Difference between document and window objects in JavaScript

The document object and the window object are two of the most important objects in JavaScript. They both provide access to different aspects of the web page and the browser window in which it is displayed.

Window object

The window object represents the browser window or frame that displays the contents of the webpage. It is the top-level object in the JavaScript object hierarchy. All global JavaScript objects, functions, and variables are automatically members of the window object.

Some commonly used properties and methods of the window object include:

location: Returns the current URL of the web page.

document: Returns the document object for the current window.

alert(): Displays a pop-up message box.

confirm(): Displays a pop-up message box with two buttons: OK and Cancel.

open(): Opens a new browser window or tab.

Document object

The document object represents the HTML document that is loaded in the current window. It is a property of the window object.

Some commonly used properties and methods of the document object include:

title: Returns or sets the title of the document.

body: Returns the body element of the document.

head: Returns the head element of the document.

getElementById(): Returns the element with the specified ID.

getElementsByTagName(): Returns an array of all elements with the specified tag name.

createElement(): Creates a new HTML element.

Differences between the document and window objects

The following table summarizes the key differences between the document and window objects:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Property | Document object | Window object |
| What it represents | The HTML document that is loaded in the current window. | The browser window or frame that displays the contents of the webpage. |
| How to access it | document or window.document | window |
| Properties and methods | Properties and methods related to the HTML document, such as title, body, head, getElementById(), and getElementsByTagName(). | Properties and methods related to the browser window, such as location, alert(), confirm(), and open(). |

drive\_spreadsheetExport to Sheets

Examples

The following example shows how to use the document object to get the title of the current web page:

JavaScript

const title = document.title;

console.log(title)

The following example shows how to use the window object to open a new browser window:

JavaScript

window.open("https://www.google.com");

Conclusion

The document object and the window object are two of the most important objects in JavaScript. They both provide access to different aspects of the web page and the browser window in which it is displayed. By understanding the difference between these two objects, you can write more effective JavaScript code.