



前端網絡開發人員課程
(二) 進階網絡程式設計

8. ES6 JS I: Syntax I

Presented by Krystal Institute



Learning Objective

- Understand what ES6 is, and how it tackles issues from ES5
- Learn new features on ES6, and how to use them

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8.1 Introduction to ES6

Front-end Web Developer

What is ES6?

- Also known as ECMAScript 6 / ECMAScript 2015
- It is a **programming language standard** (e.g. Jscript, ActionScript)
- ES6 is created to **standardize JavaScript**
- Makes JS code **more modern and readable**

ES6 vs. ES5

- ES5 is the fifth edition of ECMAScript, and ES6 is the next major enhancement to ES5
- There is new operators and methods in ES6 that can greatly **reduce the complexity of the codes** using ES5
- Throughout your programming time, you will see lots of ES5 codes
- Lots of them isn't updated to ES6

ES6 usage

- ES6 JS works similar to the JS that you've learned before, but includes new syntaxes, functions and features that makes it much easier to write websites and create complex logic with just a few lines of code
- Some additions of ES6 also improves upon older versions of JS and solves some of the issues.

8.2 ES6 Syntax pt.1

let

- Before ES6, **var** is used for **declaring variables**
- However, it has many flaws and issues which will be talked about later

```
var variable_name;
```

let

- In previous lessons, you have seen **let** used in codes
- It is a new feature implemented in ES6
- You can use the let keyword to **declare a new variable**

```
let variable_name;
```

let vs. var

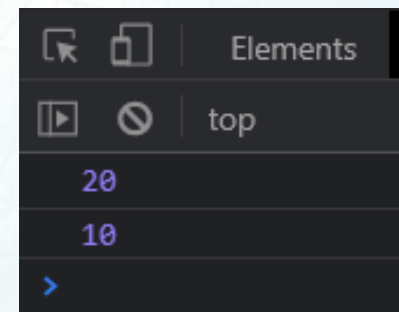
- Variables declared using the let keyword is **block-scoped**
- A block is the space **inside a pair of curly braces { }**

```
<script>
  let x = 10;
  if (x == 10) {
    // This is a block
  };
  // This is outside the block
</script>
```


let block-scoping

- In this example on right
- The x inside the block is a **new variable**, different from the x declared **outside of the block**
- The x inside the code will be 20, while the x outside the code will be 10

```
<script>
  let x = 10;
  if (x == 10) {
    x = 20;
    console.log(x);
  };
  console.log(x);
</script>
```



let vs. var

- In the past, var is used instead for declaring variables
- Every variables that are declared using var is added to the property list of the **global object — window**
- Variables declared using let is **not attached to the global object**

```
var x = 50;  
console.log(window.x) // 50
```

```
let x = 50;  
console.log(window.x) // undefined
```

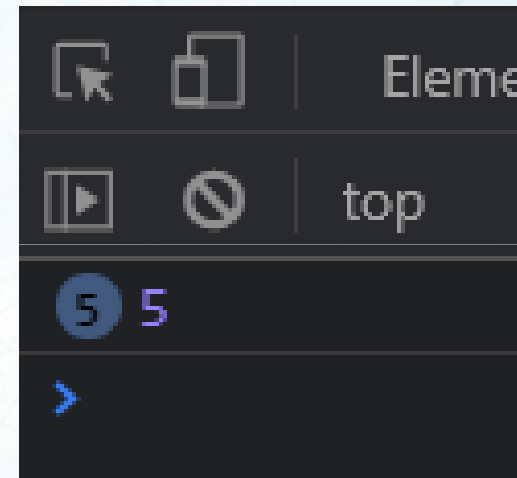
let in for loop

- The example on the right shows a for loop that intends to...
- Output numbers from 0 to 4 every second
- Try it out yourself!

```
for (var i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
    setTimeout(function () {  
        console.log(i);  
    }, 1000);  
};
```


let in for loop

- Executing the code will result in...
- Outputting 5 five times
- Why is that?
- To know the answer we need to dive into the asynchronous nature of JS



