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WEB150 - Online Assignment 5

My understanding of what this article is trying to communicate about learning JavaScript is that it is "overly complicated,"[1] confusing, difficult, and can get frustrating. Also, the article is trying to convey that it is easy to allow your skills to become outdated. The author found a somewhat humorous way to get his points across by writing the article as if it was a conversation between two people, one of whom had not coded much recently and another with more up-to-date coding skills.

I had previously read this article. I do not remember who sent it to me, it may have been a post on my Twitter or Facebook newsfeed, but I did remember the article itself enough that while I was reading, it felt familiar. My favorite part of the article is on page six (I printed it out as I prefer to read the hard-copy of whatever I am reading), the person with outdated skills is saying that they are confused by CommonJS and it goes back and forth for a while, then about three quarters of the way down the page, the person with the more current skills says "On production you need to perform a series of pre-tasks to get your project ready that make the ritual to summon Satan look like a boiled eggs recipe."[2] I found the quote amusing, not just because it is humorous, but because sometimes I can really relate to that, particularly when my code is not working properly (or at all) and I have spent hours trying to figure out what is wrong and finding an answer is feeling like an impossible task.

I can relate to the confusion and frustration that the person with the outdated skills must be feeling, especially because I am unfamiliar with much of what is discussed in this article. I have heard the names but that is about it with much of it. I feel like I need to start spending more of my free time in the future reading up on everything that I was not familiar with so that my skills are as current as they possibly can be. This article illustrates well the need to be continually learning in this industry, whether through independently studying what is available to us online or by taking continuing education courses.

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[1] Pg. 5

[2] Pg. 6