

WWW.BUOYDONTFLOAT.COM/PROGRAMMING-LANGUAGES

Instructions to:

1. Get the github repo
2. Open the **hackmd**
3. Link to **repl.it**

# INTRO TO PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES 101

## For Future Presidents

Working Title

WHY CAN'T I USE JAVASCRIPT EVERYWHERE?

WHY AM I HERE? WHY STUDY OTHER  
PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES WHEN  
I'M NOT EVEN GOOD AT ONE?

# ABOUT ME

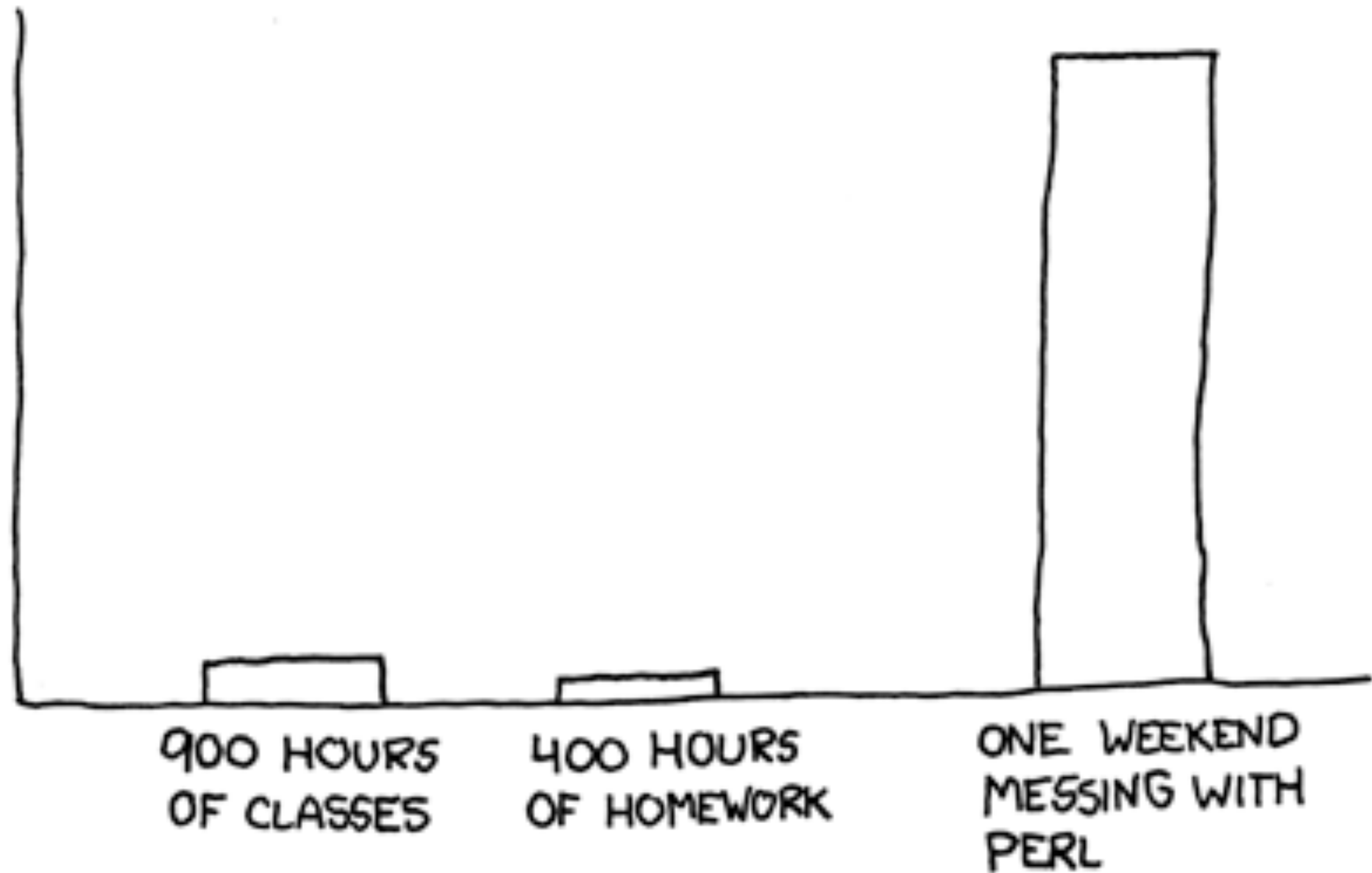
level 31 human  
software engineer @ dia&co  
full-stack web developer <3 ruby & rails  
~10 points in programming skills  
emerging artist

