CSC-336
Web Technologies

Lecture 7

Topics:

- History of JavaScript, Console Programming,
- Data Types, Variables, String Operations, Arithmetic
- Functions, If else structure

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Introduction

- JavaScript is :
  - A high-level, interpreted programming language.
- It enables dynamic behavior on web pages.
- Plays a key role in:
  - front-end, back-end, and full-stack development.
- Alongside HTML & CSS, it forms the core of the web.

Early Beginnings (1995)

- Brendan Eich created JavaScript in 1995 while working at Netscape.
- The first internal name of JavaScript was Mocha,
  - chosen by Netscape's management.
- It was later renamed LiveScript
  - when integrated into Netscape Navigator 2.0
- and finally JavaScript
  - after partnership with Sun Microsystems (creators of Java).

⚠️ Note: This "Mocha" is unrelated to the modern Mocha testing framework used in Node.js today.

Why “JavaScript”?

- Named “JavaScript” for marketing reasons.
- Aimed to ride the popularity of Java at that time.
- But, Java and JavaScript are completely different languages!

Feature	Java	JavaScript
Type	Object-oriented, compiled language	interpreted language
Object-based, Platform	Runs on JVM (Java Virtual Machine)	Runs in browsers and on Node.js
Syntax	Strict, strongly typed	Flexible, loosely typed
Execution	Needs compilation (.class files)	Runs directly in browser or runtime
Usage	Desktop, mobile (Android), backend apps	Web development, servers, mobile & AI
Example	System.out.println("Hello");	console.log("Hello");

Standardization (ECMAScript)

- In 1997, JavaScript was submitted to ECMA International.
- Standardized as ECMAScript (ES).
- Ensured compatibility across different browsers.
- ES1 (1997) was the first official standard.

Evolution of ECMAScript

- ES3 (1999): Regular expressions, better string handling
- ES5 (2009): JSON support, strict mode
- ES6 (2015): Classes, arrow functions, modules, promises
- ES7–ES13 (2016–2022): Async/await, optional chaining, modern syntax

Browser Wars & Growth

- 1990s: Browser competition between Netscape and Microsoft.
- Microsoft introduced JScript (their version of JS) in Internet Explorer.
- Led to incompatibilities and cross-browser issues.
- Pushed the need for standardization.

Rise of Modern JavaScript

- 2009: Node.js introduced JavaScript to the server-side.
- 2010s: Explosion of JS frameworks and libraries such as jQuery, AngularJS, React, Vue.js.
- JavaScript became one of the most popular programming languages in the world.

Today’s JavaScript Ecosystem

- Front-end: React, Vue, Angular
- Back-end: Node.js, Express.js
- Mobile: React Native, Ionic
- Desktop: Electron
- AI & ML: TensorFlow.js
- Truly a universal language.

Timeline Summary

- 1995: Birth of JavaScript (Netscape)
- 1997: ECMAScript standardization
- 2009: Node.js introduced
- 2015: ES6 brings modern features
- 2020s: Dominates full-stack, mobile & AI development

Fun Facts

- JavaScript was created in 10 days.
- Runs in all modern browsers without installation.
- Powers over 98% of websites today.
- Its mascot is often a yellow JS logo ⚡

Conclusion: History & Intro of JavaScript

- JavaScript evolved from a simple scripting tool to a powerful ecosystem.
- It’s now the backbone of interactive web applications.
- Continuous updates make it future-ready.
- JavaScript: the language that never stops evolving!

