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SDV503 Journal Three

What have I learnt?

In the fourth week of SDV503, the focus was on using if, if/else, and switch statements using comparison and boolean operators, mostly to console log a variable result based on an input. I struggled with using switch and if statements in unison as part of the lab, and reached my first working solution by essentially brute forcing the code with 101 case clauses, until I learnt how to use boolean comparisons with switch statements which made my code cleaner. My tutor Ali helped me to understand the benefits of writing less clean code to be adaptable within a group coding environment, where everyone may not be on the same page. We also covered ternary operators which help to perform the function of some if statements, while taking up less space.

Why have I learnt this?

If, if/else, and switch statements, as well as ternary operators are an important part of JavaScript in that they allow you to sculpt the output of your code based on the properties of your input, rather than just manipulating that input into an output. Understanding these aspects of JavaScript will allow me to write better, more nuanced, and more complex blocks of code. This week’s lecture and lab also further helped to reinforce my understanding of operators and comparisons which will result in me making fewer mistakes in my code. I also gained some understanding of necessity of writing code that meets the needs/requirements of my peers in a theoretical work situation.

How have I learnt this?

The lecture and lab in week four went over practically applying if, if/else, and switch statements, as well as ternary operators. In them, by writing and observing code, as well as reading from the SDV503 GitBook I was able to learn their syntax and applicability. I will retain this information by practising using the aspects of JavaScript I learnt in week four in VScode in my own time, and by continuing to use the resources on freeCodeCamp and w3schools to reinforce my understanding. I will also continue to take notes from the GitBook material.