ABOUT YOU

WHY AM I HERE? WHY STUDY OTHER  
PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES WHEN  
I'M NOT EVEN GOOD AT ONE?

# 11TH-GRADE ACTIVITIES:

USEFULNESS  
TO CAREER  
SUCCESS





**“Learning another language is not only learning different words for the same things, but learning another way to think about things.” –Flora Lewis**

**I didn't really get a lot of English concepts until I  
started learning spanish:  
conjugations, past participles, tenses, grammar  
& sentence structure, idioms**

“

Those who know nothing  
of ***foreign languages***  
know nothing of their own.

”

- Goethe -

Code surrounds us  
It's an increasingly useful skillset  
Anthony's a cool guy I wonder what he has to say

# WHAT IS PROGRAMMING?

**Coming up with a set of instructions to tell a dumb machine to do something**

# WHAT IS A PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE?

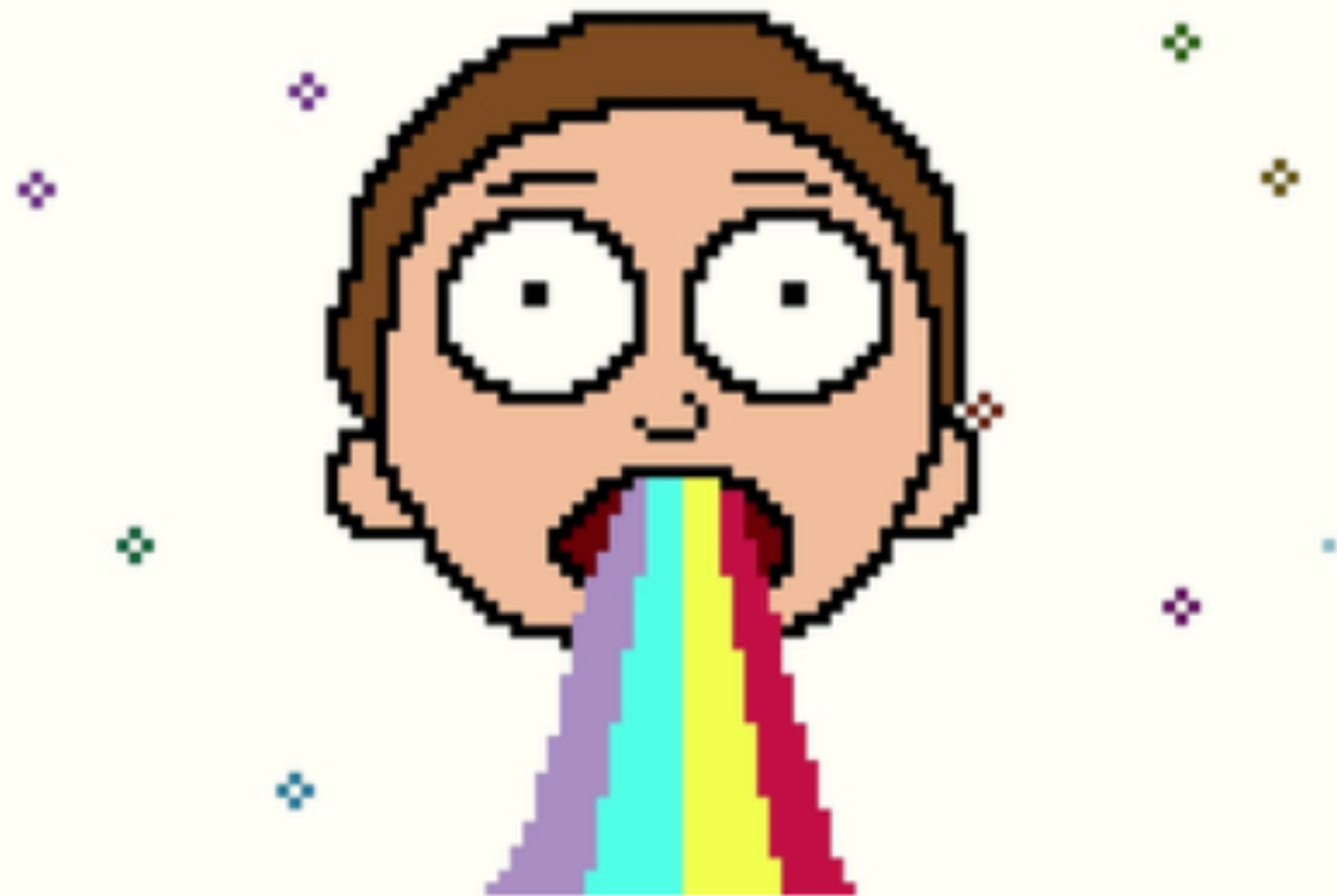
**A set of rules that provide a way of telling a dumb machine what operations to perform.**