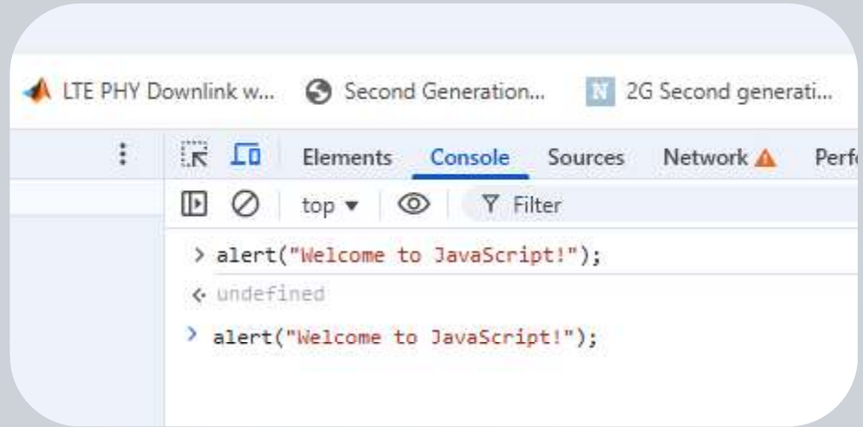
Adding Behavior to a Webpage Using JavaScript

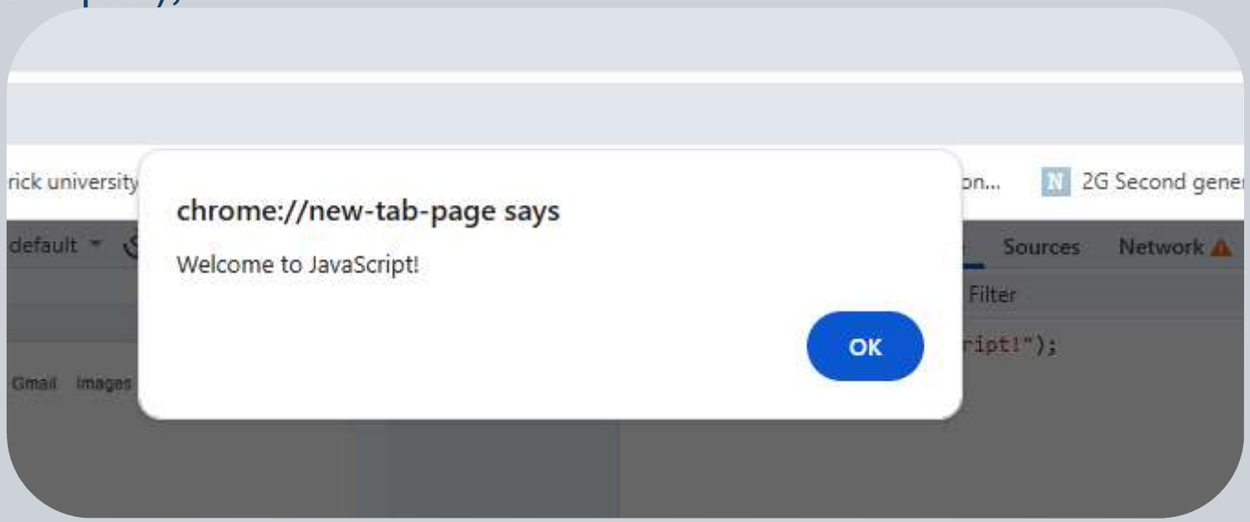
- JavaScript adds behavior and interactivity to webpages.

1. Open Google Chrome
2. Right-click → Inspect
3. Go to the Console tab
4. Type JavaScript directly and see instant results!

Type each line in the Chrome Console and press Enter:

- alert("Welcome to JavaScript!");





What's Happening Here

- • The browser reads your JavaScript command
- • alert() tells the browser: "Show this message."
- • No HTML change needed — you directly interacted with the page!

What Are Data Types?

- Data type = kind of information a variable holds
- Examples in real life:
    - Your name → text
    - Your age → number
    - Is student? → true/false
- In JavaScript, everything has a type.

Primitive Data Types

The 7 main primitive types in JavaScript:

1. String ➔text
2. Number ➔numeric values
3. Boolean ➔ true or false
4. Undefined➔ not assigned yet
5. Null ➔intentionally empty
6. Symbol ➔unique identifier (advanced)
7. BigInt ➔large integers (advanced)

Strings (Text)

- Used for words, sentences, or any characters.

