

Q3. What are loops, and what do we need them? Explain different types of loops with their syntax and examples.

Answer - Loops are control structures used in programming to execute a block of code repeatedly based on a specified condition. They are essential for tasks that involve repetition, such as iterating over elements in a collection, processing data, or performing repeated calculations.

Why We Need Loops

Loops are crucial because they:

- **Eliminate Code Duplication:** Avoid writing repetitive code by executing the same block of code multiple times.
- **Automate Repetitive Tasks:** Handle tasks that need to be performed repeatedly, such as processing each item in a list.
- **Adapt to Dynamic Data:** Work with data of varying sizes or conditions, like processing user inputs or iterating through records.

Types of Loops in JavaScript

1. For Loop

The for loop is used when you know in advance how many times you want to execute a block of code. It's commonly used for iterating over a range of values.

Syntax:

```
for (initialization; condition; update) {  
    // code to be executed  
}
```

Example:

```
// Print numbers from 0 to 4  
for (let i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
    console.log(i);  
}
```

In this example:

- Initialization: `let i = 0` sets the starting value of the loop counter.
- Condition: `i < 5` checks if the loop should continue running.
- Update: `i++` increments the counter after each iteration.

2. While Loop

The while loop continues to execute a block of code as long as its condition evaluates to true. It's useful when the number of iterations isn't known beforehand.

Syntax:

```
while (condition) {  
    // code to be executed  
}
```

Example:

```
let count = 0;  
while (count < 5) {  
    console.log(count);  
    count++;  
}
```

In this example:

- Condition: `count < 5` checks if the loop should continue.
- Code Block: Executes `console.log(count)` and increments `count` each time.

3. Do-While Loop

The do-while loop executes the block of code once before checking the condition. It guarantees that the code block will run at least once.

Syntax:

```
do {  
    // code to be executed  
} while (condition);
```

Example:

```
let count = 0;
do {
  console.log(count);
  count++;
} while (count < 5);
```

In this example:

- The code inside the do block executes once before the while condition is checked.
- The loop will continue executing as long as `count < 5`.

4. For-Of Loop

The for-of loop is used to iterate over iterable objects such as arrays, strings, and collections. It provides a more concise way to loop through elements.

Syntax:

```
for (const element of iterable) {
  // code to be executed
}
```

Example:

```
const numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
for (const number of numbers) {
  console.log(number);
}
```

In this example:

- `numbers` is an iterable array.
- `number` represents each element in the `numbers` array during each iteration.

5. For-In Loop

The for-in loop is used to iterate over the enumerable properties of an object. It's typically used with objects rather than arrays.

Syntax:

```
for (const key in object) {  
    // code to be executed  
}
```

Example:

```
const person = { name: 'Alice', age: 25, city: 'Wonderland' };  
for (const key in person) {  
    console.log(key + ": " + person[key]);  
}
```

In this example:

- key represents each property name in the person object.
- person[key] retrieves the value of each property.

Key Points

- Initialization: Sets up the loop control variable.
- Condition: Determines if the loop should continue.
- Update: Modifies the loop control variable (for for loops).
- Code Block: The statements executed in each iteration.

Loops are essential for handling repetitive tasks and working with collections of data efficiently. Understanding the different types of loops and when to use each can greatly enhance your ability to write effective and maintainable code in JavaScript