Introduction to JavaScript

What is JavaScript?

JavaScript is a **programming language** used to make web pages **interactive**. While **HTML** structures the page and **CSS** styles it, **JavaScript adds behavior**.

For example:

- Want to show a popup when a user clicks a button? Use JavaScript.
- Want to build a game, form validation, or fetch data from a server? Use JavaScript.

JavaScript runs in the browser, meaning it executes on the user's device.

Why JavaScript?

- Works on all modern browsers
- Essential for front-end development
- Used by frameworks like React, Vue, Angular
- Can also be used on the **backend** (Node.js)

Where Can You Write JavaScript?

There are 3 common ways to write JavaScript in a webpage:

Inline (Not recommended)

<button onclick="alert('Hello!')">Click Me</button>

In a <script> tag inside HTML

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
<h1>Hello World</h1>
<script>
console.log("JavaScript is working!");
</script>
</body>
</html>
```

External JavaScript File (Recommended)

```
// script.js
console.log("Hello from external JS file!");
```

Your First JavaScript Code

Let's start with the simplest code that prints something:

```
console.log("Hello JavaScript");
```

console.log() is used to print messages to the **browser console**.

How to Open the Console

- Right-click on the page > Inspect
- Go to the Console tab
- You'll see outputs from console.log() here

JavaScript is Case-Sensitive

```
let x = 5;
let X = 10;
console.log(x); // 5
console.log(X); // 10
```

Comments in JavaScript

Use comments to explain your code:

```
// This is a single-line comment

/*
   This is a
   multi-line comment
*/
```

Summary

- JavaScript makes your website interactive.
- You can write it inside HTML or in separate .js files.
- Use console.log() to test your code.
- Practice by writing simple scripts and watching them work in the browser.