- Examples:
  - "Hello"
  - 'JavaScript'
  - "123" // still text
- Try in console:
  - alert("I am learning JavaScript!");
  - typeof "Hello";

Numbers

- Used for math or numeric data.
- Examples:
  - 5
  - 3.14
  - -10
- Try in console:
  - alert(2 + 3);
  - typeof 2.5;

Booleans

- Represent true or false values — helpful in decisions.

- Examples:
  - true
  - false

- Try in console:
  - alert(true);
  - alert(5 > 2);
  - typeof false;

Undefined and Null

- • Undefined: variable declared but not given a value
- • Null: value purposely set to “nothing”

- Examples:
  - let a;
  - alert(a); // undefined

  - let b = null;
  - alert(b); // null

typeof Operator

- Used to check what kind of data you have.

- Try in console:
  - typeof "COMSATS"
  - typeof 123
  - typeof true
  - typeof null

- Note: typeof null returns "object" (a known JavaScript quirk).

Quick Summary

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Type	Example	Description
String	"Hello"	Text values
Number	42, 3.14	Numeric values
Boolean	true, false	Logic values
Undefined	let x;	No value assigned
Null	let y = null;	Intentionally empty value

Javascript Naming Conventions for variable

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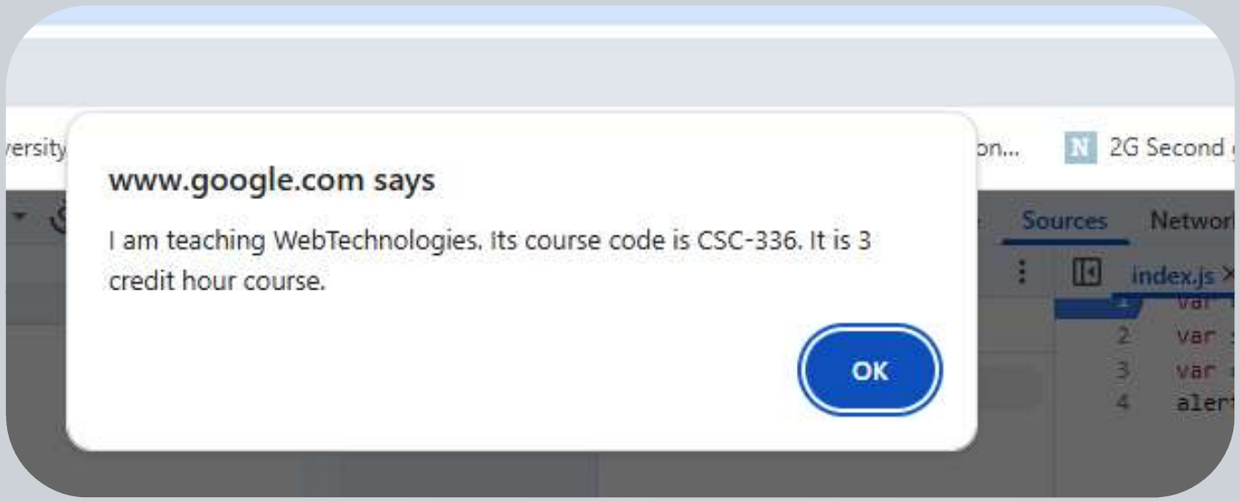
Rule / Tip	Example	Explanation
✅ **Use camelCase**	let userName = "Ali";	Start with lowercase, capitalize new words. Common in JS.
✅ **Start with a letter, _, or $**	let _score = 10;, let $price = 99;	Variable names **cannot** start with numbers.
❌ **Don't use spaces or special characters**	❌ let user name = "Ali";	Use camelCase instead: userName.
✅ **Be descriptive**	let totalMarks = 500;	Names should tell what the variable stores.
❌ **Avoid JS reserved words**	❌ let for = 5;	Words like for, if, var, function cannot be variable names.
⚠️ **Case-sensitive**	userName ≠ username	JavaScript treats them as different variables.