Asynchronous JS

- The JavaScript Engine starts executing your code **from the first statement to the last**
- `setTimeout` is not a normal function, in HTML, it is used to **call a block after a set amount of time** (1 second in this case)

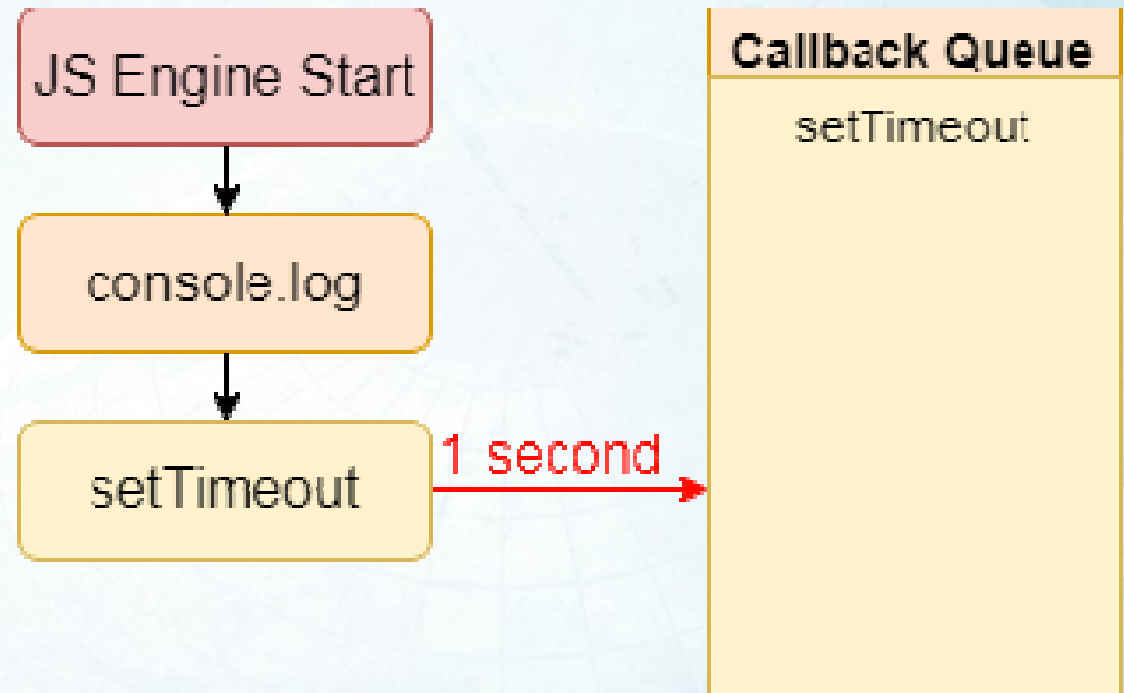
```
<script>
  console.log("first statement");

  setTimeout( function sayHi() {
    console.log('Hi')
  }, 1000);

  console.log("last statement");
</script>
```

