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Web Technology

Lecture 10: Introduction to JavaScript

What is JavaScript

- JavaScript's official name is ECMAScript.
- ECMAScript is developed and maintained by the ECMA organization.
- Everyone can use JavaScript without purchasing a license
- JavaScript was designed to add interactivity to HTML pages
- Is scripting language (a lightweight programming language)
- JavaScript is an interpreted language (means that scripts execute without preliminary compilation)



Are Java and JavaScript the same?

- NO!
- Java and JavaScript are two completely different languages in both concept and design!
- Java (was developed by Sun Microsystems now Oracle) is a powerful and much more complex programming language - in the same category as C and C++.



What can JavaScript do?

- JavaScript gives HTML designers a programming tool.
- JavaScript can put dynamic text into an HTML.
- JavaScript can react to events.
- JavaScript can read and write HTML elements.
- JavaScript can be used to validate data.
- JavaScript can be used to detect the visitor's browser.
- JavaScript can be used to create cookies.



JavaScript into an HTML page

- To insert a JavaScript into an HTML page, we use the <script> tag.
- So, the <script> and </script> tells where the JavaScript starts and ends.
- The document.write command is a standard JavaScript command for writing output to a page.
- By entering the document.write command between the <script>
 and </script> tags, the browser will recognize it as a JavaScript
 command and execute the code line.

Where to Put the JavaScript

- JavaScript in a page will be executed immediately while the page loads into the browser.
- This is not always what we want.
- Sometimes we want to execute a script when a page loads, or at a later event, such as when a user clicks a button.
- We insert the script inside a function.



Scripts in <head>

- Scripts to be executed when they are called, or when an event is triggered, are placed in functions.
- Put your functions in the head section, this way they are all in one place, and they do not interfere with page content.

```
<html>
<head>
<script>
function message()
alert ("This alert box was
called");
</script>
</head>
<body onload="message()">
</body>
</html>
```



Scripts in <body>

• If you don't want your script to be placed inside a function, or if your script should write page content, it should be placed in the body section.

```
<html>
<head>
</head>
<body>
 <script>
 document.write("This message is
written by JavaScript");
 </script>
</body>
</html>
```



Scripts in <head> and <body>

 You can place an unlimited number of scripts in your document, so you can have scripts in both the body and the head section.

```
<html>
<head>
<script>
function message()
{ alert("This alert box was
called "); }
</script>
</head>
<body onload="message()">
<script>
document.write("Hello!");
</script>
</body>
</html>
```



Using External JavaScript

- If you want to run the same JavaScript on several pages, without having to write the same script on every page, you can write a JavaScript in an external file.
- Save the external JavaScript file with a .js file extension.
- To use the external script, point to the .js file in the "src" attribute of the <script> tag:



JavaScript Statements

- Unlike HTML, JavaScript is case sensitive therefore watch your capitalization closely when you write JavaScript statements.
- A JavaScript statement is a command. The purpose of the command is to tell the browser what to do.
- This JavaScript statement tells the browser to write "Hello" to the web page: document.write("Hello");
- It is normal to add a semicolon at the end of each executable statement.



JavaScript Code

- JavaScript code (or just JavaScript) is a sequence of JavaScript statements.
- Each statement is executed by the browser in the sequence they are written.
- This example will write a heading and two paragraphs to a web page:



JavaScript Blocks

- JavaScript statements can be grouped together in blocks.
- Blocks start with a left curly bracket {, and ends with a right curly bracket }.
- The purpose of a block is to make the sequence of statements execute together.
- This example will write a heading and a paragraph to a web page:

```
<script>
{
   document.write("<h1>This is a heading</h1>");
   document.write("This is a paragraph.");
}
</script>
```



JavaScript Variables

- Do you remember algebra from school? x=5, y=6, z=x+y
- Do you remember that a letter (x) could be used to hold a value (5), and that you could use the information above to calculate the value of z to be 11?
- These letters are called **variables**, and variables can be used to hold values (x=5) or expressions (z=x+y).



JavaScript Variables

- As with algebra, JavaScript variables are used to hold values or expressions.
- A variable can have a short name, like x, or a more descriptive name, like carname.
- Rules for JavaScript variable names:
 - Variable names are case sensitive (y and Y are two different variables)
 - Variable names must begin with a letter or the underscore character
- **Note:** Because JavaScript is case-sensitive, variable names are case-sensitive.



Declaring JavaScript Variables

- Creating variables in JavaScript is most often referred to as "declaring" variables.
- You can declare JavaScript variables with the var keyword:

```
var x;
var carname;
```

 After the declaration shown above, the variables are empty (they have no values yet). However, you can also assign values to the variables when you declare them:

```
var x=5;
var carname="Volvo";
```

Note: When you assign a text value to a variable, use quotes around the value.



Assigning Values to Variables

- If you assign values to variables that have not yet been declared, the variables will automatically be declared.
- These statements:

```
x=5;
carname="Volvo";
```

have the same effect as:

```
var x=5;
var carname="Volvo";
```



JavaScript Operators

- The assignment operator = is used to assign values to JavaScript variables.
- The arithmetic operator + is used to add values together.

```
y=5;
z=2;
x=y+z;
```

The value of x, after the execution of the statements above is
 7.