String Concatenation

- String concatenation means **joining two or more strings together** to make a single string.

```
var creditHours=3;
var subName="Web Technologies";
var courseCode="CSC-336";
alert("I am teaching"+subName+". Its course code is "+courseCode+". It is "+creditHours+" credit hour course.");
```



Tweet Web App

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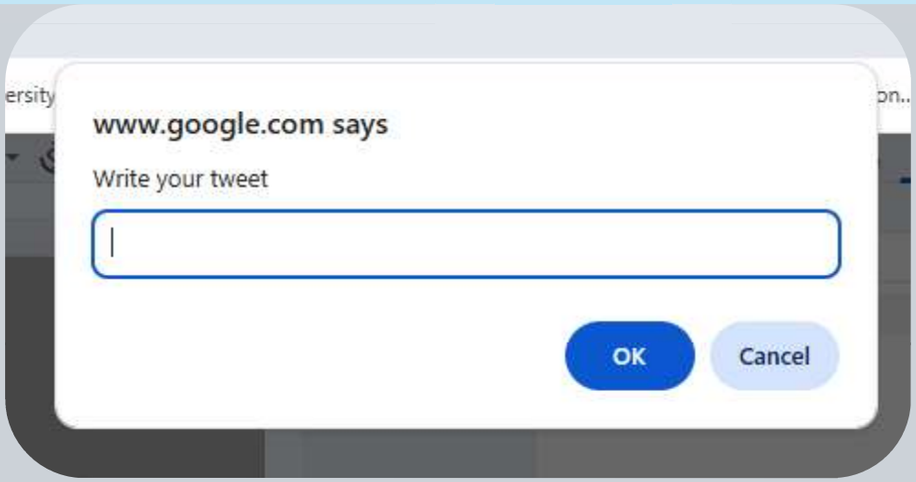
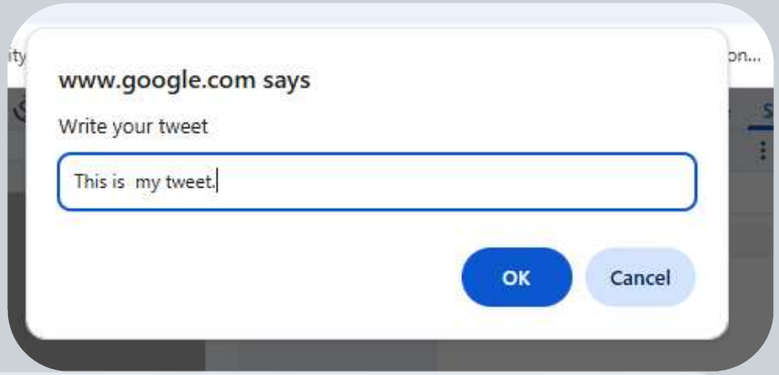
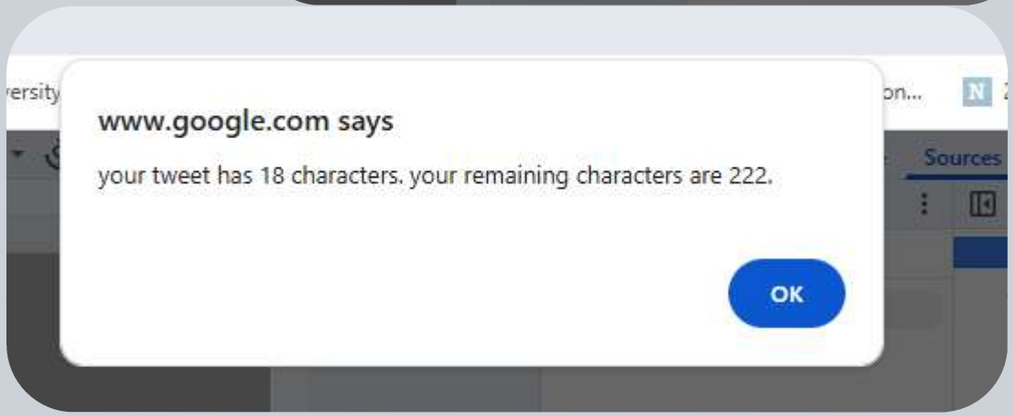
```
var tweet = prompt ("Write your tweet");
alert ("your tweet has "+tweet.length+" characters. your remaining characters are "+(240-tweet.length)+".");
```







