Web Engineering Lect 11 (JavaScript)

Instructor: Faheem Shaukat
Meeting Hours

Wednesday and Thursday

12PM to 02PM

JavaScript

- JavaScript, often abbreviated as JS.
- It is a programming language that conforms to the ECMAScript specification.
- JavaScript is high-level, often just-in-time compiled and multi-paradigm.
- It has curly-bracket syntax, dynamic typing, prototype-based object-orientation and first-class functions.

What is JavaScript?

What can you do with it?

Where does JavaScript code run?

JavaScript vs ECMAScript?





Most Popular Technologies

Programming, Scripting, and Markup Languages

All Respondents

Professional Developers

JavaScript 69.8%

HTML 68.5%

CSS 65.1%

SQL 57.0%

Java 45.3%

JAVASCRIPT TODAY



Web / Mobile Apps



Real-time Networking Apps

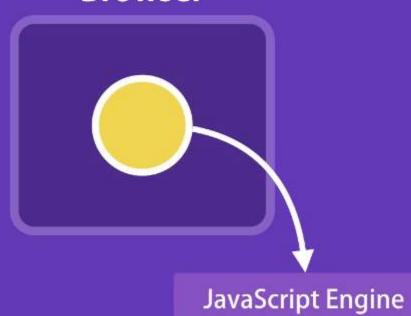


Command-line Tools



Games

Browser



FireFox: SpiderMonkey

Chrome: v8

ECMAScript

Specification

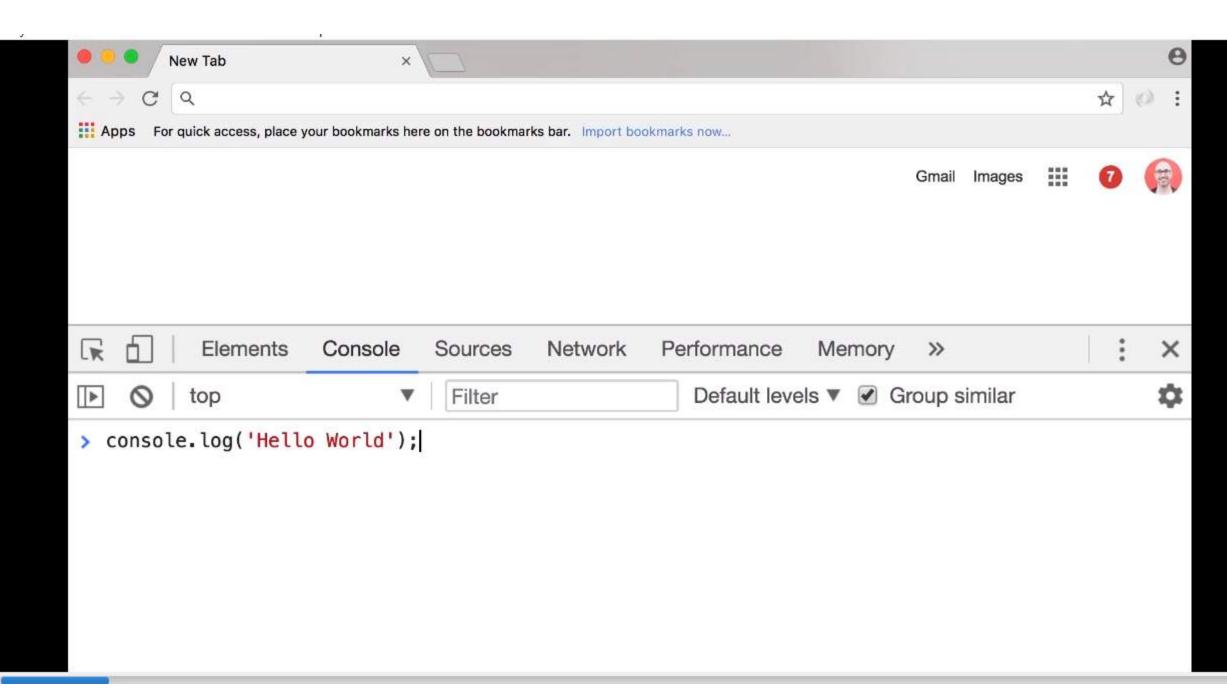


JavaScript

Programming Language







```
index.html •
6
           <!DOCTYPE html>
           <html lang="en">
           <head>
             <meta charset="UTF-8">
             <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
V
             <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="ie=edge">
             <title>Document</title>
        8 </head>
           <body>
             <h1>Hello World</h1>
             <script>
               console.log('Hello World');
             </script>
           </body>
           </html>
Ø Port: 5500 Ln 12, Col 32 (27 selected) Spaces: 2 UTF-8 LF HTML
30 A 0
```

In this lecture, we will discuss...

Defining Variables, Functions and Scope

Variables

```
var message = "hi";
```

- Variable definition should always start with 'var'
- No types are declared
 - JS is dynamically typed language
 - Same variable can hold different types during the life of the execution

```
function a () {...}
```

```
var a = function () {...}
```

Value of function assigned, NOT the returned result!

No name defined



Executes function (aka invokes function)

Arguments defined without 'var'

```
function compare (x, y) {
  return x > y;
}
```

```
function compare (x, y) {...}
var a = compare(4, 5);
compare(4, "a");
compare();
```

ALL LEGAL

Scope

Global

Variables and functions defined here are available everywhere

Function aka lexical

Variables and functions defined her are available only within this function

Scope Chain

- ♦ Everything is executed in an Execution Context
- ♦ Function invocation creates a new Execution Context
- ♦ Each Execution Context has:
 - Its own Variable Environment
 - Special 'this' object
 - Reference to its Outer Environment
- Global scope does not have an Outer Environment as it's the most outer there is

Scope Chain

Referenced (not defined) variable will be searched for in its current scope first. If not found, the Outer Reference will be searched. If not found, the Outer Reference's Outer Reference will be searched, etc. This will keep going until the Global scope. If not found in Global scope, the variable is undefined.

