NODE-JS [2025]

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# : Introduction:

* **What is NodeJS?**  
  NodeJS is a JavaScript runtime built on Chrome’s V8 engine, used to run JavaScript outside the browser.
* **Why NodeJS?**  
  It is fast, scalable, event-driven, and great for real-time applications like chats and streaming.
* **Features of NodeJS?**  
  non-blocking I/O, single-threaded but concurrent, cross-platform support, and a huge npm ecosystem.
* **Installation of NodeJS?**  
  Download from nodejs.org and install; verify with node -v and npm -v.
* **How to run NodeJS?**  
  Create a .js file and run it with node filename.js, or use node command for REPL mode.
* **What is OS?**  
  OS (Operating System) is system software that manages hardware and software resources. Examples: Windows, Linux, macOS.
* **What is npm?**  
  npm (Node Package Manager) is a tool to install, update, and manage NodeJS packages.
* **What is npx?**  
  npx is a package runner that executes Node packages without installing them globally.
* **What is process in NodeJS?**

process is a global object in NodeJS that provides information and control about the current Node.js runtime and program execution.

* **Top 15 Properties of process**
* **process.pid** → Returns the process ID of the Node.js process.
* **process.ppid** → Returns the parent process ID.
* **process.version** → Shows Node.js version.
* **process.versions** → Returns versions of Node and its dependencies (V8, OpenSSL).
* **process.platform** → Shows the operating system platform (e.g., win32, linux).
* **process.arch** → Shows the processor architecture (e.g., x64, arm).
* **process.title** → Current process name/title.
* **process.cwd()** → Returns the current working directory.
* **process.env** → Returns environment variables object.
* **process.uptime()** → Returns how long the process has been running.
* **process.memoryUsage()** → Returns memory usage details.
* **process.hrtime()** → High-resolution real time in [seconds, nanoseconds].
* **process.execPath** → Absolute path of the Node.js executable.
* **process.argv** → Array of command-line arguments.
* **process.exitCode** → Exit code to be used when the process exits.
* **Top 15 Methods of process**
* **process.exit([code])** → Ends the process with exit code.
* **process.abort()** → Immediately aborts the process and generates a core dump.
* **process.kill(pid, [signal])** → Sends a signal to a process by PID.
* **process.chdir(directory)** → Changes the current working directory.
* **process.cwd()** → Gets the current working directory.
* **process.hrtime([time])** → Measures precise execution time.
* **process.memoryUsage()** → Returns memory usage info.
* **process.uptime()** → Returns process uptime in seconds.
* **process.nextTick(callback)** → Executes callback after current operation completes.
* **process.on(event, callback)** → Listens for process events like exit, uncaught Exception.
* **process.once(event, callback)** → Event listener that runs only once.
* **process.removeListener(event, callback)** → Removes a previously registered listener.
* **process.setUncaughtExceptionCaptureCallback(fun)** → Handles uncaught exceptions.
* **process.getuid() / process.setuid(id)** → Gets or sets user identity (Unix only).
* **process.getgid() / process.setgid(id)** → Gets or sets group identity (Unix only).

# : NodeJS Fundamentals (FS Modules):

* **What is Module Wrapper in Node.js?**

In Node.js, every file (module) is wrapped inside a **function wrapper** before execution.  
This is called the **Module Wrapper**, and it provides scope isolation so variables inside one module do not leak into others.

