

How to Succeed at LaunchCode Chapter 4: Data and Variables

WOMEN+ ► UNIT 1 ► CLASS 1 ► MARCH 22, 2023

Class Agenda

Announcements

How to Succeed at LaunchCode

Lecture: Data and Variables

Intro to Graded Assignment #1

Meet Your TAs

Studio: Chapter 5 - Goals & Growth Mindset



Announcements

Graded Assignment Deadlines

Part 1 of GA#1 is due 4/5

Remember on graded assignments you can show and discuss your code ONLY with your TAs.

Part 2 of GA#1 is due on 4/19

Enrollment deadline is 4/26

Graded assignment #1 must be fully complete and correct for you to continue in Women+.





Getting the Most out of Women+

Course Tools & Resources

Expectations

Advice & Encouragement



Getting the Most out of Women+

Congratulations! You got in!

- This course is *necessarily* **intense**
- Prepare now to work hard there is no "coasting" through Women+
- Units 1 & 2 give you technical training
- Unit 3 (aka Liftoff) gives you career prep and you complete a capstone project
- What **trajectory** you take after that is up to you!



Course Tools & Resources

Canvas

- Follow syllabus
- Complete quizzes
- Log class attendance
- Turn in prep exercises, studios, and graded assignments

Replit (& GitHub eventually)

- Write code
- Turn in links on Canvas

LC Course Book

- Assigned reading
- Studio instructions
- Graded assignment instructions
- Helpful resources

Google

Blogs, YouTube videos, documentation, forums... be resourceful!

Slack

- Announcements
- Lecture questions
- Group channels
- DM with TAs, peers
- Phone app
- Desktop app

Carrie's Practice Exercises

https://tinyurl.com/y3bn6st4



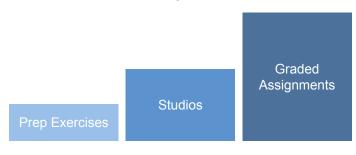
Expectations

In Class

- Stay engaged in lecture
- Use the Slack channel #questions
- If your instructor asks questions, feel free to speak up and answer!
- Otherwise, keep yourself muted when others are speaking
- Collaborate during studios you learn faster & better when working together to solve the problem

Outside of Class

- Check **Slack** regularly
- Spend ~15 hours per week on prep work & graded assignments
- Complete all prep work ahead of lecture (lecture moves quickly)
- Turn in your work for TA feedback and communicate with TAs
- Increasing levels of **difficulty**:





Advice & Encouragement

Figure Out What Works For You

- Be **strategic** about setting time aside
- Maximize your home learning environment
- Find additional resources for learning videos, blogs, tutorials, practice problems, etc.

Be Kind to Yourself

- It will get **hard** embrace the discomfort
- Everything you will feel is normal
- Keep your end goals in mind
- ENJOY the process!

Have an Extended Support System

- Talk to friends & family
- **Protect** your relationships
- Be honest with them about what you need from each other

Be There for Each Other

- LaunchCode is a community
- No one is alone
- Build each other up
- Learn from each other



Decide TODAY to commit yourself to making time for this course, and you will succeed!

THE BASICS OF STORING INFORMATION



Data Types

Printing to the Console

Detecting Types & Converting Data

The Variable

The Constant

What's in a Name?

Evaluating Expressions

Operators

Getting User Input



Data Types

String

- Words, letters, digits, special characters
- Must be in **single** or **double** quotes
- Quotes within quotes (as long as they're not the same kind)
- Can be very **short** or very **long**
- Can be **empty** (but still a string!)

```
"Welcome to LaunchCode!"

'Learning JavaScript is fun.'

'She said, "Let's do it!"'
```



```
20
    /* THE STRING */
21
22
    // TODO: Change the values for each string
23
24
    let emptyString = ""; // no characters
25
    let space = " "; // space only
26
    let zeeOrZed = "z"; // single letter
27
    let farmBoy = "Westley"; // single word
28
    let manInBlack = "Dread Pirate Roberts"; // multiple words
29
    let memorableQuote = 'Inigo said, "Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya.
     You killed my father. Prepare to die."'; // quotes inside quotes
30
    let rottenTomatoesScore = "97"; // numbers, but as a string
```



Data Types

Number

•	Positive or negative	42
•	Integers (whole numbers)	
•	Floats (floating points/decimals)	3.14
•	Doubles (longer decimals)	
•	In JavaScript, they're all the same type — number!	6.02214076
•	NO quotes — otherwise it's a String	
•	NO commas	9300000
		-10



```
33 /* THE NUMBER */
34
35 // TODO: Change the values for each number
36 let numberOfOutlaws = 3; // integer
37 let mostlyDead = 0.985; // decimal
38 let energyLevelAfterRevival = -86; // negative
39
```



Printing to the Console

What is the Console?

