

DWA_02.8 Knowledge Check_DWA2

1. What do ES5, ES6 and ES2015 mean - and what are the differences between them?

- ES5 is a shortcut for ECMAScript 5, also known as javascript 5, released in 2009 and references an edition of ECMAScript.
 - ES6 is a shortcut for ECMAScript 6, which was released in 2015 therefore it is also referred to as ECMAScript 2015, it references an edition of ES5 but was one of the most essential releases due to a number of features released to bring javascript on par with other modern languages.
 - ES2015 is the same as ES6, It was initially released in June 2015 and was known as ES6 but then later the committee wanted to keep the release on par with the year it was released and hence it was renamed to ES2015.
 - The difference between ES5 and ES6 (which is ES2015) is that the ES5 version added the 'strict' mode which is a feature that is allowed to check for corrections of javascript code and the ES6 version added class declarations, Introduction to modules, Iterators (for..of loops), function expressions and more.
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2. What are JScript, ActionScript and ECMAScript - and how do they relate to JavaScript?

- JScript is a scripting language that was created by Microsoft for their Internet Explorer, JScript along with Netscapes JavaScript were unified into a single standardized language titled ECMAScript.
 - ActionScript is a well-known knock-off javascript language created by Macromedia, it is a derivation of javascript and is nearly identical to it.
 - ECMAScript provides the rules, details, and guidelines that a scripting language must observe to be considered ECMAScript compliant, javascript is based on the ECMAScript specification.
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3. What is an example of a JavaScript specification - and where can you find it?

- An example of a JavaScript specification would be the single-line comment

That states that a single-line comment can contain any character except a line terminator character and that the single-line comment consists of all the characters from the “//” marker to the end of the line. (the contents of the single-line comment will be ignored)

4. What are v8, SpiderMonkey, Chakra and Tamarin? Do they run JavaScript differently?

- They are all JavaScript compilers, and yes code can result in different functionality on different compilers by invoking implementation-defined behavior or undefined behavior.

5. Show a practical example using caniuse.com and the MDN compatibility table.

Let's say you want to use arrow functions, which are introduced in ES6, in your JavaScript code. However, you want to ensure that they are supported by a wide range of browsers before using them. So by using caniuse.com we can see what browsers and what versions of those browsers support this feature which are chrome 45-112, edge 12-112, safari 10-16.4, etc

Thus this feature is supported by most browsers and is a good way of writing functions.
