


## Episode 10: Closures in JavaScript



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### What is a Closure?


A **closure** is simply a **function bundled together with its lexical scope**.

In JavaScript, we operate within a **lexical scope environment**. 


When a function tries to access a variable:

- It first looks into its **own local memory**. 
- If it **doesn't find it**, it moves up to the **memory of its lexical parent**. 

Take a look at this example :

```
function x() {  
  var a = 7;  
  function y() {  
    console.log(a);  
  }  
  return y;  
}  
  
var z = x();  
console.log(z); //  value of z is the entire code of function y
```

In the above code:

- `y()` is **returned** from `x()`, but not just the function `y`.
- The **entire closure** (function `y` + its **lexical scope** from `x()`) is returned and stored inside `z`. 

### ☒ Important:

Even after `x()` has finished executing, `z` still **remembers** `var a` because of **closure** magic. 



### Simple Definition:

A **closure** is a function that has access to its **outer function's scope** even **after the outer function has returned!**

- ☒ It can **remember and access** variables and arguments of its parent function **even when called elsewhere**.

## Advantages of Closures:

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-  **Module Design Pattern** (organizing code into reusable chunks)
-  **Currying** (breaking functions into smaller pieces)

- 🧠 **Memoization** (caching computed results)
  - 🛡️ **Data hiding and encapsulation** (private variables)
  - ⌚ **setTimeouts and asynchronous programming**
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## ⚠️ Disadvantages of Closures:

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- 🧠 **Over-consumption of memory** (variables stay in memory longer)
  - 🗑️ **Potential memory leaks** (if not managed well)
  - 🧊 **Browser freezes** (in extreme cases with heavy closures)
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