**Essentially, a linguistic framework for describing these operations.**

A word cloud featuring various programming languages. The word 'Java' is the largest and most prominent, rendered in a dark green, bold, sans-serif font. Surrounding it are numerous other languages in different sizes, colors, and orientations. Languages like 'JavaScript', 'Python', 'Haskell', 'C++', 'Objective-C', 'Perl', 'PHP', 'Pascal', 'Ruby', 'R', 'Go', 'Swift', 'Lisp', 'Groovy', 'Tcl', 'Haskell', 'SAS', 'cT', 'Max/MSP', 'Dart', 'Scala', 'Mathematica', 'Fortran', 'Ada', 'Lua', 'Yacc', 'TCL', 'PL/I', 'Delphi', 'MATLAB', 'PL/SQL', 'Forth', 'ColdFusion', 'ActionScript', 'D', 'C#', 'Erlang', 'F#', 'ML', 'Assembly', 'Scratch', 'Clarion', 'FoxPro', 'Logo', 'Prolog', 'PostScript', 'Scheme', 'Visual Basic', 'Transact-SQL', 'ABAP', 'OpenEdge', 'ABL', 'COBOL', and 'ABT' are also visible. The colors range from dark green to brown, and the orientations vary, with some words rotated 90 degrees or 180 degrees.



WHY THE FUCK DO WE NEED SO  
MANY PROGRAMMING  
LANGUAGES?





1. History\*
2. Syntax
3. Semantics
4. Idioms
5. Libraries
6. Tools
7. Community

# HISTORY

Languages are made by people

Essentially, some Jane decides she wants to create a new language to better suit a problem she is solving or to better express code how she wants.

# JAVASCRIPT

**JavaScript, originally called Mocha and not to be confused with Java, was created in 10 days in May 1995 by Brendan Eich for Netscape.**

**Created for the Netscape browser as a more approachable scripting language to make the web more dynamic.**

"JAVA IS TO JAVASCRIPT WHAT CAR IS  
TO CARPET"

— some guy on StackOverflow

RUBY

# RUBY

Yukihiro Matsumoto or "Matz"

A programming language focused on developer  
happiness!

Q: DID YOU HAVE A GUIDING PHILOSOPHY WHEN DESIGNING RUBY?

Yes, it's called the "principle of least surprise."

