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JSX and Components

JSX

JSX (JavaScript XML) is a syntax used in React to describe the structure of the user interface (UI). It allows you to write HTML-like elements directly within JavaScript code, providing a more intuitive way to design React components. JSX gets transpiled to standard JavaScript using tools like Babel.

1.Key Concepts

A.Basic Features of JSX

1.HTML-like Syntax in JavaScript JSX resembles HTML but is embedded in JavaScript files.

Example:

```
const element = <h1>Hello, world!</h1>;
```

2.Expression Embedding Use curly braces `{ }` to embed JavaScript expressions inside JSX.

Example:

```
const name = "Alice";
const greeting = <h1>Hello, {name}!</h1>;
```

3.Components JSX can render React components, both functional and class-based.

Example:

```
function Welcome() {
  return <h1>Welcome to React</h1>;
}

const element = <Welcome />;
```

B.JSX Syntax Rules

1.Single Parent Element JSX must return a single parent element. Use a `<div>` or

```
<React.Fragment> if needed.
jsx
Copy code
return (
  <div>
    <h1>Title</h1>
    <p>Description</p>
  </div>
);
```

Or use a **fragment**:

```
return (
  <>
    <h1>Title</h1>
    <p>Description</p>
  </>
);
```

2.HTML Attributes Use camelCase for attributes like `className`, `onClick`, etc.

```
const element = <button className="btn"
onClick={handleClick}>Click me</button>;
```

3.Self-Closing Tags All elements must be self-closed if they don't have children.

```
const element = ;
```

4.JavaScript Expressions Use `{}` to include dynamic content.

```
const items = ['React', 'JSX'];
return <ul>{items.map(item => <li key={item}>{item}</li>)}</ul>;
```

5.Inline Styles Style properties are written as objects using camelCase keys.

```
const style = { color: 'blue', fontSize: '20px' };
return <p style={style}>Styled Text</p>;
```

C.JSX Under the Hood

JSX is not plain JavaScript. It is converted into `React.createElement` calls behind the scenes.

JSX:

```
const element = <h1>Hello, world!</h1>;
```

Transpiles to:

```
const element = React.createElement('h1', null, 'Hello, world!');
```

D.JSX with React Components

Functional Component Example:

```
function Greeting() {  
  const userName = "John";  
  return <h1>Hello, {userName}!</h1>;  
}
```

Class Component Example:

```
import React from "react";  
  
class Greeting extends React.Component {  
  render() {  
    const userName = "John";  
    return <h1>Hello, {userName}!</h1>;  
  }  
}
```

E.Advantages of JSX

1. **Readability:** JSX makes the structure of UI components easy to visualize.
2. **Integration:** You can directly include dynamic data within your UI.
3. **Debugging:** Errors often point directly to the offending JSX line.
4. **Efficiency:** JSX optimizes for performance during the compilation phase.

Components in React

In React, components are the building blocks of a user interface. They allow you to break a complex UI into smaller, reusable, and independent parts. React components can be categorized broadly into functional components and class components.

1.Key Concepts

A.Types of Components in React

1. Functional Components

A simpler way to create components.

Written as JavaScript functions.

Can use React Hooks for state management and lifecycle methods.

Example:

```
function Greeting() {
  return <h1>Hello, world!</h1>;
}

export default Greeting;
```

With Props:

```
function Greeting(props) {
  return <h1>Hello, {props.name}</h1>;
}

export default Greeting;
```

- Use:

```
import Greeting from './Greeting';
<Greeting name="Alice" />;
```

2. Class Components

- Created using ES6 classes.
- Use a **render** method to return JSX.
- Were traditionally used when state and lifecycle methods were needed, but now often replaced by functional components with hooks.

Example:

```
import React, { Component } from 'react';

class Greeting extends Component {
  render() {
    return <h1>Hello, {this.props.name}!</h1>;
  }
}

export default Greeting;
```

- Use:

```
import Greeting from './Greeting';
<Greeting name="Bob" />;
```

B.Core Concepts of Components

1. Props (Properties)

Props are the mechanism for passing data from a parent to a child component. They are read-only.

Example:

```
function Profile(props) {
  return <h1>{props.name}'s Profile</h1>;
}

<Profile name="Alice" />;
```

2. State

State is data that is managed locally by a component and can change over time.

Example with Functional Component:

```
import React, { useState } from 'react';

function Counter() {
  const [count, setCount] = useState(0);

  return (
    <div>
      <p>Count: {count}</p>
      <button onClick={() => setCount(count + 1)}>Increment</button>
    </div>
  );
}
```

Example with Class Component:

```
class Counter extends React.Component {
  constructor(props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = { count: 0 };
  }

  increment = () => {
    this.setState({ count: this.state.count + 1 });
  };

  render() {
    return (
      <div>
        <p>Count: {this.state.count}</p>
        <button onClick={this.increment}>Increment</button>
      </div>
    );
  }
}
```


3. Lifecycle Methods (Class Components)

Lifecycle methods allow components to hook into key moments in the rendering process:

componentDidMount: Invoked after the component is added to the DOM.

componentDidUpdate: Invoked after an update.

componentWillUnmount: Invoked before unmounting.

Example:

```
class Timer extends React.Component {
  componentDidMount() {
    this.timerID = setInterval(() => this.tick(), 1000);
  }

  componentWillUnmount() {
    clearInterval(this.timerID);
  }

  render() {
    return <h1>Timer</h1>;
  }
}
```

4. Hooks (Functional Components Only)

React Hooks allow you to use state and lifecycle features in functional components:

useState: Manage state.

useEffect: Side effects like data fetching, timers, etc.

useContext: Access context.