Global

```
var x = 2;
A();
```

Function A

```
var x = 5;
B();
```

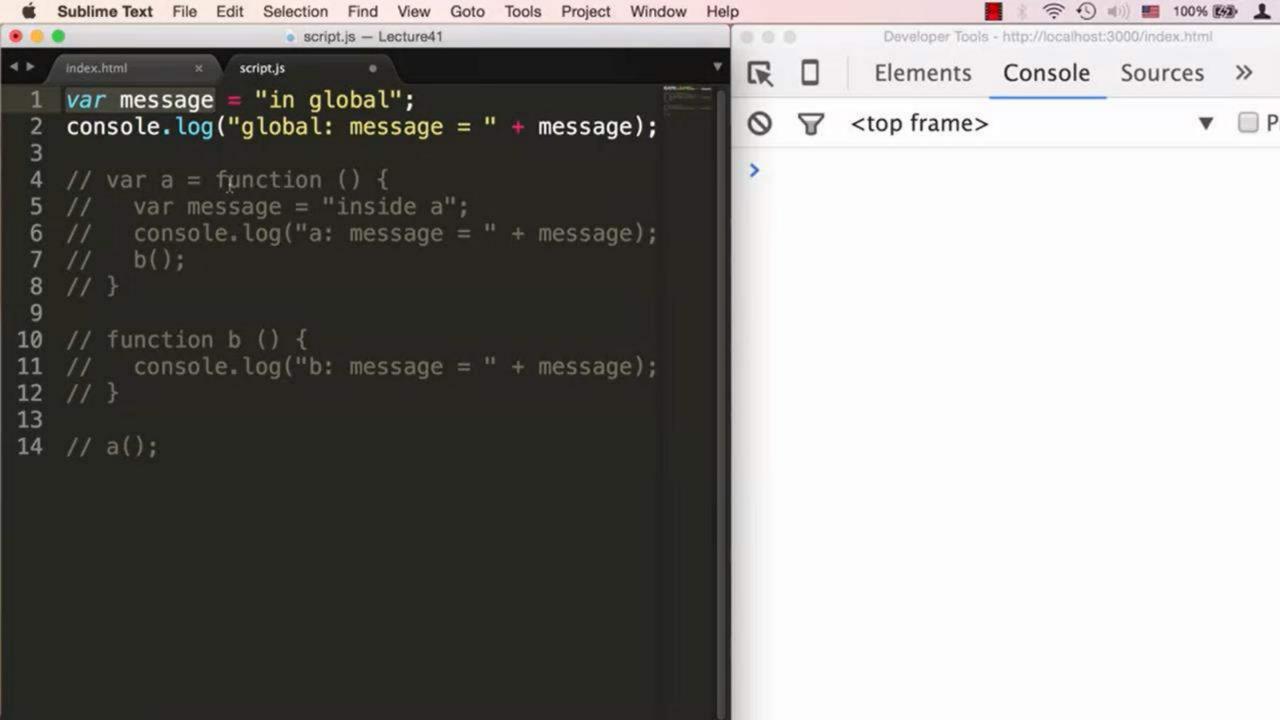
'B' is called within 'A'

