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Assignment 6

So far in this class (CS 290), the topic I have had the most trouble with is probably asynchronous functions. The idea in itself is fairly rudimentary: you pass a function to another function that will be executed at a later time. However, what was causing me difficulty in understanding the topic was the out-of-place ordering of executions on commands when the function was called. I spent increasing more time trying to master the concept and I continued to grow increasingly more frustrated. That is, until I realized there were anonymous and named functions.

Upon discovering that an anonymous function passed as a callback to another function was a big reason as to why I was having such difficulty understanding asynchronous functions, I looked for another way to define functions. Remembering that I could name a function and simply pass it to the outer function, I switched to this method. Weird as it may be, this greatly simplified my code and allowed me to follow along and better understand the concept. I was amazed that a simple tweak such as this was the deciding factor in mastering AJAX. I have often heard the phrase “A clean workspace begets a clear mind”. Although this originally refers to keeping a clean desktop, boosting productivity in whatever you may be doing, I found the effect was the same when I organized my script. Ever since this realization, I have been isolating my code to blocks, with each block assigned a specific function. I will be continuing to do this for all my future programs/code, for all languages!