* **What are modules?**  
  Modules in NodeJS are reusable blocks of code that can be imported and exported across files.
* **Types of modules?**  
  There are four types of modules in NodeJS.
* **Core Modules**  
  These are built-in modules provided by NodeJS (e.g., fs, http, path, os).  
  They can be used directly without installation using require () or import.
* **2. Local Modules**  
  These are custom/user-defined modules created within your project.  
  They are usually exported with module.exports and imported with require('./filename').
* **3. Third-party Modules**  
  These are external modules installed via **npm** (e.g., express, mongoose).  
  They extend functionality and need installation using npm install.
* **4. Global Modules**  
  These are modules installed globally using npm install -g.  
  They can be accessed from any project without needing local installation (e.g., nodemon, typescript).
* **CommonJS vs ES6?**  
  CommonJS uses require () and module.exports, while ES6 uses import and export.  
  CommonJS loads synchronously, ES6 supports async and is standard in modern JavaScript.
* **Fs modules?**  
  fs (File System) module is a built-in NodeJS module used to work with files and directories.
* **FS Modules Top 20 methods**
* **fs.readFile(path, callback)** – Reads file contents asynchronously.
* **fs.readFileSync(path)** – Reads file contents synchronously.
* **fs.writeFile(path, data, callback)** – Writes data to a file asynchronously, creating or overwriting it.
* **fs.writeFileSync(path, data)** – Writes data to a file synchronously, creating or overwriting it.
* **fs.appendFile(path, data, callback)** – Adds data to the end of a file asynchronously.
* **fs.appendFileSync(path, data)** – Adds data to the end of a file synchronously.
* **fs.open(path, flags, callback)** – Opens a file and returns a file descriptor asynchronously.
* **fs.close(fd, callback)** – Closes an open file descriptor asynchronously.
* **fs.rename(oldPath, newPath, callback)** – Renames or moves a file asynchronously.
* **fs.unlink(path, callback)** – Deletes a file asynchronously.
* **fs.stat(path, callback)** – Retrieves status (like size and timestamps) of a file or directory asynchronously.
* **fs.lstat(path, callback)** – Retrieves status of a symbolic link, not its target.
* **fs.readdir(path, callback)** – Reads contents (files/directories) of a directory asynchronously.
* **fs.mkdir(path, callback)** – Creates a new directory asynchronously.
* **fs.rmdir(path, callback)** – Removes an empty directory asynchronously.
* **fs.copyFile(src, dest, callback)** – Copies a file from source to destination asynchronously.
* **fs.truncate(path, len, callback)** – Resizes a file to the specified length asynchronously.
* **fs.watch(path, listener)** – Watches for changes in a file or directory.
* **fs.watchFile(path, listener)** – Watches a file for changes using polling.
* **fs.unwatchFile(path)** – Stops watching a file set by watchFile.
* **fs.createReadStream(path)** – Creates a readable stream for reading file data.
* **fs.createWriteStream(path)** – Creates a writable stream for writing file data.
* **fs.glob(pattern, callback)** – Asynchronously finds file paths matching a glob pattern (new in v22).
* **fs.globSync(pattern)** – Synchronously finds file paths matching a glob pattern (new in v22).

# : Number System:

* **What is Decimal (Base 10):**
* The standard number system used in daily life.
* Digits: **0–9**.
* Each digit position represents a power of 10.
* Example: 357 = (3 × 10²) + (5 × 10¹) + (7 × 10⁰).
* **What is Octal (Base 8):**
* Digits: **0–7**.
* Each digit position represents a power of 8.
* Example: 347 (octal) = (3 × 8²) + (4 × 8¹) + (7 × 8⁰) = 231 (decimal).
* Used in older computing systems (rare today).
* **Hexadecimal (Base 16):**
* Digits: **0–9 and A–F** (A=10, B=11, …, F=15).
* Very compact way to represent binary (1 hex digit = 4 bits).
* Example: 2F (hex) = (2 × 16¹) + (15 × 16⁰) = 47 (decimal).
* Widely used in programming (e.g., memory addresses, colour codes).
* **Binary (Base 2):**
* Digits: **0 and 1 only**.
* The fundamental number system of computers (1 = ON, 0 = OFF).
* Example: 1011 (binary) = (1 × 2³) + (0 × 2²) + (1 × 2¹) + (1 × 2⁰) = 11 (decimal).
* **Digital Data Units**
* **Bit (b):** Smallest unit of data (0 or 1).
* **Nibble:** 4 bits.
* **Byte (B):** 8 bits (basic storage unit).
* **Kilobyte (KB):** 1 KB = 1024 bytes.
* **Megabyte (MB):** 1 MB = 1024 KB.
* **Gigabyte (GB):** 1 GB = 1024 MB.
* **Terabyte (TB):** 1 TB = 1024 GB.
* Then **Petabyte (PB), Exabyte (EB), Zettabyte (ZB), Yottabyte (YB)**.
* **Character Encoding:**
* **UTF-8:**
* Variable-length encoding: **1–4 bytes per character**.
* Backward compatible with ASCII (first 128 characters = 1 byte).
* Efficient for English (most characters = 1 byte).
* Most common encoding used on the web.
* **UTF-16**
* Uses **2 or 4 bytes per character**.
* Most common characters fit in 2 bytes.
* Less efficient than UTF-8 for English text.
* Used in Windows, Java, and some APIs.
* **UTF-32**
* Fixed length: **4 bytes per character**.
* Direct one-to-one mapping with Unicode code points.
* Very simple to process, but not space-efficient.
* **BOM (Byte Order Mark)**
* A special marker at the beginning of a file.
* Indicates **text encoding** (UTF-8, UTF-16, etc.) and **byte order**.
* Example: UTF-8 BOM = EF BB BF.
* **Endianness**
* Refers to how multi-byte values are stored in memory:
  + **Big Endian:** Most significant byte stored first.
    - Example: 0x12345678 → 12 34 56 78.
  + **Little Endian:** Least significant byte stored first.
    - Example: 0x12345678 → 78 56 34 12.
* Intel CPUs use **Little Endian**.

# : Array Buffer (JS) and Buffer (NodeJS):

* **What is ArrayBuffer in JS?**

An ArrayBuffer is a fixed-length block of raw binary data in memory.

It does not have a format (no numbers, strings, etc.) → you need a **view** (like TypedArray or DataView) to read/write meaningful values.

Commonly used when working with binary files, WebSockets, or low-level networking in browsers.