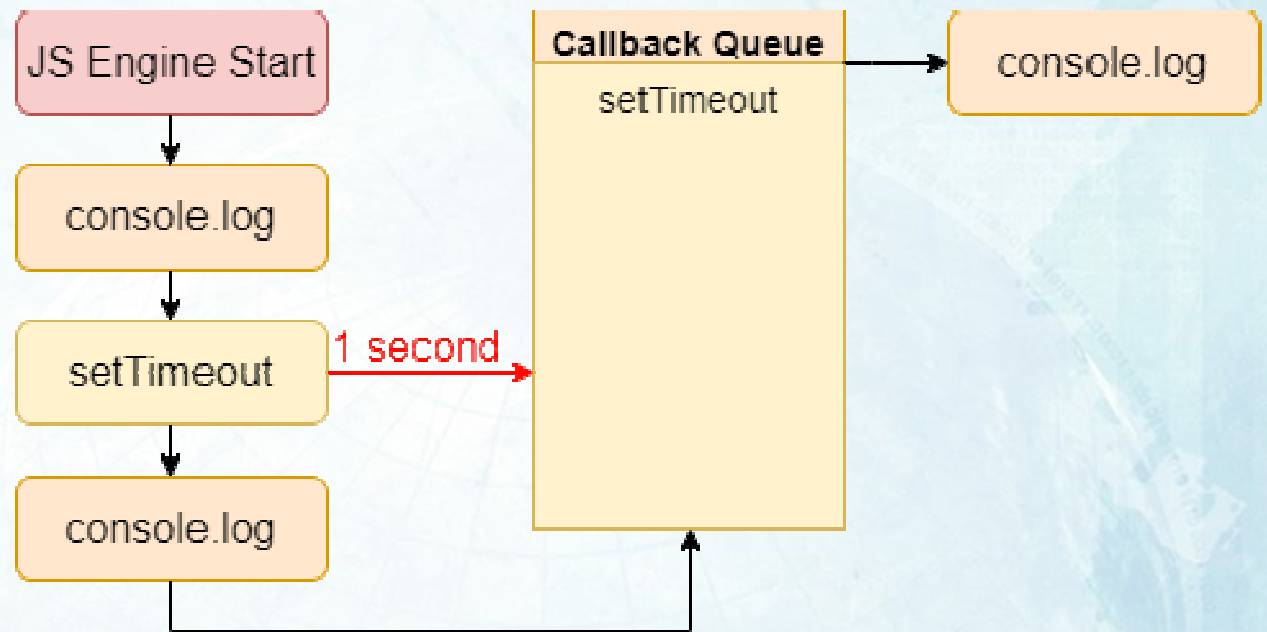
Asynchronous JS

- When the JS engine gets to the `setTimeout` function, it creates a timer that **executes immediately**, waiting for 1 second
- After that time has passed, the function will be **passed to a callback queue**



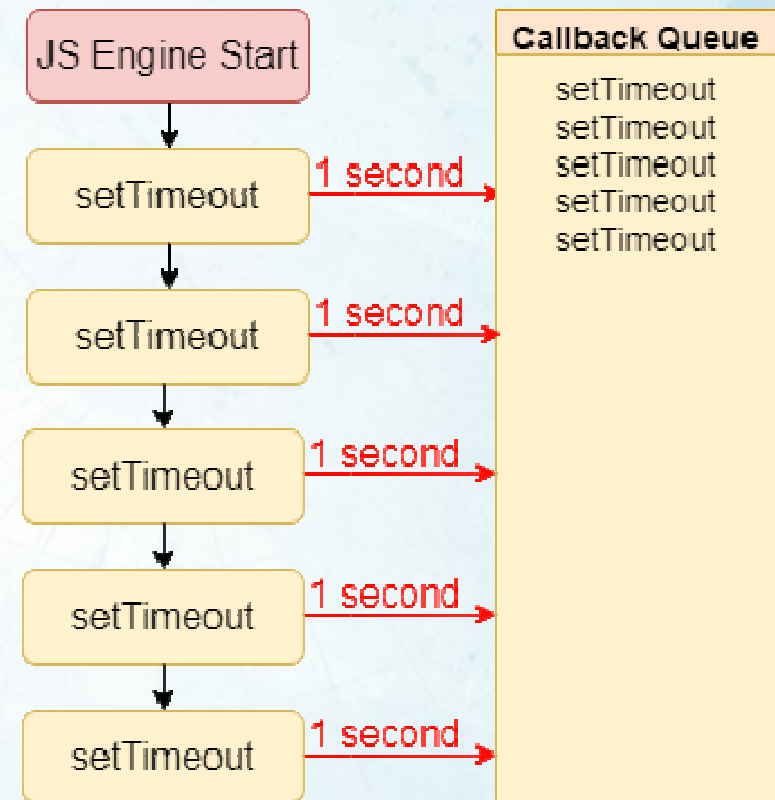
Asynchronous JS

- After all code in the **call stack** (lets assume it as codes not inside the `setTimeout` function for now) was executed
- It starts executing code inside the **callback queue**, in order