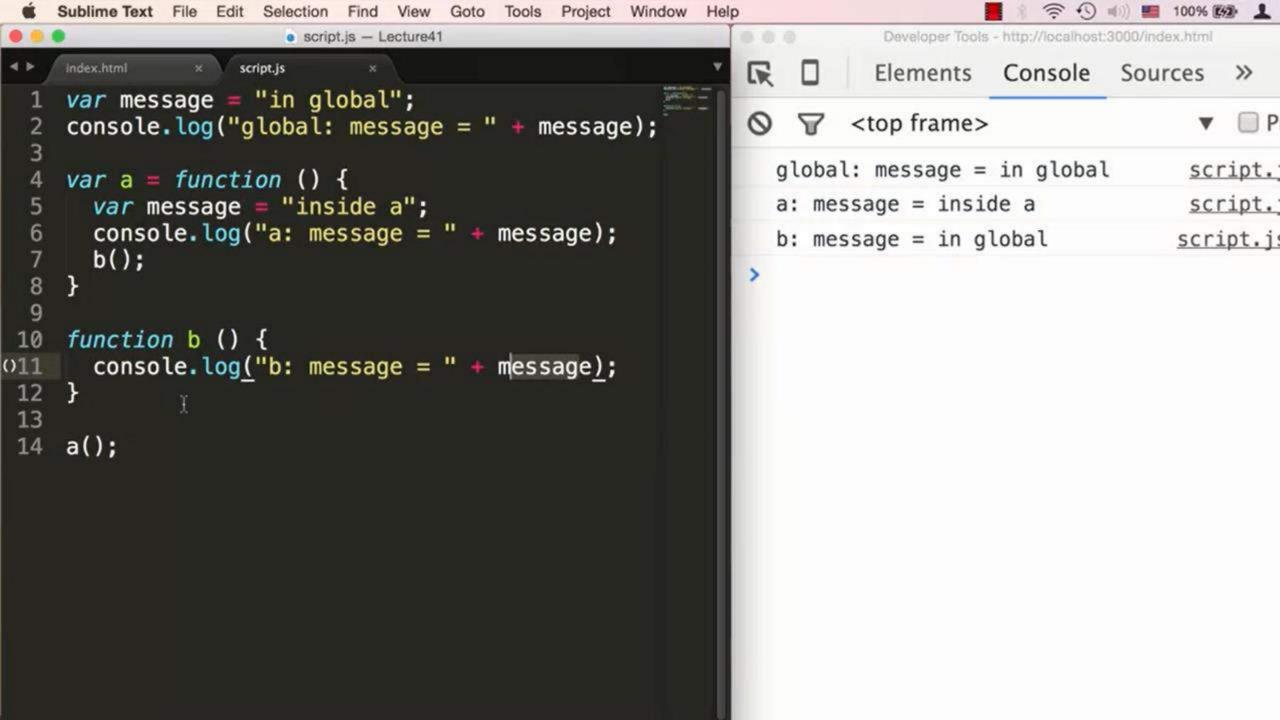
'B' is <u>defined</u> within Global

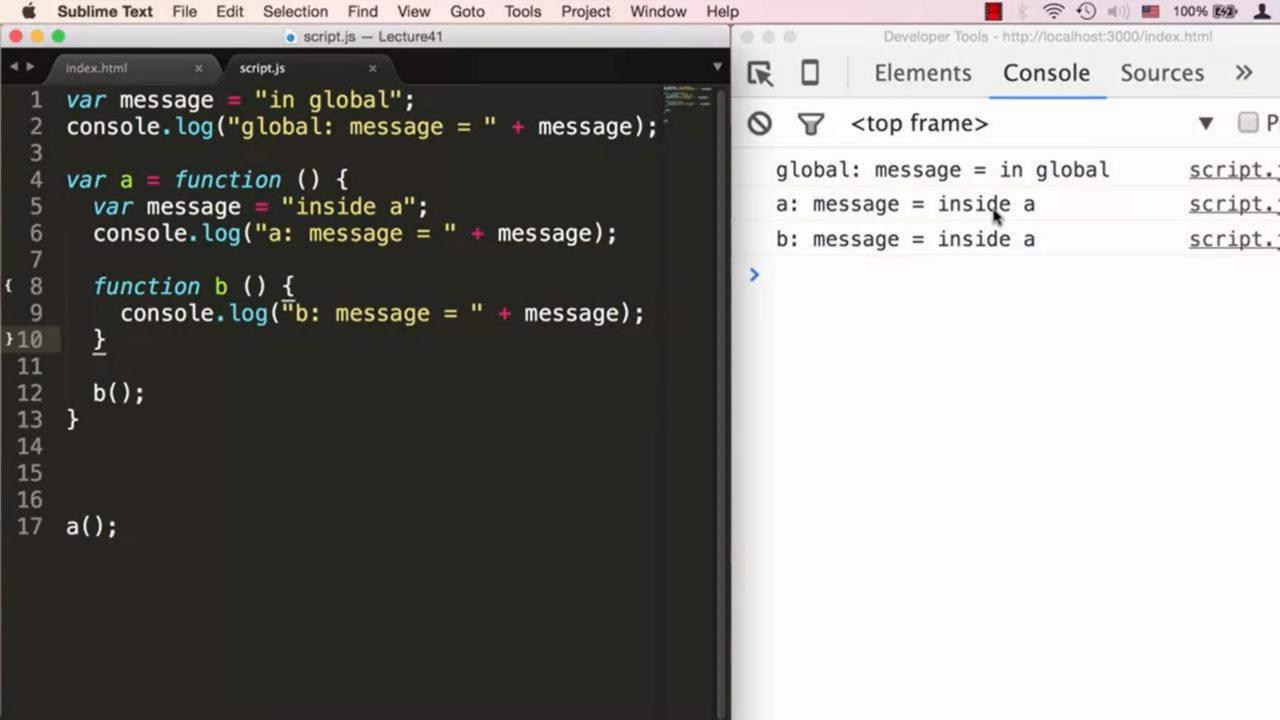
Function B

```
console.log(x);
```

Result: x = 2







Summary

- Defining variables dynamically typed
- ♦ Defining functions creates its own scope (lexical)
- ♦ JS code runs within an Execution Context
- Scope chain is used to retrieve variables from Outer Variable Environments

In this lecture, we will discuss...

Javascript Types

Types

A type is a particular data structure.

- Each language defines some built-in types
- Built-in types can be used to build other data structures
- JS has 7 built-in types: 6 primitive and 1 Object type

Object Type

Object is a collection of name/value pairs

Object Type

Person Object

```
firstName: "Yaakov",
      lastName: "Chaikin",
      social:
name
                linkedin: "yaakovchaikin",
                twitter: "yaakovchaikin",
                facebook: "CourseraWebDev"
```

value

Primitive Types

Primitive type represents a single, immutable value

- ♦ Single value, i.e., <u>not</u> an object
- Immutable means once it's set, it can't be changed
 - Value becomes read-only
 - You can create another value based on an existing one

Primitive Type: Boolean

Boolean can only have 2 values: true or false

Primitive Type: Undefined

Undefined signifies that no value has ever been set

- Can only have one value: undefined
- You can set a variable to undefined, but you should NEVER do it
 - Its meaning is that it's never been defined, so defining it to undefined is counter to its core meaning

Primitive Type: Null

Null signifies lack of value

- As opposed to undefined, which is lack of definition
- Can only have one value: null
- It's ok to explicitly set a variable to null

Primitive Type: Number

Number is the only numeric type in Javascript

- Always represented under the hood as double-precision 64-bit floating point
- JS does not have an integer type
 - Integers are a subset of doubles instead of a separate data type

Primitive Type: String

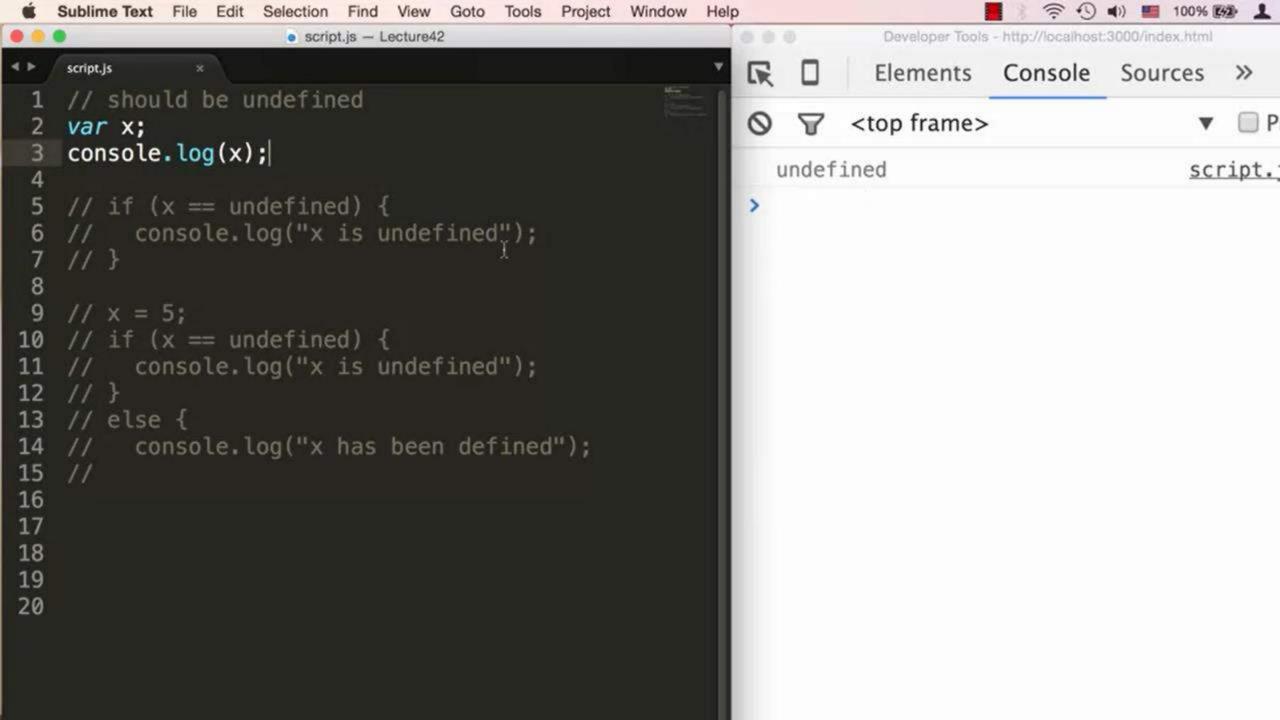
String is sequence of characters used to represent text