Slicing in Strings

- It is used to extract or sliceout the specific range of letters

```
var name="Pakistan";
name.slice(0,1);
```

P

```
var name="Pakistan";
name.slice(0,3);
```

Pak

```
var name=
"Computer";name.slice(2,6);
```

mput

Tweet Web App 2.0

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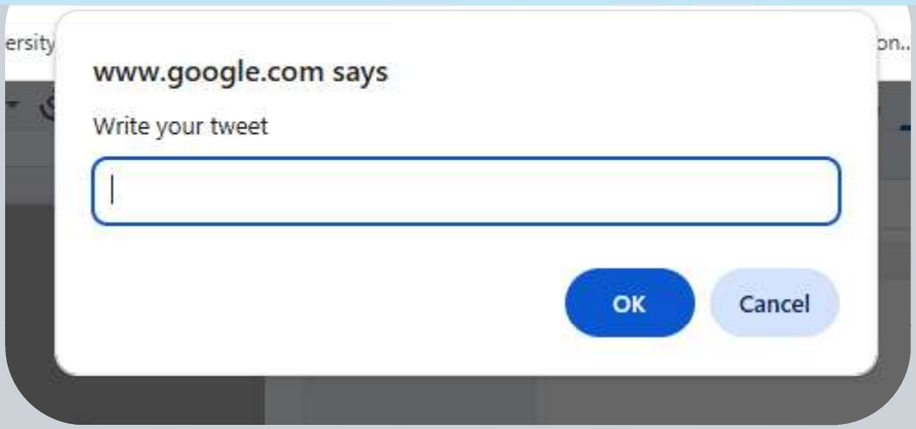
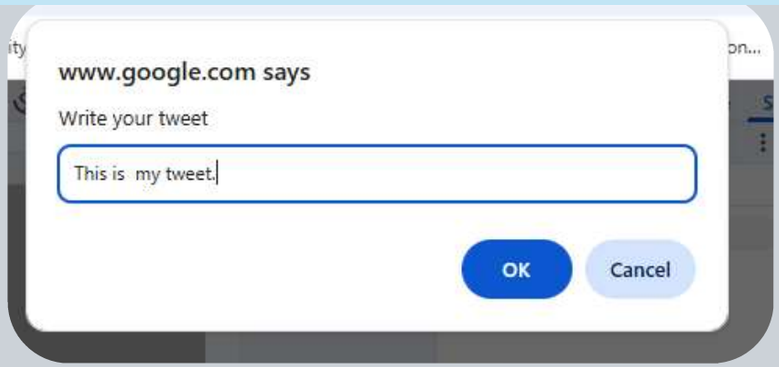
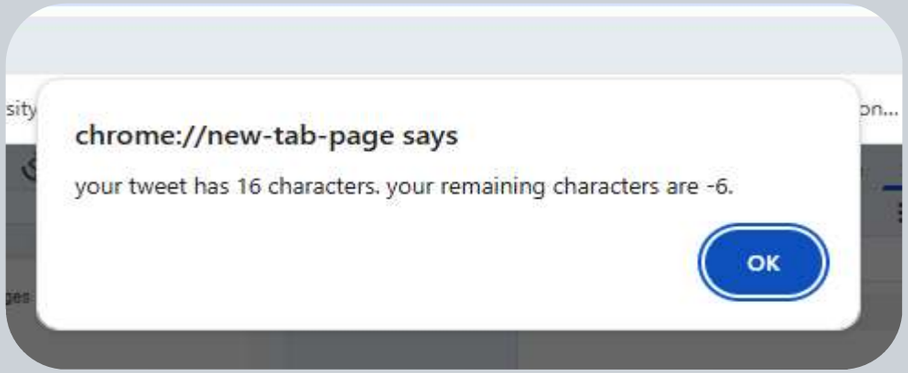
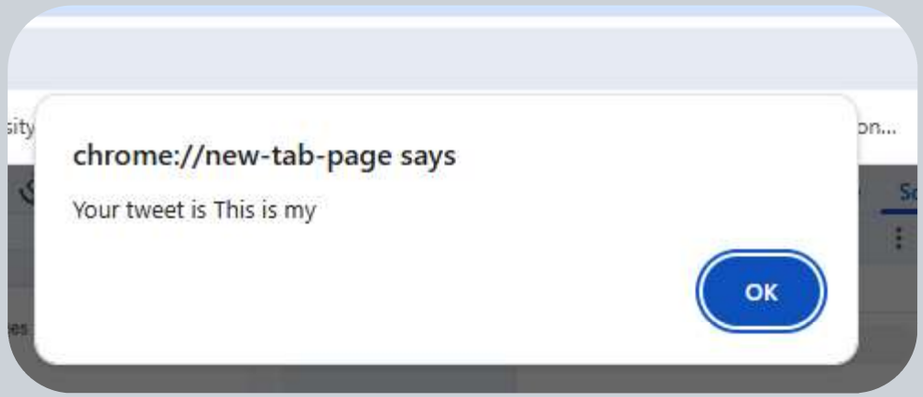
```
var tweet = prompt ("Write your tweet");
alert ("your tweet has "+tweet.length+" characters. your remaining characters are "+(10-tweet.length)+".");
alert("Your tweet is "+tweet.slice(0,10));
```