- A **console** is a **command line interface (CLI)** where you can execute commands
- You can interact with it directly, AND
- You can print to the console from your code
- Use console.log (yourContent) in your code to print something to the console

```
console.log("JavaScript") ⇒ "JavaScript"
console.log(365) ⇒ 365
```



Printing to the Console

Special Characters

- An escape character is a special character that begins with a backslash, \
- They can be used as part of a string
- The newline character \n will add in a line break
- The tab character \t will add in a few characters of blank space

```
console.log("A\nB\nC") ⇒ A

B
C

console.log("A\tB\tC") ⇒ A B C
```



```
40
43
44
    console.log("iocane powder");
    console.log(123.456789);
51
    // TODO: Add newline and tag characters to format an indented list
    console.log('\nFezzik & Inigo:\n\t"That Vizzini, he can fuss." \n\t"I
     think he like to scream at us." \n\t"Probably he means no harm."
     \n\t"He\'s really very short on charm." \n');
```

```
>_ Console \( \times \) \( \times \) Shelf
\( \times \) 3 + 3
\( \times \) 4-2
\( \times \) "a" + "b" + "c"
\( \times \) abc'
\( \times \) \( \times \)
```

```
>_ Console \( \times \) \( \times \) Shell \( \times \) +

iocane powder
123.456789

Fezzik & Inigo:

"That Vizzini, he can fuss."

"I think he like to scream at us."

"Probably he means no harm."

"He's really very short on charm."
```



Detecting Types & Converting Data

Checking the Type of Data

- Use the **keyword** typeof to find out what **data type** something is
- Combined with console.log() you will see the **result** in the **console** when you **run** the program

```
keyword data
console.log(typeof "St. Louis, MO") ⇒ "string"
console.log(typeof 20) ⇒ "number"
```



```
58
59  /* DETECTING TYPES */
60
61  // TODO: Print the type of a string of characters to the console
62  console.log(typeof "R.O.U.S.");
63
64  // TODO: Print the type of a negative number to the console
65  console.log(typeof -1);
66
```

string number



Detecting Types & Converting Data

Changing the Type of Your Variable

In some cases, a data type can be changed

- The function String() will change data to the String type
- The function Number () will attempt to change data to the number type
- If a string cannot be converted to a number, the value will be NaN — "not a number"

```
String(3.14) \Rightarrow "3.14"
```

Number ("3.14")
$$\Rightarrow$$
 3.14



```
69
70
71
72
73
    console.log(String(4));
74
    console.log(typeof String(4));
75
76
77
    console.log(Number("10000"));
78
    console.log(typeof Number("10000"));
79
80
81
    console.log(Number("Humperdinck"));
82
    console.log(typeof Number("Humperdinck")); // turns out NaN has a type!
```

4 string 10000 number NaN number



The Variable

What is a Variable?

A variable stores data so you can refer to it later

- Declared with the keyword let
- The **variable name** should be meaningful
- Use camelCase as the naming convention
- Value is assigned with the equals operator
- In older examples of code you might see the keyword
 var used instead that's outmoded

```
keyword variable name
```

```
let myClass = "WebDev";
assignment value
```



The Variable

Declaration vs Initialization

- You declare a variable when you use the keyword let and give it a name
- You initialize a variable when you assign a value
- It is possible to declare
 without initializing value can
 be assigned later
- Use the keyword let only once when declaring

```
let newLanguage;
variable name
```

```
newLanguage = "JavaScript";
assignment value
```



The Variable

Reassigning Variable Values

- Once you have initialized a variable by giving it its first value, you can reassign it later
- Remember: you don't use the let keyword again



```
84
     let vizziniPhrase = "Inconceivable!";
                                                                            Inconceivable!
     console.log(vizziniPhrase);
88
                                                                            undefined
     let numberOfTimesSpoken = 3;
                                                                            You keep using that word. I do not think
     console.log(numberOfTimesSpoken);
                                                                            it means what you think it means.
     numberOfTimesSpoken = 5;
     console.log(numberOfTimesSpoken);
     let inigoResponse;
     console.log(inigoResponse);
100
     inigoResponse = "You keep using that word. I do not think it means what you think it means.";
     console.log(iniqoResponse);
```



The Constant

- Stores information, like any variable
- Value is protected and cannot be changed
- Declared with the keyword const
- Sometimes the convention **SCREAMING_SNAKE_CASE** is used instead of **camelCase**.
- Useful in situations where you want to ensure the value is never altered

```
const EULERS_NUMBER = 2.71828
assignment value
```



```
106  /**** THE CONSTANT ****/
107
108  // TODO: Declare and initialize a constant
109  // Use the allcaps underscore naming convention
110  const MOVIE_TITLE = "The Princess Bride";
111
112  // TODO: Try to assign a new value to the constant.
113  // What happens when you run the program?
114  MOVIE_TITLE = "Some Other Title";
115
```

```
TypeError: Assignment to constant variable.
at Object.<anonymous> (/home/runner/ClassO1-LectureExamples-Solution/index.js:114:13)
at Module._compile (node:internal/modules/cjs/loader:1159:14)
```



What's in a Name?

