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Ternary Operator in React

This lesson teaches the use of Ternary Operator in React for conditional rendering of JSX and explains it with the help of examples.

A ternary operator — also called Conditional Operator — is the only JavaScript operator which takes three operands and returns a value based on some condition. It's an alternative for `if` statement. This could be used for multiple purposes and comes in very handy in React too!

Displaying JavaScript strings, objects, and arrays in React is not enough. What about an if-else statement for enabling *conditional rendering*? You cannot use an if-else statement directly in JSX, but you can return early from the rendering function. Returning `null` is valid in React when displaying nothing. Just like we did in the example given below.

Did you know?

Conditional rendering in React uses JavaScript operators like `if` or the conditional operator to create elements representing the current state, and let React show or hide a certain UI element based on a condition.

/

index.js

```
  render() {
    const users = [
      { name: 'Robin' },
```

app.js

style.css

```
      { name: 'Markus' },
    ];

    const showUsers = true;
    if (!showUsers) {
      return null;
    }

    return (
      <ul>
        {users.map(user => <li>{user.name}</li>)}
      </ul>
    );
  }
}

```

Output ×

- Robin
- Markus

However, if you want to use an if-else statement within the returned `JSX`, you can do it by using a JavaScripts ternary operator:

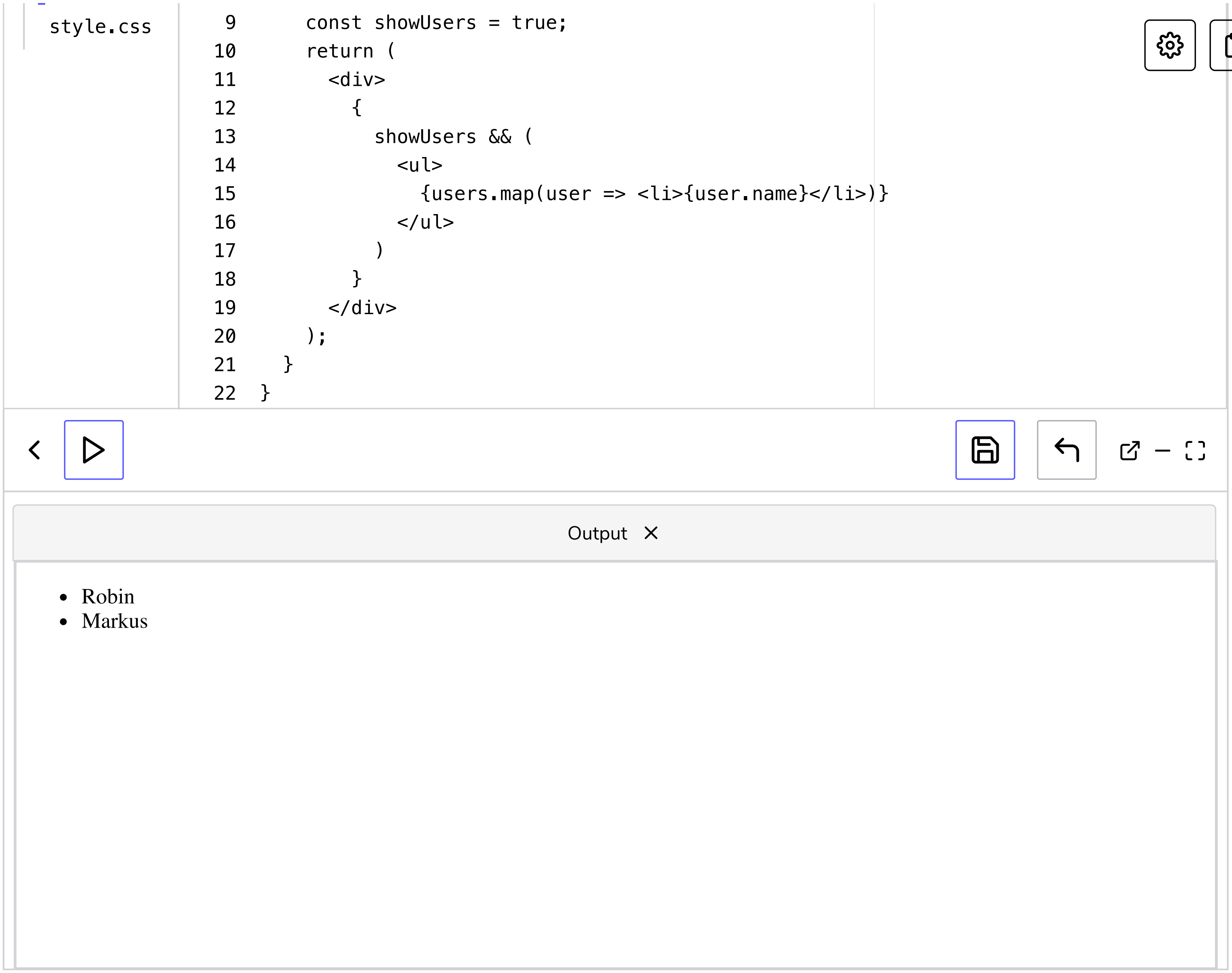
/
index.js
app.js
style.css

```
      { name: 'Robin' },
      { name: 'Markus' },
    ];
    const showUsers = true;
    return (
      <div>
        {
          showUsers ? (
            <ul>
              {users.map(user => <li>{user.name}</li>)}
            </ul>
          ) : (
            null
          )
        }
      </div>
    );
  }
}
```

Another way of doing it, if you only return one side of the conditional rendering anyway, is using the `&&` operator:

/
index.js
app.js

```
  render() {
    const users = [
      { name: 'Robin' },
      { name: 'Markus' },
    ];
```



style.css

```
    const showUsers = true;
    return (
      <div>
        {
          showUsers && (
            <ul>
              {users.map(user => <li>{user.name}</li>)}
            </ul>
          )
        }
      </div>
    );
  }
}
```

```
• Robin
• Markus
```

I will not go into detail why this works, but if you are curious, you can learn about it and other techniques for conditional rendering over here: All the conditional renderings in React (https://www.robinwieruch.de/conditional-rendering-react/). After all, the conditional rendering in React only shows, again, that most of the React is actually JavaScript and not anything React specific.

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