. Some websites require a key and have limits on how much data can be requested in a day, so people don’t take down their systems by requesting tons of information within a short time. Ajax collects this information in the form of a Json or XML file. This is usually determined within the parameters of the ajax object.

Json, JavaScript Object Notation, and XML, Extensible Markup Language, are both forms of data files. They hold information that we can read in text in plain text and the computer can parse as well. The information is typically very organized with many subcategories so it can be found fairly easily and quickly. Programmers can use the information contained in these files in their code. This is typically a good means of getting information from one website to another whether it be one you made personally or one such as New York Times or Google.

These tools are very powerful and can create some interesting programs. Learning about them for the first time and how to properly utilize them was difficult the first time. I still am not fully used to them yet, but I have not utilized them too much myself outside of school. Luckily most websites have good documentation on how to use their API’s.