I believe people want to express themselves when they program. They don't want to fight with the language.

I tried to make people enjoy programming and concentrate on the fun and creative part of programming when they use Ruby.

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# SYNTAX

the simplest part of a programming language...

how to actually use it, e.g.

symbols

keywords

reserved words

operators

expressions

delimiters

if you know the syntax of a language, you can write programs in it

**human@buoydontfloat.com**

SYNTAX DEMO

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# SEMANTICS

Syntax is the concept that concerns itself only whether or not the sentence is valid for the grammar of the language.

Semantics is about whether or not the sentence has a valid meaning.

Think of it as the evaluation rules of the language.

**Crash can mean auto accident, a drop in the Stock Market, to attend a party without being invited, ocean waves hitting the shore or the sound of a cymbals being struck together.**

# SEMANTICS DEMO

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# IDIOMS

Every Dog Has His Day

Tomar El Pelo

Head in the Clouds

**This is where you get expert-level at a language!**

# IDIOMS DEMO

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# LIBRARIES

existing code you can use

because it would take too long to build some of these:

math, crypto, file input/output, etc.

# LIBRARIES

**standard library**

**libraries baked into the programming language**

**third-party libraries**

**libraries available to you via the community, e.g.  
open-source**

LIBRARIES

PACKAGE MANAGERS

**npm, gem, pip, brew, yum, luarocks**

# JAVASCRIPT

```
npm install superb
```

# RUBY

```
gem install awesome_print
```

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# TOOLS

WHAT'S AVAILABLE TO WORK WITH THE  
PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE?

# TOOLS: EDITORS

## INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT (IDE)

**arduino IDE**

**eclipse / jetbeans / xcode / rubymine**

## TEXT EDITORS

**atom / sublime / vim / etc.**

# TOOLS: WITH A PURPOSE

processing

p5

python notebook

# TOOLS: FRAMEWORKS

rails

express

wordpress

react / angular / ember

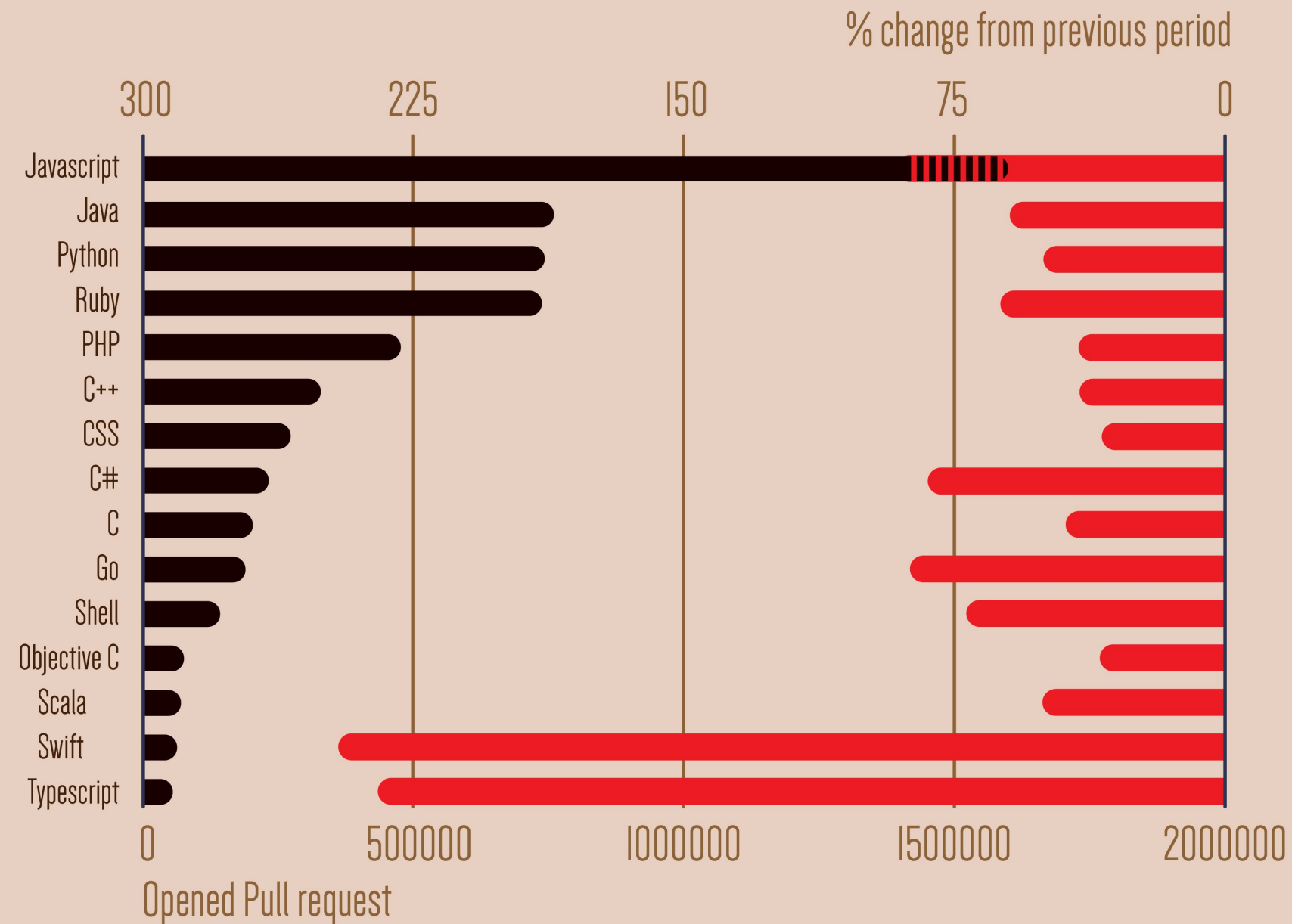
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# COMMUNITY