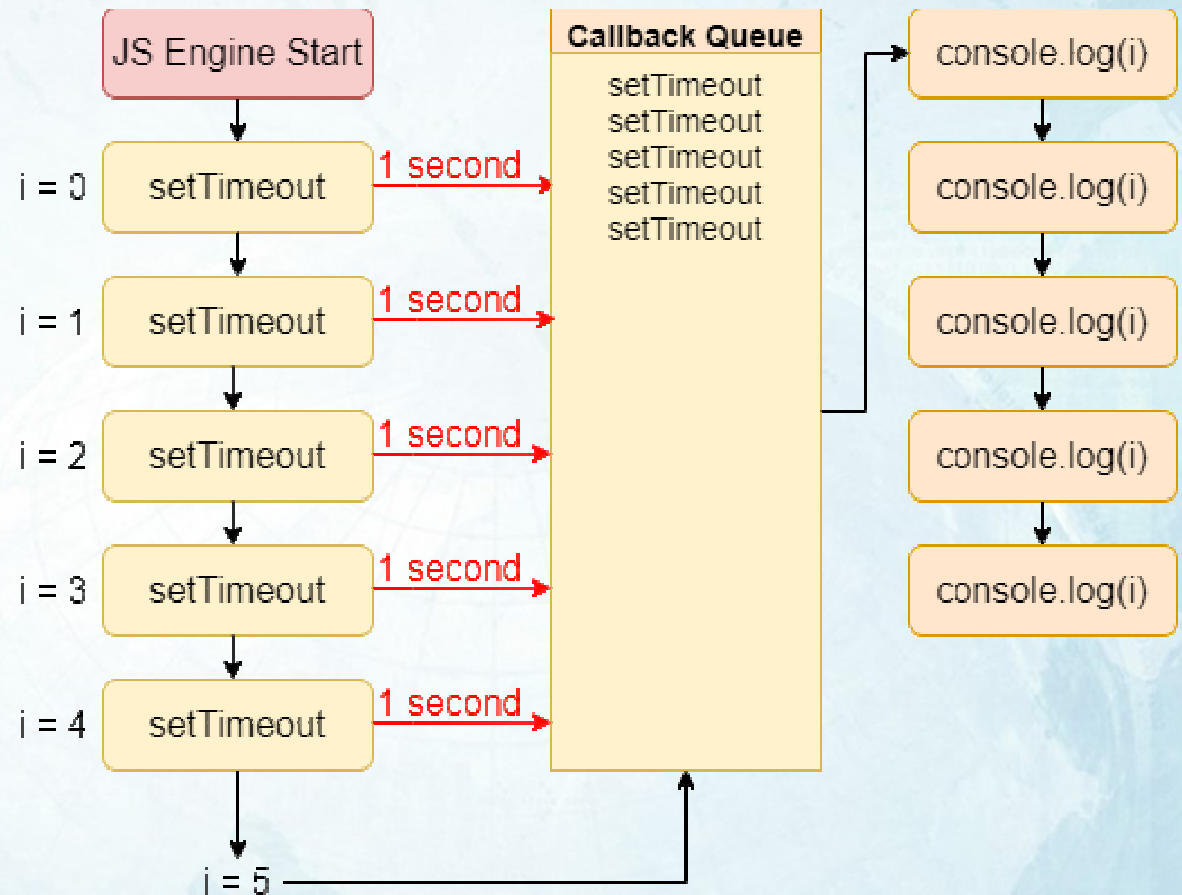
let in for loop

- Back to the for loop example
- In the first loop, setTimeout is called and a timer was created, waiting for 1 second
- Without executing any console.log, i gets added by 1 and the loop continues for 5 times
- Note that all timers happen at the same time as it is asynchronous



let in for loop

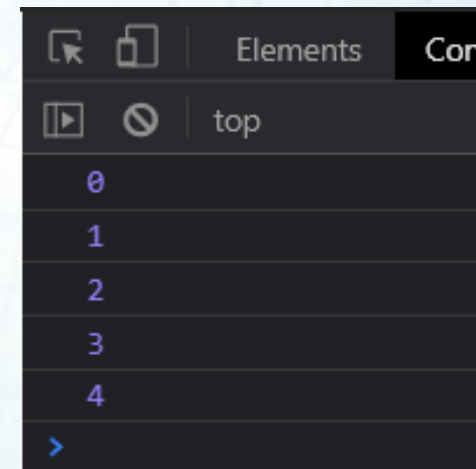
- After all 5 setTimeout finished waiting, the callback queue will be executed in order
- All of them uses i, which is already 5 by that point (i's value is added globally **at the end of every loop**), hence all of them displaying 5