The Importance of Good Variable Naming

- Be descriptive
- Readability is more important than length
- Avoid confusion with other variables
- Make it obvious...
 - what **specific information** it holds
 - what data type it is
- Don't use keywords like const as variable names — they are reserved in JavaScript

icflvr iceCreamFlavor

scoops numberOfScoops

type coneType



```
121
122
    let book = 'The Princess Bride: S. Morgenstern\'s Classic Tale of True Love
     and High Adventure, The "Good Parts" Version';
124 let type = "Adventure";
    let kind = "hardcover";
     let books = 10:
127
     let bookTitle = 'The Princess Bride: S. Morgenstern\'s Classic Tale of True
     Love and High Adventure, The "Good Parts" Version';
131 let bookGenre = "Adventure";
132 let bookFormat = "hardcover";
    let numCopiesAvailable = 10;
```



Evaluating Expressions

What Is an Expression?

An expression lets you use code to solve a problem

- **Combines** values, variables, operators, and more
- Can be as **simple** as getting the value of a variable
- Can be complex with multiple operations

The expression is **evaluated**

The resulting value is **returned**

```
someString
1 + 2
(3 * someNumber) + 14
"my name is " + myName
```



Evaluating Expressions

Using an Expression

- The expression can be evaluated in place, OR
- You can store the returned value in a variable to use elsewhere
- Storing it in a variable is a good idea when you need to use that value more than once

```
console.log(6 * 8);

let product = 6 * 8;

let total = 10 + product;

console.log(product);

console.log(total);
```



Operators

Basic Arithmetic...

- + Addition
- Subtraction
- * Multiplication
- / Division

Exponentiation

- ** "to the power of"
- **2 "squared"
- **3 "cubed"

Increment & Decrement

- ++ Increment (increase by 1)
- Decrement (decrease by 1)



```
132
133
     /**** EVALUATING EXPRESSIONS WITH OPERATORS ****/
134
135
     /* Arithmetic */
136
137
     let a = 7;
138
     let b = 2:
     // TODO: Print the difference between a and b using the arithmetic
139
140
     console.log(a - b);
141
     let m = 7
142
143
144
     console.log(m**4);
```



```
148
    let x = 5;
     console.log(x++); // returns existing value, then increments
     console.log(x); // new value
     console.log(++x); // increments, then returns new value
     X++;
     console.log(x);
                                    let y = 19;
                              164
                                    console.log(y--); // returns existing value, then decrements
                                    console.log(y); // new value
                                    console.log(--y); // decrements, then returns new value
                                    v--;
                                    console.log(y);
```



Operators

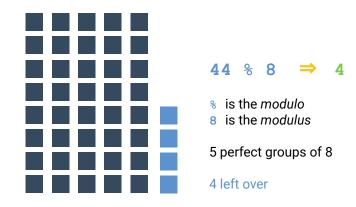
Modulo

- % is the **modulo** operator, or "**mod**"
- The modulus is the number you're dividing by
- Produces the remainder after dividing!

Practical Application

A common use of the modulo operator is for determining if a number is **even** or **odd**:

- If someNum % 2 is 0, someNum must be even
- If someNum % 2 is 1, someNum must be odd





```
2 0
```

```
1/5
176
     /* MODULO */
177
     // TODO: Print the remainder from 100 with a modulus of 7
178
179
     // 7 * 14 = 98, so we expect the value to be 2
180
     console.log(100 % 7);
181
182
     // TODO: Print the remainder from 6 with a modulus of 2
183
     // 2 * 3 = 6, so we expect the value to be 0
184
     console.log(6 % 2);
125
```

Starter code: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Starter-Code Solution: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Solution



Operators

Order of Operations

Remember **PEMDAS**:

- Parentheses
- Exponents
- Multiplication
- Division
- Addition
- Subtraction

Even with strings instead of numbers, your program needs to know **in which order** it should **evaluate** each **expression**



```
186

187 /* ORDER OF OPERATIONS */

188

189 // TODO: un-comment the line below and run the program to verify the result is 42

190 console.log(8 * (2 + 2**2) - 36 / (14 - 2**3));

191
```

Starter code: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Solution
Solution: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Solution



