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Homework 1 Evaluation

What difficulties you encountered when doing this assignment?

One of the main difficulties I had during this assignment involved figuring out the running time format conversion for Problem 6. Initially, I was unsure how to determine the running time format (“__ minutes” or “__ hours __ minutes”) in an efficient way. Another minor issue I ran into was figuring out how to locate specific HTML elements, mainly because I was not familiar with accessing HTML elements using jQuery. Finally, I had trouble finding a way to validate the code in jQuery by stripping HTML tags since there was no `strip_tags()` function like in PHP.

How did you solve them?

To solve the running time conversion issue, I checked to see if the running time string contained the substring “hours”. If so, I knew it was in the “__ hours __ minutes” format; otherwise, it was in the “__ minutes” format. This allowed me to separate the logic for converting between the two different formats. Meanwhile, I used the relationship between parent and child nodes (i.e. `children()` and `nth-child()`) to locate specific HTML elements. To prevent code injection, I used jQuery’s `text()` function to check for HTML tags by seeing if the resultant string’s length exceeded 0 and to automatically strip any HTML tags if it did.

What did you learn from this assignment?

In this assignment, I learned a lot about event handling in Javascript/jQuery and got to play around with several different built-in jQuery functions. I also learned how to access specific HTML elements with jQuery by referencing these elements relative to other elements using the concepts of parent and child nodes. Overall, I realized that jQuery makes it much more convenient to alter websites according to user input.