**What problems are people solving?**

**stability  
open-source  
support  
conferences  
influencers**

# GITHUB MOST POPULAR LANGAUGES



WHAT PROBLEMS ARE PEOPLE  
USING THAT PROGRAMMING  
LANGUAGE FOCUSED ON  
SOLVING?



# RUBY

developer happiness  
web development  
server-side scripting

examples

rails / sinatra

# PYTHON

deeply entrenched in academia  
lots of sophisticated math libraries and tools

examples

python notebook  
numpy / scipy  
tensorflow

JAVASCRIPT

everyone  
everything

examples

nodejs

asynchronous

reactjs / vuejs / angularjs / emberjs

C/C++

fast fast fast  
stable

examples

openframeworks

openCV / computer vision

native code, e.g. iOS apps, application binaries

HOW NICE IS THE  
COMMUNITY?  
APPROACHABILITY?

RUBY

**MINSWAN** (Matz is nice, so we are nice)

C/C++

**RTFM**

AMA

# HARD TOPICS = [

- Interpreted vs Compiled
- Object Oriented Programming
  - Prototypical inheritance
  - Functional vs Imperative
- static language vs dynamic language
  - strong and weak typing



# FACTORIAL

Write a function that takes a number n and returns the factorial (sum of numbers 1 to n), e.g.

`factorial(1) => 1`

`factorial(3) => 6`

`factorial(7) => 5,040`

# FIZZBUZZ

**Write a program that prints the numbers from 1 to 100. But for multiples of three print “Fizz” instead of the number and for the multiples of five print “Buzz”. For numbers which are multiples of both three and five print “FizzBuzz”.**

# PRIME NUMBERS

**Write a program that prints the first 100 prime numbers.**

# PROOF OF WORK

**Write a program that takes a transaction string and appends numbers to the end to find the first SHA256 hash that starts with "000".**

```
transactions = "100,anthony,alice;500,alice,bob;20,alice,anthony"
```