let in for loop

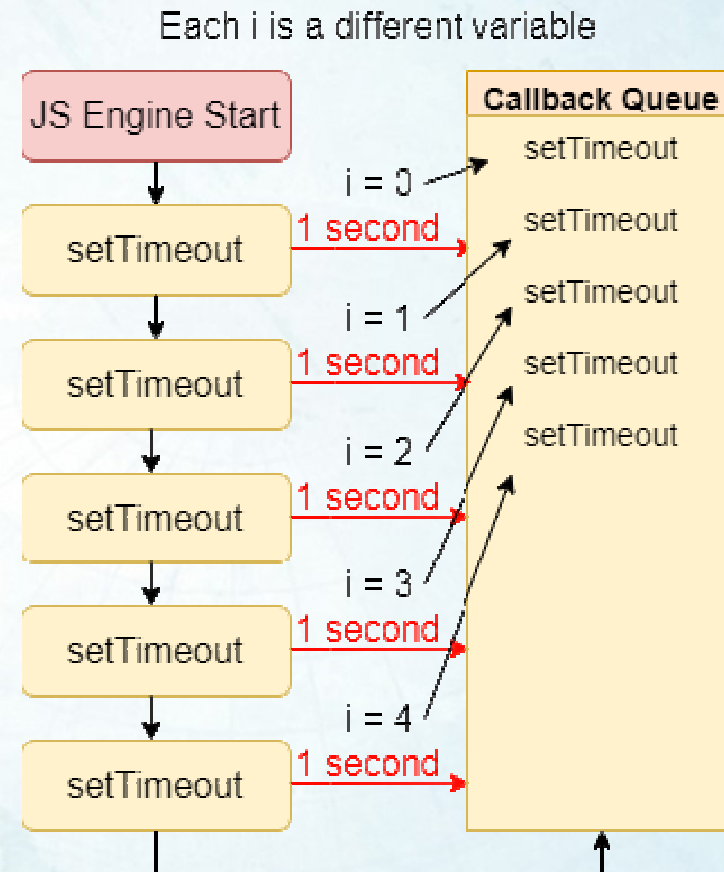
- To fix this issue, simply change the var to let
- let differs from var that let is block scoped, so the same value won't get used everywhere, only inside the block it is declared

```
for (let i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
  setTimeout(function () {  
    console.log(i);  
  }, 1000);  
};
```



let in for loop

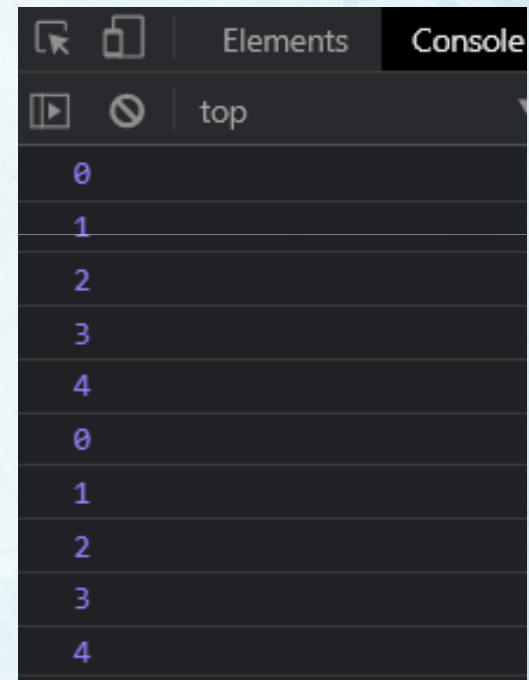
- Using the same flow logic
- In each loop, let declares a new *i* in each loop, and will only be used in that single loop
- There are 5 loops, so there will be 5 *i*, each with values from 0 to 4
- When each `setTimeout` executes, it will use the *i* variable declared in its loop, creating the desired effect



