DWA_02.8 Knowledge Check_DWA2

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

ES5 and ES6 are different versions of the ECMAScript specification. The specification version can also be referred to by the year it was published. ES6 was published in 2015, thus it is also referred to as ES2015.

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2. What are JScript, ActionScript and ECMAScript - and how do they relate to JavaScript?

JScript was Microsoft's own reverse-engineered version of JavaScript. ActionScript is said to be a JavaScript knock-off language. It is mainly used for the development of websites and software that use the Adobe Flash platform. Due to the frustration developers had dealing with the various scripting languages, ECMAScript (combining JavaScript and JScript) was created and it became the standardized scripting language.

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3. What is an example of a JavaScript specification - and where can you find it?

The JavaScript/ECMAScript specification states the way in which JavaScript should work.
An example of a JavaScipt specification: String.prototype.includes (_searchString_ [, _position_]). This method performs the act of finding a substring within a string. If the substring is present, the method returns true. If the substring is not present it returns false. The ECMAScript specification goes into detail on how this method works.

Developments on the language can be followed at https://github.com/tc39.

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

These are JavaScript compilers/engines. They translate JavaScript code into something the computer can work with. The different major browsers (Chrome, Safari, Firefox) have their own JavaScript engines. The engines implement different versions of JavaScript and their interpretation of the same JavaScript code will be different.

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

Can I use the dialog element? Has 94.18% support across newer browser versions. Is not supported by Internet Explorer, Opera Mini and the KaiOS browser.

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