JavaScript Arithmetic Operators

- Arithmetic operators are used to perform arithmetic between variables and/or values.
- Given that y=5, the table below explains the arithmetic operators:

Operator	Description	Example	Result
+	Addition	x=y+2	x=7
_	Subtraction	x=y-2	x=3
*	Multiplication	x=y*2	x=10
/	Division	x=y/2	x=2.5
00	Modulus (division remainder)	x=y%2	x=1
++	Increment	x=++A	x=6
	Decrement	х=у	x=4



JavaScript Assignment Operators

- Assignment operators are used to assign values to JavaScript variables.
- Given that x=10 and y=5, the table below explains the assignment operators:

Operator	Example	Same As	Result
=	x=y		x=5
+=	x+=y	$x=x+\lambda$	x=15
-=	x-=y	х=х-У	x=5
=	x=y	x=x*y	x=50
/=	x/=y	x=x/y	x=2
%=	x%=y	х=х%у	x=0



The + Operator Used on Strings

- The + operator can also be used to add string variables or text values together.
- To add two or more string variables together, use the + operator.

```
txt1="What a very";
txt2="nice day";
txt3=txt1+txt2;
```

After the execution of the statements above, the variable txt3 contains "What a verynice day".

 To add a space between the two strings, insert a space into one of the strings:

```
txt1="What a very ";
txt2="nice day";
txt3=txt1+txt2;
```



Adding Strings to Numbers

 The rule is: If you add a number and a string, the result will be a string!

```
x=5+5;
document.write(x); shows: "10"

x="5"+"5";
document.write(x); shows: "55"

x=5 + "is the number!";
document.write(x); shows: "5 is the number"
```



Operator Precedence

- JavaScript Operator Precedence is similar to the Mathematical Operator Precedence and Associativity.
- The multiplication operator * has a higher precedence than / and the addition operator +, so the multiplication is performed before the addition.

```
4 + 3 * 2 (shows 10)
(4 + 3) * 2 (shows 14)
(4 / 2) * 2 (shows 4)
```

 The + and - operator is "left associative", meaning that it is evaluated left to right, so the numeric subtraction is performed first.

```
8 - 6 + "some text" (shows 2some text)
```



Comparison Operators

- Comparison operators are used in logical statements to determine equality or difference between variables or values.
- Given that x=5, the table below explains the comparison operators:

Operator	Description	Example
==	is equal to	x==8 is false
===	is exactly equal to (value and type)	x===5 is true $x==="5"$ is false
!=	is not equal	x! = 8 is true
>	is greater than	x>8 is false
<	is less than	x<8 is true
>=	is greater than or equal to	x>=8 is false
<=	is less than or equal to	x<=8 is true



How Can it be Used

 Comparison operators can be used in conditional statements to compare values and take action depending on the result:

```
if (age<18)
  document.write("Too young");</pre>
```



What is the correct JavaScript syntax to display "Hello World" on the browser?

```
A. "Hello World"
B. document.write("Hello World")
C. response.write("Hello World")
D. ("Hello World")
```



Logical Operators

- Logical operators are used to determine the logic between variables or values.
- Given that x=6 and y=3, the table below explains the logical operators:

Operator	Description	Example
&&	and	(x < 10 && y > 1) is true
11	or	(x==5 y==5) is false
!	not	! (x==y) is true



Conditional Operator

 JavaScript also contains a conditional operator that assigns a value to a variable based on some condition:

```
variablename=(condition)?value1:value2
```

For example:

```
greeting=(visitor=="M")?"Dear Member":"Dear ";
```

• If the variable **visitor** has the value of "M", then the variable **greeting** will be assigned the value "Dear Member" else it will be assigned "Dear".



Conditional Statements

- Very often when you write code, you want to perform different actions for different decisions.
- In JavaScript we have the following conditional statements:
 - if statement use this statement to execute some code only if a specified condition is true.
 - -if...else statement use this statement to execute some code if the condition is true and another code if the condition is false.



If Statement

• Use the if statement to execute some code only if a specified condition is true.

```
if (condition)
{
    code to be executed if condition is true
}
```

For Example:

```
var d=new Date();
var time=d.getHours();

if (time<10)
{
   document.write("<b>Good morning</b>");
}
```



If...else Statement

 Use the if statement to execute some code only if a specified condition is true.

```
if (condition)
   { code to be executed if condition is true }
else
   { code to be executed if condition is not true }
```

For Example: http://jsfiddle.net/edo77uk/4u358/

```
if (time < 10)
{
  document.write("Good morning!");
}
else
{
  document.write("Good day!");
}</pre>
```



JavaScript Loops

- Often when you write code, you want the same block of code to run over and over again in a row.
- In JavaScript, there are two different kind of loops:
 - for loops through a block of code a specified number of times
 - while loops through a block of code while a specified condition is true



The for Loop

 The for loop is used when you know in advance how many times the script should run.

```
for (var=startval; var<=endval; var=var+inc)
{
    code to be executed
}</pre>
```



The for Loop - Example

- The example below defines a loop that starts with i=0. The loop will continue to run as long as i is less than, or equal to 5. i will increase by 1 each time the loop runs.
- Note: The increment parameter could also be negative, and the <= could be any comparing statement.

```
var i=0;
for (i=0;i<=5;i++)
{
   document.write("The number is " + i);
   document.write("<br />");
}
```



The while Loop

 The while loop loops through a block of code while a specified condition is true.

```
while (var<=endvalue)
{
    code to be executed
}</pre>
```

Note: The <= could be any comparing operator.



The while loop - Example

• The example below defines a loop that starts with i=0. The loop will continue to run as long as i is less than, or equal to 5. i will increase by 1 each time the loop runs:

```
var i=0;
while (i<=5)
{
   document.write("The number is " + i);
   document.write("<br />");
    i++;
}
http://jsfiddle.net/edo77uk/xSyKS/
```