let in for loop

- Note that this is only an issue with asynchronous functions like `setTimeout`
- For other functions like `console.log`, this will not be different using `var` or `let` as no functions are put in the callback queue

```
for (var i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
    console.log(i);  
};  
  
for (let i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
    console.log(i);  
};
```



let vs. var

- One difference between let and var is the **scope**
- As mentioned before, variables declared using let is **block-scoped**
- As for var, they are **typically global**, except when inside a function
- That means they **cannot be referenced outside if they are declared inside a function**

```
function funct1() {  
    var i = 10;  
}  
console.log(i);
```

✖ ▶ Uncaught ReferenceError: i is not defined

let vs. var

- Note that var is only a local variable inside functions, var used in for loops, if else statements and other statements are global **as long as its not inside a function**

```
let x = 10;  
if (x == 10) {  
    let y = 20;  
};  
console.log(y);
```

✖ Uncaught ReferenceError: y is not defined

- The let keyword is **only accessible inside blocks**, which is true even for if else statements and for loops as they uses blocks

let vs. var

- The var keyword allows you to **redeclare a variable**
- Redeclaring a variable with let will **throw an error**
- This might sound like a good thing but...
- Redeclaring does nothing
- It **only adds confusion** to the code

```
var x = 20;  
var x;  
console.log(x); // 20
```

```
let x = 20;  
let x; // error  
console.log(x);
```


let vs. var

- Variables declared using var can hoist
- Variables declared using let **cannot** hoist
- Hoisting is a complex concept, so lets make it simple

```
console.log(x);  
var x = 20;
```

```
console.log(x);  
let x = 20;
```

✖ ▶ Uncaught ReferenceError: Cannot access 'x' before initialization

Hoisting

- On the example on right, we have a code that console logs a variable before it is declared
- It is possible using var
- Hoisting is a behavior that **appears** to move declarations
- It doesn't actually happen

```
console.log(x);  
var x = 20;
```

Is the same as

```
var x;  
console.log(x);  
x = 20;
```

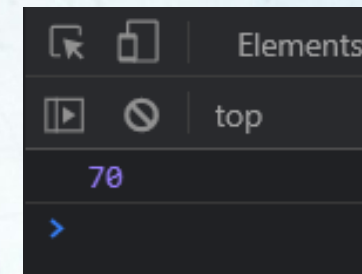
Hoisting

- As you can guess, this is another feature that is seldom useful and often cause more harm than good
- Using let will throw a ReferenceError
- var or not, it is still best to declare the variable first before using it to avoid confusion and potential errors

Constants

- The const keyword works like the let keyword
- It declares a **block-scoped variable**
- The variable is **read-only**, meaning you **cannot reassign** it
- In variables declared by the let keyword, you can change and reassign values to it

```
let MARKS = 100;  
MARKS -= 30;  
console.log(MARKS);
```



Constants

- In variables declared by the `const` keyword, they are **immutable**

```
const MARKS = 100;  
MARKS -= 30;  
console.log(MARKS);
```

- Trying to change or reassign a **const variable** will result in a **TypeError**

✖ ▶ Uncaught TypeError: Assignment to constant variable.

Constants

- The const keyword must also be used and assigned a value

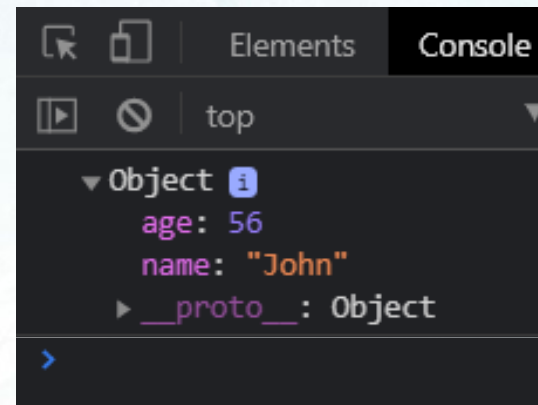
```
const MARKS = 100;  
MARKS -= 30;  
console.log(MARKS);
```

- Declaring it without a value will result in SyntaxError

✖ ▶ Uncaught TypeError: Assignment to constant variable.