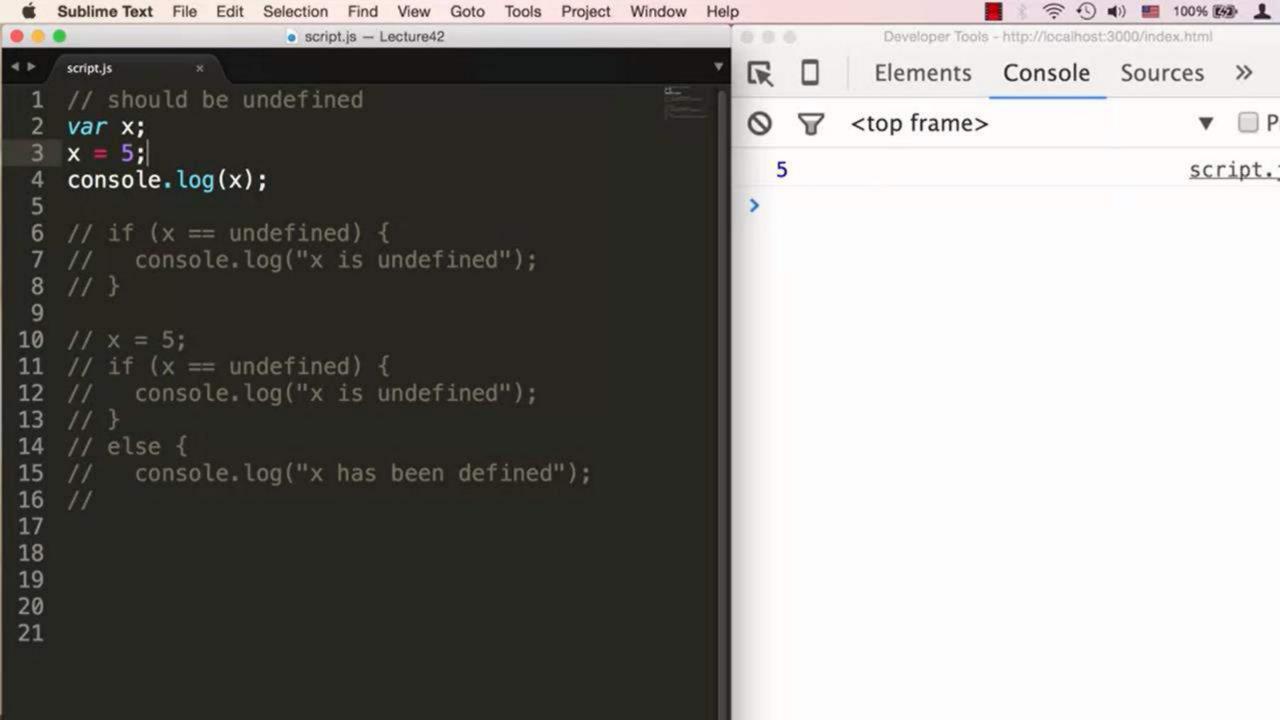
Use either single or double quotes, i.e., 'text' or "text"