Example:

let buffer = new ArrayBuffer(8); // 8 bytes of memory

console.log(buffer.byteLength); // 8

* **Reading and Writing in ArrayBuffer?**

You cannot directly read/write in ArrayBuffer. You need **views** like Int8Array, Uint8Array, Float32Array, or DataView.

Example (with DataView):

let buffer = new ArrayBuffer(4);

let view = new DataView(buffer);

* Write

view.setInt16(0, 500); // store at byte 0

* Read

console.log(view.getInt16(0)); // 500

* **Typed Array in JS**

Typed Arrays are array-like objects that represent an array of specific numeric types (e.g., Int8Array, Uint16Array, Float32Array).

They provide a structured way to interpret an ArrayBuffer.

Each type has fixed size (1 byte, 2 bytes, 4 bytes, etc.).

Example:

let buffer = new ArrayBuffer(8);

let int32View = new Int32Array(buffer);

int32View[0] = 42; // write

console.log(int32View[0]); // read → 42

* **Reading & Writing in TypedArray**

Directly index like a normal array. Faster and simpler than DataView.

Example:

let floatView = new Float32Array(4);

floatView[0] = 3.14;

console.log(floatView[0]); // 3.14

* **Node.js Concepts**
* **What is Buffer in Node.js?**

A Buffer in Node.js is a global object used to handle **binary data** directly (outside V8’s normal heap). It is similar to ArrayBuffer in JS but designed specifically for **I/O operations** (files, TCP streams, etc.).

Buffers are instances of Uint8Array with extra methods.

Example:

const buf = Buffer.from("Hello");

console.log(buf); // <Buffer 48 65 6c 6c 6f>

console.log(buf.toString()); // "Hello"

* **Buffer.alloc (size) method?**

Creates a new buffer of given size **initialized with zeros**. safe (clears memory) but slower.

* **Buffer allocUnsafe (size) method?**

Creates a new buffer but does **not initialize memory**.

Faster, but may contain **old/stale data** until overwritten.

* **Buffer.from() method:**

Creates a new buffer from an existing string, array, ArrayBuffer, TypedArray, or another Buffer, converting the data into raw binary form

* **Buffer Pool:**

Node.js internally maintains a **buffer pool** (pre-allocated memory chunk).

Small buffer requests are served from this pool instead of allocating new memory each time.

Improves performance and reduces memory fragmentation.

Example:

When you call Buffer.alloc(5) multiple times, Node may reuse memory from the pool.

Large buffers bypass the pool and allocate fresh memory.

* **Buffer Methods:**
* **toString()** → Converts buffer data into a string using the given encoding (default: 'utf-8').
* **write()** → Writes a string to the buffer at the specified offset using the given encoding.
* **toJSON ()** → Returns a JSON representation of the buffer (used automatically by JSON.stringify).
* **subarray()** → Returns a new view (not a copy) of the buffer between the given indexes.
* **copy()** → Copies data from one buffer to another.
* **includes()** → Checks if buffer contains the given value.
* **fill()** → Fills the buffer with the specified value.
* **readInt8(offset)** → Reads a signed 8-bit integer from the buffer at the given offset.
* **readInt16LE(offset)** → Reads a signed 16-bit integer (little-endian) from the buffer.
* **readInt16BE(offset)** → Reads a signed 16-bit integer (big-endian) from the buffer.
* **readUInt32LE(offset)** → Reads an unsigned 32-bit integer (little-endian).
* **at(index)** → Returns the byte at the given index, supports negative indexing.
* **equals(otherBuffer)** → Checks if two buffers have exactly the same content.
* **Buffer Properties (Top 12)**
* **buffer** → The underlying ArrayBuffer object backing the buffer.
* **byteLength** → Size of the underlying ArrayBuffer in bytes.
* **byteOffset** → The byte offset of the buffer from its underlying ArrayBuffer.
* **length** → The number of bytes in the buffer.
* **parent** → Reference to the parent memory block (internal, rarely used).
* **BYTES\_PER\_ELEMENT** → Always 1, since Buffer stores raw bytes.
* **Buffer Limitations:**
* Fixed size: Once you create a buffer, its size (length in bytes) cannot be changed.
* High memory consumption: It may lead to memory exhaustion or crashes.
* **Encoding limitations:** Buffers only support a limited set of encodings (utf8, ascii, base64, hex, etc.).
* **Base-64 Encoding?**

Base64 is a character encoding that takes binary data and converts it into a string.

* **In Browser: btoa() and atob()**

btoa () → **Binary to ASCII** → converts a string to Base64 encoded string.

atob () → **ASCII to Binary** → decodes Base64 string back to original.

* **Base-64 rules:**
* At least 3 bytes (24 bits) should be there to work with.
* If 3 bytes (24 bits) are not there then base64 encoding will multiple zero to fill remining bytes.
* Data should be in the multiples of 3 bytes.

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