Constants & Objects

- An object declared as a variable is special
- Changing an object's property values is **allowed**, as it does not change the variable itself
- However, **reassigning the object with another** is still not allowed



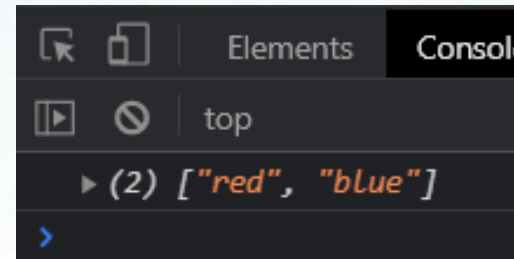
```
const PERSON = {  
  name: "John",  
  age: 55  
};  
PERSON.age = 56;  
console.log(PERSON);
```

```
const PERSON = {  
  name: "John",  
  age: 55  
};  
PERSON = {  
  name: "John",  
  age: 56  
};  
console.log(PERSON);
```

✖ ▶ Uncaught TypeError: Assignment to constant variable.

Constants & Arrays

- If an array was assigned as a constant
- Array methods like push and pop still functions
- Reassigning it will again result in TypeError



```
const COLORS = ["red"];  
COLORS.push("blue");  
console.log(COLORS);
```

```
COLORS = []  
console.log(COLORS);
```

✖ ▶ Uncaught TypeError: Assignment to constant variable.

Constant widespread practice

- In previous examples, you see constant variables with all upper cases
- Although it is not necessary, it is a good practise to use uppercase and underscores to declare variables
- It makes it much easier to read and differ from variables made using the let keyword

Constant widespread practice

- In this scenario, you can assign color hexcodes to constants (since they will not change)
- It will make it easier to type and read when you need it

```
const COLOR_RED = "#E72019";  
const COLOR_GREEN = "#05D731";  
const COLOR_BLUE = "#0E31E2";
```

8.3 Default Parameters

Parameters & Arguments

- We often use parameters and argument interchangeably
- On the example on right,
- The add function has 2 parameters — x and y
- Calling an add function requires 2 arguments — 10 and 5

```
function add(x, y) {  
    console.log(x + y)  
};  
  
add(10, 5);
```


Parameters & Arguments

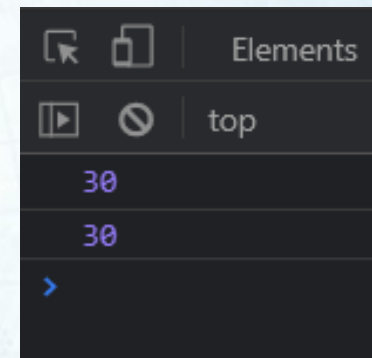
- The default value of a parameter is undefined
- If you don't provide the function with arguments, **it will cause it to be undefined**, rendering the whole function useless

```
function add(x, y) {  
    console.log(x + y) // undefined + undefined  
};  
  
add();
```

Default Parameter

- We can change the default value of a parameter so even without any arguments, the function will still function!
- To do that, assign a value to the parameter inside the function

```
function add(x=10, y=20) {  
    console.log(x + y) // 10 + 20  
};  
  
add();  
add(undefined, undefined);
```