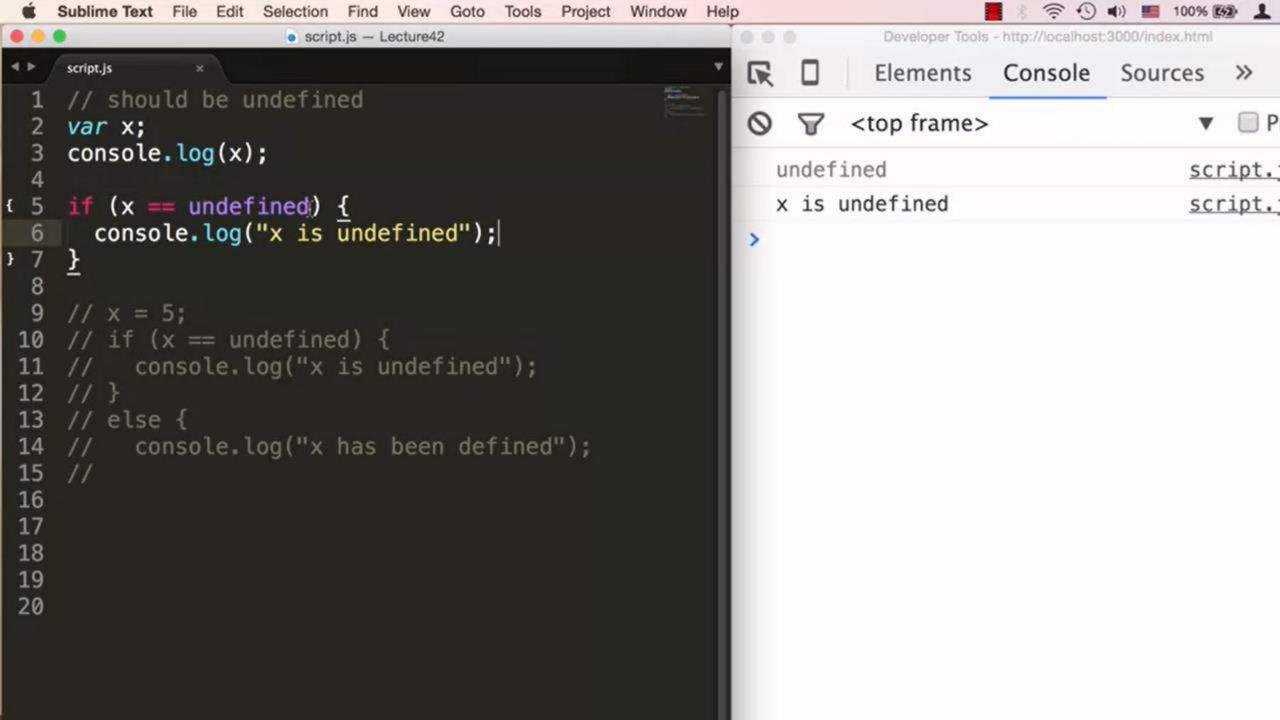
Primitive Type: Symbol

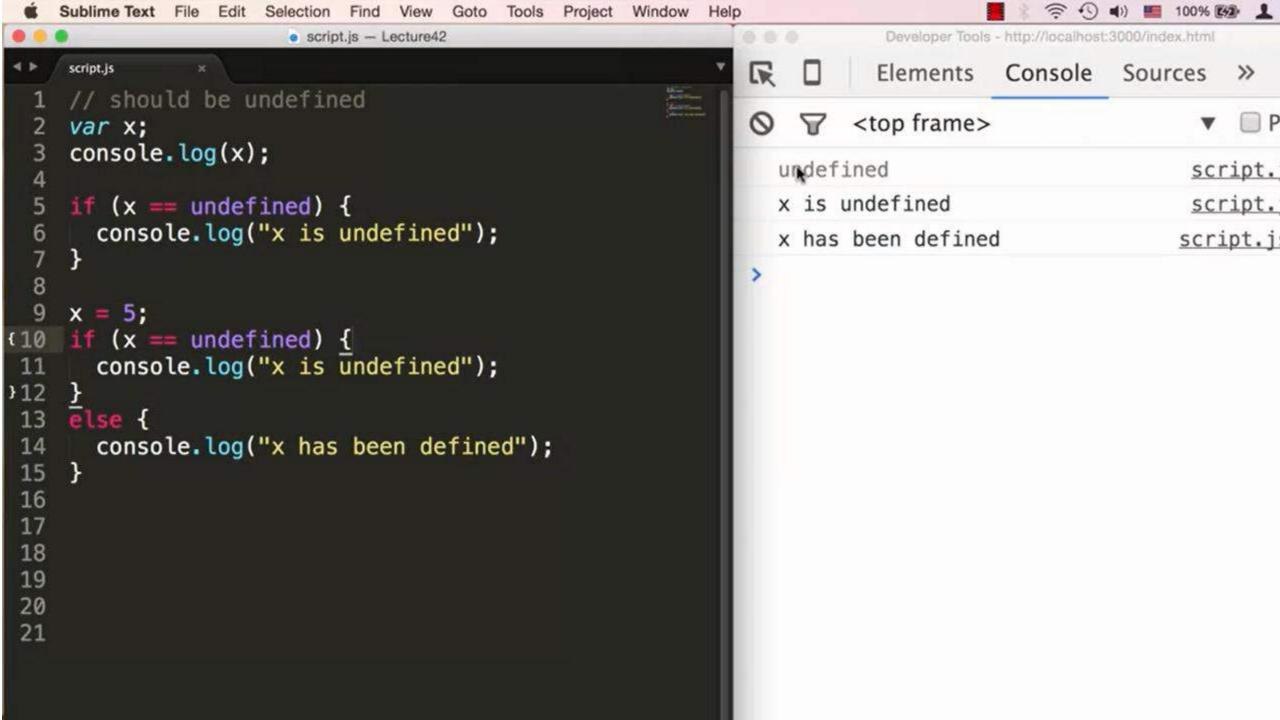
Symbol is new to ES6 Not covered in this class

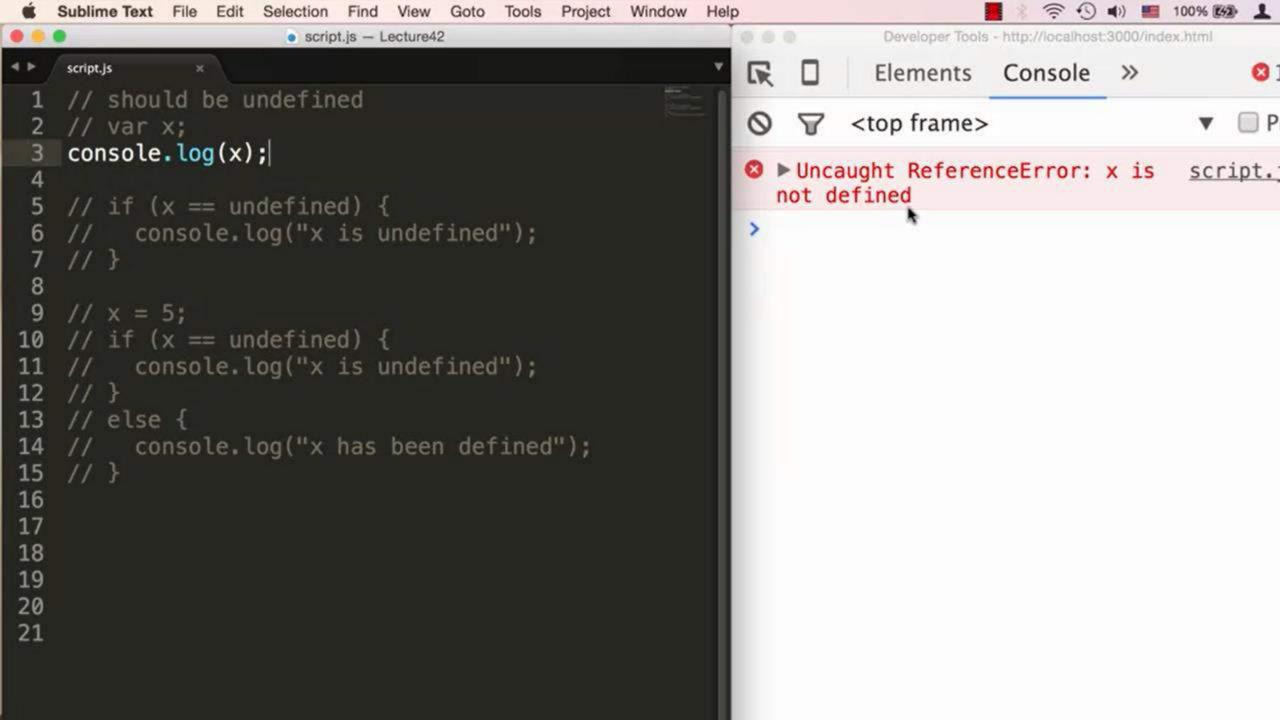
♦ ES6 (released 2015) isn't widely supported or used yet





