

One Page FAQ

In this tutorial we will create a one page FAQ. When the page is first loaded, all of the questions will be visible but all of the answers will be hidden. When the user clicks on a question the answer will be displayed. If the user clicks on the question again the answer will be hidden.

We will even throw in some simple animation to make the answers fade in and out when their question is clicked on.

Demo of final page: <http://er5325.aisites.com/assignments/imd312/week3/sample3-3-complete.html>

- 1. Download the Week3Assignment3.zip file located in Document Sharing.**

- 2. Open sample3-3.html in your favorite text editor.**

If you wish to use Dreamweaver be sure to open up the Code View to work on the file.

Spend a minute to review the HTML and CSS code of this page. Pay special attention to the questions and answers. Each question is surrounded by the <h3> tag and the answers are within <div> tags that have a class name of "answer."

The first thing we will do to this page is add our jQuery reference.

- 3. Before the first set of <script> tags add the following line:**

```
<script type="text/javascript"
src="http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.9.1/jquery.min.js"></script>
```

You should end up with the following code:

```
<script type="text/javascript"
src="http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.9.1/jquery.min.js"></script>

<script type="text/javascript">

</script>
```

We are using the jQuery file that is hosted by the Google CDN. Now that this has been added, we are able to access jQuery on the page.

jQuery Reference Notice

As has been discussed, all the classroom examples must have the <script> tag updated to reflect the proper version of jQuery. The examples all show <http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.x.x/jquery.min.js> as the src value. The Xs will need to be replaced with the current version of jQuery. If you were using jQuery 1.9.1, you would change the <script> tag to point to: <http://ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.9.1/jquery.min.js>

For the latest version of jQuery that is hosted by Google, please review the Google Libraries API documentation at <http://code.google.com/apis/libraries/devguide.html#jquery>

4. Inside of the `<script>` tags add the following code:

```
<script type="text/javascript">
    $(document).ready(function() {

        }); //end document ready
</script>
```

The `$(document).ready()` function ensures that the page has finished loading before any of the JavaScript code is executed. This is very important because otherwise the JavaScript code would execute before the page elements were available, causing your script to do nothing.

Also notice how a comment was added to the close of the `ready()` function. This is a good practice to get into. When you add a lot of code it can be confusing where one function begins and another ends.

The first task our code must do is hide all of the answers from showing when the page first loads.

5. Add a selector which will select all of the answers and then hide them:

```
$(document).ready(function() {
    $('.answer').hide(); //hide all of the answers
}); //end document ready
```

Here a class selector is used to find all of the page elements that have a class name of "answer". All of those page elements will be hidden by using the `hide()` method. When the page loads all of the answers will be hidden to the user.

Now we need to add an event listener to all of the questions that will respond when the questions are clicked on. All of the questions are located within the "container" `<div>` and they are all `<h3>` tags. So we will start by creating a selector that will find all of the questions.

6. Add a new line and add the code that is in bold to your script:

```
$(document).ready(function() {
    $('.answer').hide(); //hide all of the answers when the page loads
    $('#container h3')
}); //end document ready
```

This is a descendent selector. It first finds the page element with an ID of "container" and then finds all `<h3>` tags within that element. Any `<h3>` tag that is found outside of the container div will not be selected.

Now we must decide what event should be added to each of these elements. The `click()` event will be used since it fires whenever a user clicks on an element.

7. Add the `click()` event to the selector.

```
$(document).ready(function() {
    $('.answer').hide(); //hide all of the answers when the page loads
    $('#container h3').click(function() {

        }); //end click
    }); //end document ready
```

Notice how the closing parenthesis has been added along with a comment that indicates where the click function ends. Each time a question is clicked on the code inside of this click event will run.

8. Add the code in bold to your script:

```
$(document).ready(function() {  
    $('.answer').hide(); //hide all of the answers when the page loads  
    $('#container h3').click(function() {  
        $(this).next('.answer').slideToggle();  
    }); //end click  
}); //end document ready
```

The new line of code that we added in this step is selecting the answer that is immediately after the question that was clicked on. Remember that `$(this)` refers to the page element that initiated the event. The `next()` function will find the page element that immediately follows the current selection. Here we are saying to find the next answer that immediately follows the question that was clicked on. Once the answer is found we are applying an animation effect called `slideToggle()`. On the first click, the `slideDown()` effect is used to display the answer. On the second click the `slideUp()` effect will hide the answer.

Save your file and preview it in your browser.