Operators

Building Strings

- Combine strings with a plus sign +
- This is called **concatenation**
- If both **strings** and **numbers** are included in the expression, as soon as JavaScript encounters a string, it starts treating everything as strings after that (it evaluates from left to right)

```
console.log("Y" + "E" + "S") \Rightarrow "YES"
console.log(1 + 2 + "3" + 4) \Rightarrow "334"
```



```
19/
198
199
200
     let titleAfterMawage = "Princess";
                                                                   Princess Buttercup
201
     let originalName = "Buttercup";
                                                                   You write 4 copies of a letter. I'll send my
202
                                                                   4 fastest ships, one in each direction.
203
204
     console.log(titleAfterMawage + " " + originalName);
205
206
207
     let numberOfShips = 4;
208
     console.log("You write " + numberOfShips + " copies of a letter. I'll send
     my " + numberOfShips + " fastest ships, one in each direction.");
209
```

Starter code: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Starter-Code
Solution: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Solution



Operators

Compound Assignment

These four operators are **shorthand** for assigning a **new value** to an **existing variable**:



```
192
193  /* COMPOUND ASSIGNMENT */
194
195  let numberOfBoos = 3;
196
197  // TODO: After Buttercup asks the Ancient Woman why she is booing
    her, she booed 5 more times. Increase the value of the variable,
    then print it.
198  numberOfBoos += 5;
199  console.log(numberOfBoos);
200
```

Starter code: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Starter-Code Solution: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Solution



Getting User Input

Interacting with a User in the Console

- **Import** the **readline-sync** library (just **once** at the **top** of the file)
- Assign it to a constant, input, so you can make use of the library
- input.question() does two things:
 - **Prints** the string between the parentheses to the **console**
 - **Returns** their response (which you should **store** in a variable to use later in your code)

```
221
                                                                                                    Welcome to the Princess Bride Fan Club!
                                                                                                    Who is your favorite character?
     const input = require('readline-sync');
                                                                                                        Miracle Max
                                                                                                    Miracle Max? That's my favorite character too!
     console.log("\nWelcome to the Princess Bride Fan Club!");
                                                                                                    Pop quiz! Who is the Six-fingered Man?
                                                                                                        Count Rugen
234
     let favoriteCharacter = input.question("\nWho is your favorite character?\n\t");
                                                                                                    That's correct! Count Rugen was the man Inigo was
                                                                                                     looking for to avenge his father's death.
     console.log("\n" + favoriteCharacter + "? That's my favorite character too!");
240
     let sixFingeredMan = input.question("\nPop quiz! Who is the Six-fingered Man?\n\t");
243
     console.log("\nThat's correct! " + sixFingeredMan + " was the man Inigo was looking for to avenge his father's death.");
245
```

Starter code: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Starter-Code
Solution: https://replit.com/@CarolineRose/Class01-LectureExamples-Solution



Intro to Graded Assignment #1



Intro to Graded Assignment #1

Graded Assignment #1 - Candidate Testing

Part 1 (due 4/5)

- Get the candidate's name
- Ask one question
- Get their response
- Tell them if their response was the correct answer or not

You just need to know how to store information in variables, get user input, and add logic with conditionals

Part 2 (due 4/19)

 Modify your original quiz to go through the question, response, and user feedback process for all 5 questions

Use **conditionals**, **arrays**, and **loops**!

Part 3 (due 4/26)

- Add calculations to grade the quiz
- Make sure everything prints to the console in a specific format

Reminders

- Share code **only with TAs** no classmates or outside help
- Completed assignment due 4/26 at 5:00 PM to stay enrolled



What's Next



Class 2 - Conditionals & Debugging - 3/29

- Due before class
 - Prep work (reading, quiz, exercises) chapters 5 & 6
- Lecture
- Studio Data & Variables (chapter 4)
- Review

Class 3 - Strings & Arrays - 4/5

- Due before class
 - Prep work (reading, quiz, exercises) chapters 7 & 8
 - Part 1 of Graded Assignment #1
- Lecture
- Studio
- Review

Studio



Studio

Tonight's Studio - Chapter 5

SMART Goals & Having a Growth Mindset

- Get to know each other!
- What are your goals for this class?
- What are your goals for your career?
- Think about what motivates & inspires you

No studio review since it's a non-coding studio





Studio

Meet Your TAs

Check the **People** page on **Canvas** — Look yourself up and find your TAs' names in the **Section** column

Track	TA Pair	Room Assignment
Java	Alex E and Ethan	Glass
Java	Ashley and Michael	Westbrooks
Java	Jaimee and Zora	Rivers A/B/C
Java	January and Richmond (Madison subbing for January tonight!)	Lewis
Java	Taylor and Ted (Jordan subbing for Taylor tonight!)	Brutus A/B
C#	Alex D and Anna	Lecture Hall
C#	Jamey and DaShaun	Lecture Hall