Example: useEffect

```
import React, { useState, useEffect } from 'react';

function Timer() {
  const [seconds, setSeconds] = useState(0);

  useEffect(() => {
```

```
const interval = setInterval(() => setSeconds(seconds + 1), 1000);
return () => clearInterval(interval);
}, [seconds]);

return <p>Elapsed time: {seconds}s</p>;
}
```

Splitting UI into Components

When designing a React application, split the UI into smaller components:

Example Structure:

```
App
├── Header
├── Content
│   ├── Sidebar
│   └── MainContent
└── Footer
```

Code Example:

```
function Header() {
  return <header>Header Section</header>;
}

function Footer() {
  return <footer>Footer Section</footer>;
}

function Sidebar() {
  return <aside>Sidebar Content</aside>;
}

function MainContent() {
  return <main>Main Content Area</main>;
}

function App() {
  return (
```

```

    <div>
      <Header />
      <div style={{ display: 'flex' }}>
        <Sidebar />
        <MainContent />
      </div>
      <Footer />
    </div>
  );
}

```

Component Communication

Parent to Child (via Props):

```

function Child({ message }) {
  return <p>{message}</p>;
}

function Parent() {
  return <Child message="Hello from Parent!" />;
}

```

Child to Parent (via Callback Props):

```

function Child({ onClick }) {
  return <button onClick={onClick}>Click Me</button>;
}

function Parent() {
  const handleClick = () => alert('Button clicked!');
  return <Child onClick={handleClick} />;
}

```

Sibling Communication (via State Lifting):

```

function Sibling1({ updateText }) {
  return <button onClick={() => updateText("Hello from Sibling1")}>Send</button>;
}

```

```

}

function Sibling2({ text }) {
  return <p>{text}</p>;
}

function Parent() {
  const [text, setText] = useState('');
  return (
    <div>
      <Sibling1 updateText={setText} />
      <Sibling2 text={text} />
    </div>
  );
}

```

Conclusion

Best Practices

- Keep components small and focused on a single task.
- Use functional components for simplicity and hooks for state/lifecycle.
- Use meaningful names for components and props.
- Write reusable components to avoid repetition.

2. Brain teaser :

1. Which of the following is NOT true about JSX?

- a) JSX must have one parent element.
- b) JSX allows embedding JavaScript expressions inside {}.
- c) JSX is a valid JavaScript syntax and can run in browsers without transformation.
- d) JSX attributes like class are replaced with className.

2. What will the following component render?

```
function Greeting() {
  const user = { name: "Alice" };
  return <h1>Hello, {user}!</h1>;
}
```

- a) Hello, Alice!
- b) Hello, [object Object]!
- c) Syntax Error
- d) Hello, {user}!

3. What happens if you write JSX with unclosed elements?

```
const element = <div><p>Hello</p><span>World</span></div>;
```

- a) The code works fine.
- b) SyntaxError: Unclosed element.
- c) React automatically closes elements.
- d) Browser ignores unclosed elements.

4. What is the output of the following code?

```
function App() {
  return (
    <div>
      <h1>JSX</h1>
      <p>The value is: {2 + 2}</p>
    </div>
  );
}
```

- a) Error: Expressions not allowed inside JSX.
- b) The value is: 2 + 2
- c) The value is: 4
- d) Undefined behavior

5. What will happen if you forget to include **export** in a component file?

- a) The application will still work.
 - b) Importing that component will throw an error.
 - c) The file won't compile.
 - d) The file will be treated as an unnamed component.
-

6. What is the default behavior of a React component function with no **return** statement?

- a) Returns undefined.
 - b) Renders nothing but causes a warning.
 - c) Results in a runtime error.
 - d) Automatically returns null.
-

7. Given the following code, which will cause an error?

```
const Greeting = () => {  
  return <div>Hello</div>;  
};  
export default Greeting;
```

- a) <Greeting />
 - b) <Greeting>
 - c) {Greeting}
 - d) <Greeting></Greeting>
-

8. Which of the following lifecycle methods exists only in class components?

- a) useEffect
 - b) componentDidMount
 - c) useState
 - d) render
-

9. In React, what does the **key** prop help with?

- a) Managing state inside child components.
 - b) Allowing components to communicate with each other.
 - c) Ensuring efficient updates to lists in the virtual DOM.
 - d) Passing unique CSS classes to elements.
-

10. What will this component render?

```
function App() {  
  const element = <h1></h1>;  
  return <div>{element}</div>;  
}
```

- a) A blank <div>.
 - b) <div><h1></h1></div>.
 - c) Error: Empty tags not allowed.
 - d) Undefined behavior.
-

References

Official Documentation:

- React Components and Props:
 - <https://legacy.reactjs.org/docs/components-and-props.html>
- JSX:
 - <https://legacy.reactjs.org/docs/introducing-jsx.html>

Interactive Tutorials:

2. **freeCodeCamp - React challenges**
An excellent hands-on course with exercises to learn React.
3. **W3Schools - React Tutorial**
A simple and easy-to-understand intrReact with examples.

Online Coding Platforms:

Coding platforms

- i. <https://www.hackerrank.com/domains/react>
- ii. <https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/react-for-beginners-handbook/>