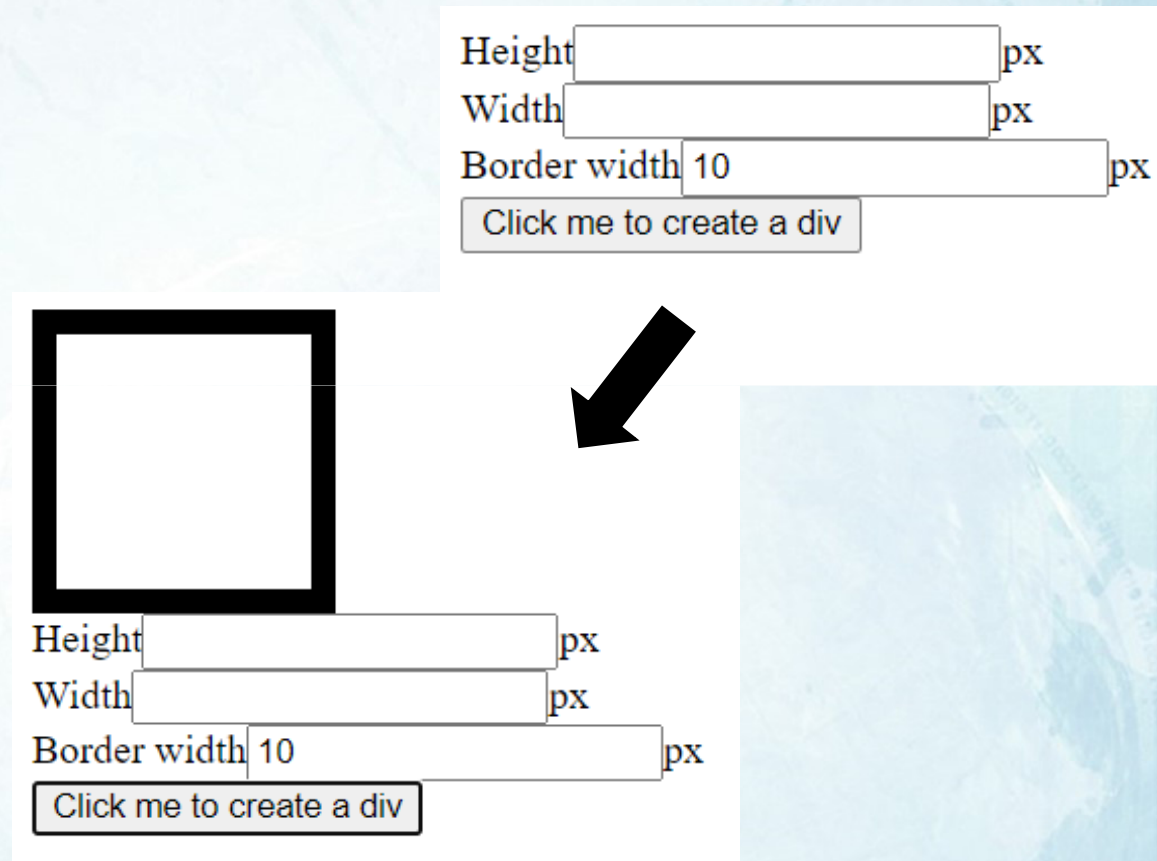


Default Parameter Exercise

- Create a website that...
- Has a button that calls a function on click, and 3 inputs for height, width, and border width
- If there is no inputs in one input element, it should be set to undefined (value is always a string, assign it to a variable)
- The function will create a new div at the very top of <body>, based on the inputs, and has 3 parameters:
 - height: height of the div, defaults to 100px
 - width: width of the div, defaults to 100px
 - Border-width: width of the border, defaults to 3px

Default Parameter Exercise Example


- Given 3 input boxes and a button, if any of the inputs are typed with valid numbers (e.g. typing 10 in border width) and you click on the button
- It will show the created div with border width as 10px

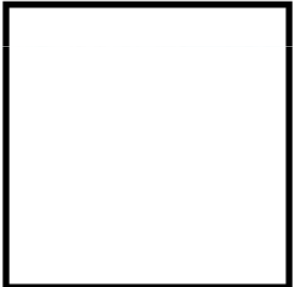


Default Parameter Exercise Example

- If nothing is inputted and the button was clicked, the div should have 100px height, 100px width and 3px border width

Height px
Width px
Border width px




Height px
Width px
Border width px

References

- Use these if you need more explanations!
- <https://www.javascripttutorial.net/es6/>
- <https://javascript.info/>
- Use this if you need more specific answers!
- <https://stackoverflow.com/>