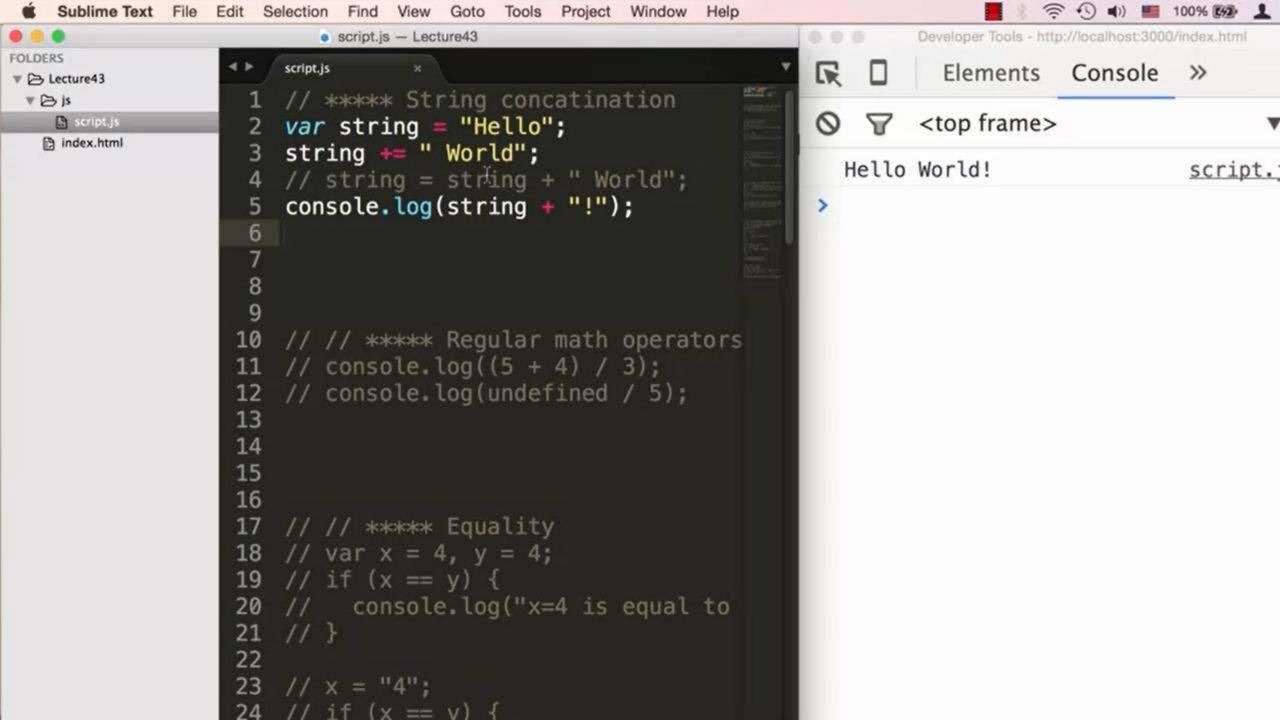


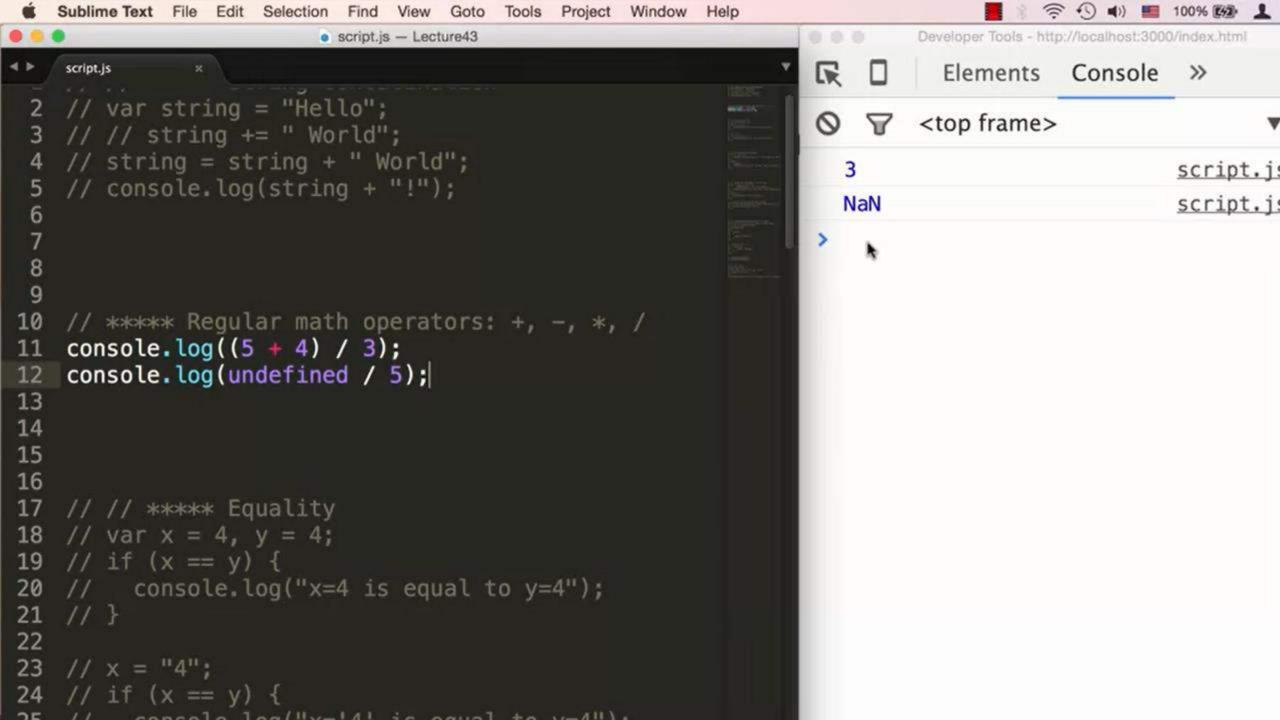


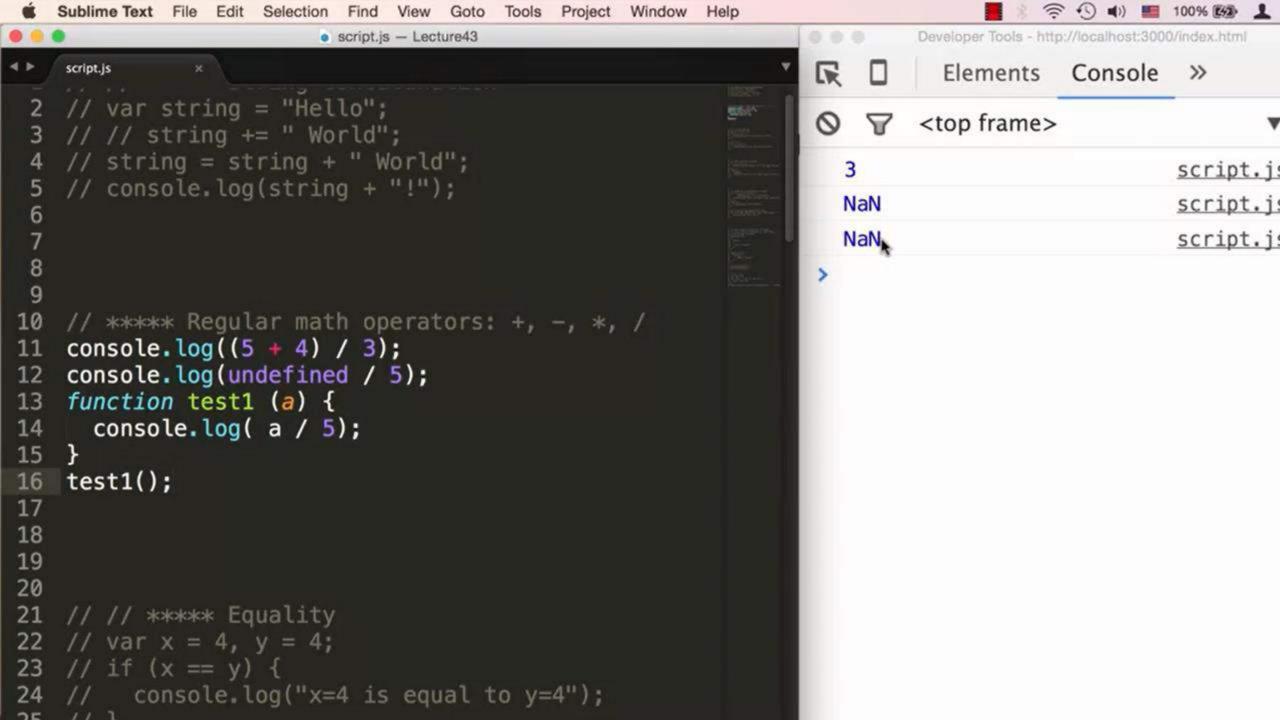


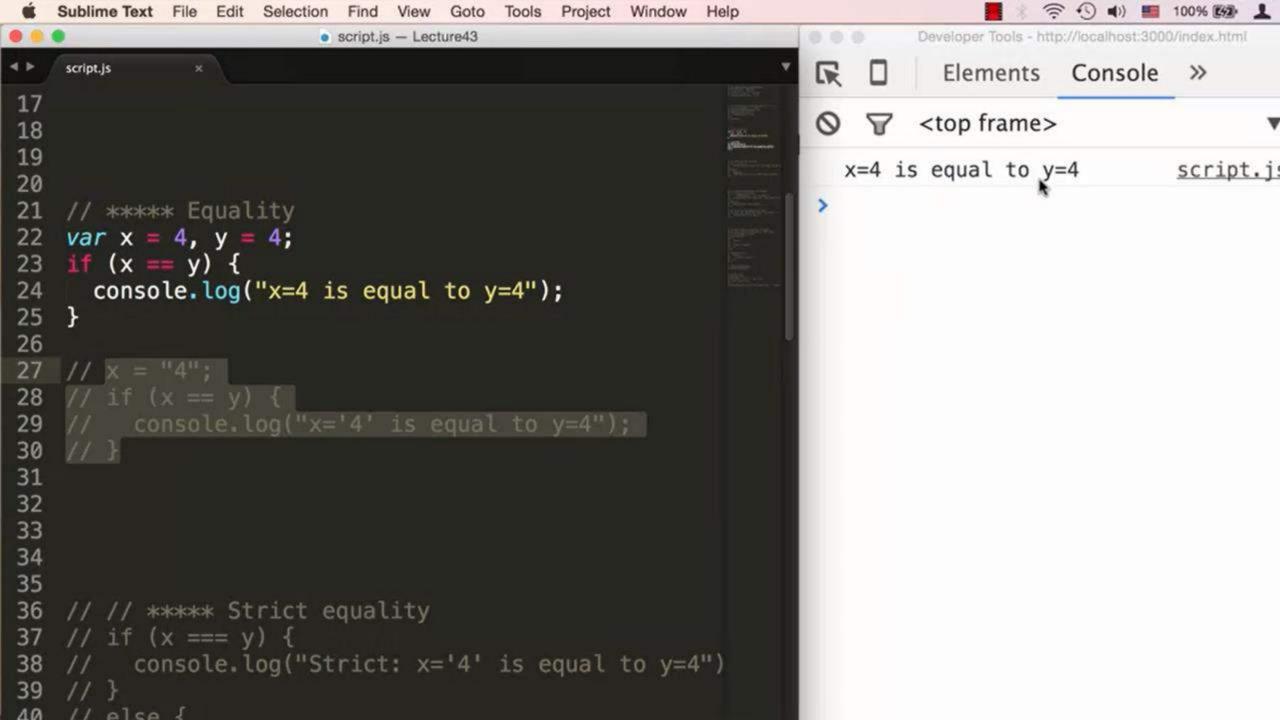
Summary

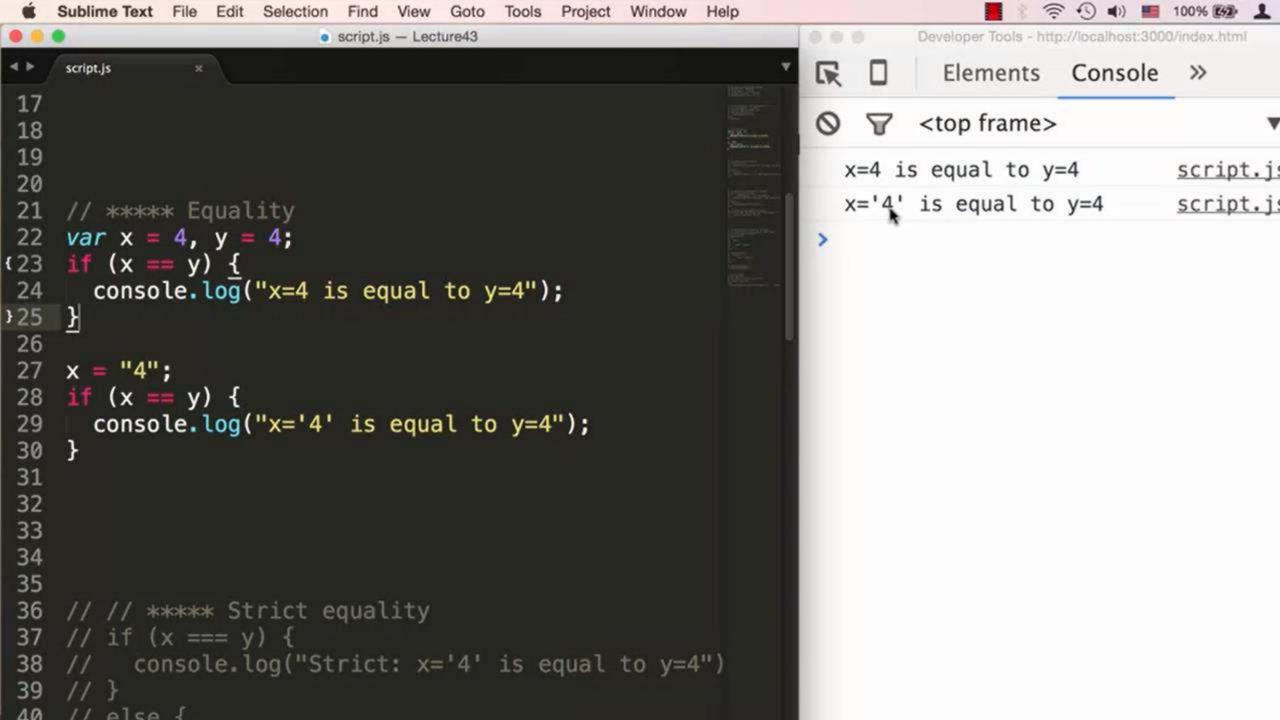
- → Javascript defines 7 built-in types
 - Object and 6 Primitives
- Object type is a collection of name/value pairs
- Primitive type can contain a single, immutable value
- Undefined means variable memory has been allocated but no value has ever been explicitly set yet

