**Tuesday April 30th, 2019**

9:35 — Today I’m going to work through the exercises in the Learn React for Free course here: <https://scrimba.com/playlist/p7P5Hd>**.**

9:43 — I just practiced importing React into my project and writing some basic code to render HTML elements. Here is a sample of my code…

import React from "react"

import ReactDOM from "react-dom"

ReactDOM.render(

<ul>

<li> cats </li>

<li> dogs </li>

<li> monkeys </li>

</ul>, document.getElementById("root")

)

9:46 — After I completed this exercise I watched the author’s solution. One thing he pointed out was that obviously we’re not going to put an entire page of HTML into our render method. What will we do? We’ll find out in the coming days/weeks…

9:58 — I’m starting to get down the very basics of React constructor functions…

import React from "react"

import ReactDOM from "react-dom"

function MyApp () {

return (

<p> Let's say hello to the world yoooo </p>

)

}

ReactDOM.render(<MyApp/>, document.getElementById(“root"))

10:01 — This was a decent session to start the day. In this session I got noticeably more comfortable importing necessary dependencies (*import React from “react”* — for example), rendering elements, and I also got introduced to and developed a modest baseline level of confidence working with constructor functions. Let’s learn more later!

10:47 — If I’m going to be honest, I’m feeling a bit fatigued. But, sometimes making progress requires pushing through feelings like this. I’m going to commit to coding at least 25 minutes in this session, and that’ll put me over a solid hour of coding before breakfast or lunch.

10:58 — Here’s another code sample similar to before. There’s just a minor increase in the complexity of the JSX being returned.

import React from "react"

import ReactDOM from "react-dom"

function MyInfo () {

return (

<div>

<h1> Cameron </h1>

<p> This is Cameron's paragraph </p>

<ul>

<li> Bali </li>

<li> Surabaya </li>

<li> Taipei </li>

</ul>

</div>

)

}

ReactDOM.render(<MyInfo/>, document.getElementById("root"))

10:58 — As our application increases in complexity, things quickly have the potential to get messy if we put all of our components into our index.js file. For that reason, it’s best practice to move our functions into their own files with each file typically housing only a single component.

11:06 — One important thing to remember is that most of the component we create in React are going to somehow utilize JSX. For that reason, it’s important for us to include

*import React from “react”*

At the top of each of our individual component files.

11:10 — Another thing we need to remember when working with individual component files is that our main index.js won’t be able to access those component files without some help on our end. First, we’ll have to export our component file. We can do that with the following syntax:

export default NameOfYourFileHere

11:12 — The cool thing about React is that it’s going to automatically assume the files we’re working with are JavaScript files. For that reason, we don’t need to include the .js file extension. We do, however, need to remember to import the component files into our index.js file. Here is the syntax for that:

import NameOfYourComponent from “./**path**/YourFileNameHere

It’s important for us to remember that just like when working in Terminal, we need to specify a path for how the computer is going to access the files we need.

11:19 — I’m pretty worn out, but I’m happy about the session I just put in. That was a solid 30+ minutes of code. Minute by minute, hour by hour, I’m very confident in my ability to eventually master React! :D

**Total time spent coding today: 1 hour 10 minutes**

**Total time spent coding in April 2019: 43 hours 54 minutes**