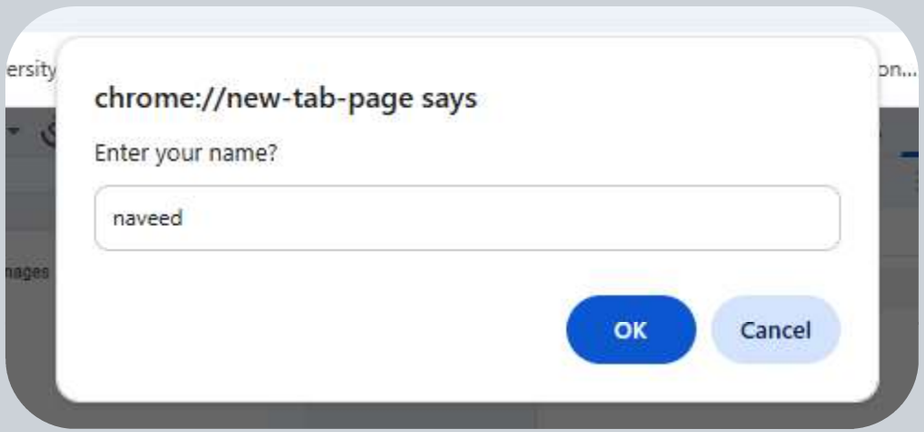






toUpperCase()

```
var name=prompt("Enter your name?");
alert(name.toUpperCase());
```



Practice Problem

- Write a JavaScript program that asks the user to **"Enter your name"**, and then displays it back using alert(), ensuring that **only the first letter is capitalized**.

- Solution:

- var name=prompt("Enter your name?");
- alert(name.slice(0,1).toUpperCase()+name.slice(1,name.length).toLowerCase());