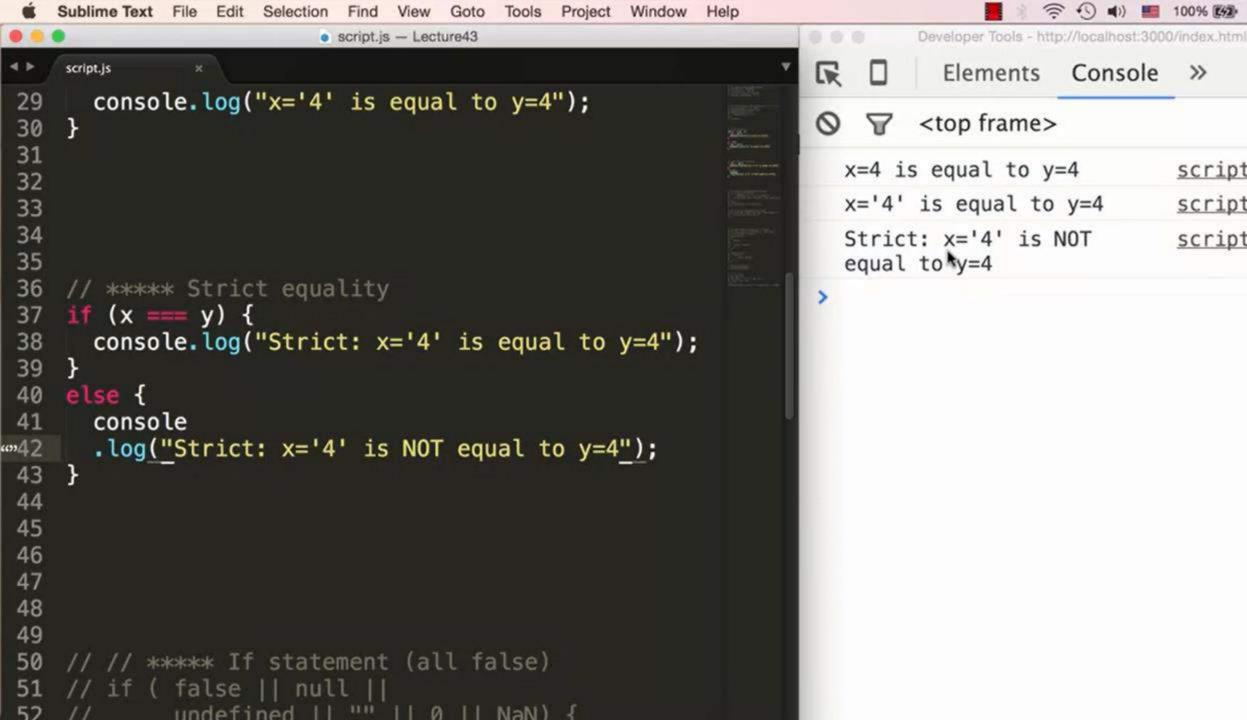












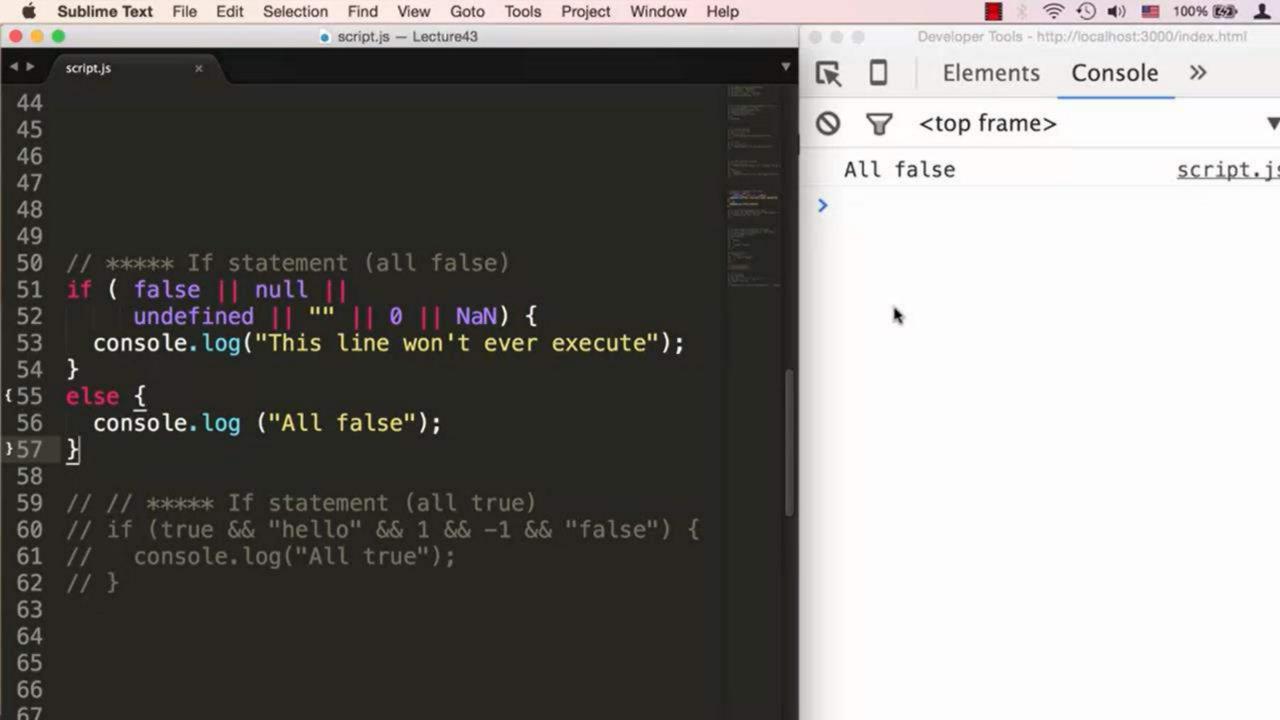
100% (142)

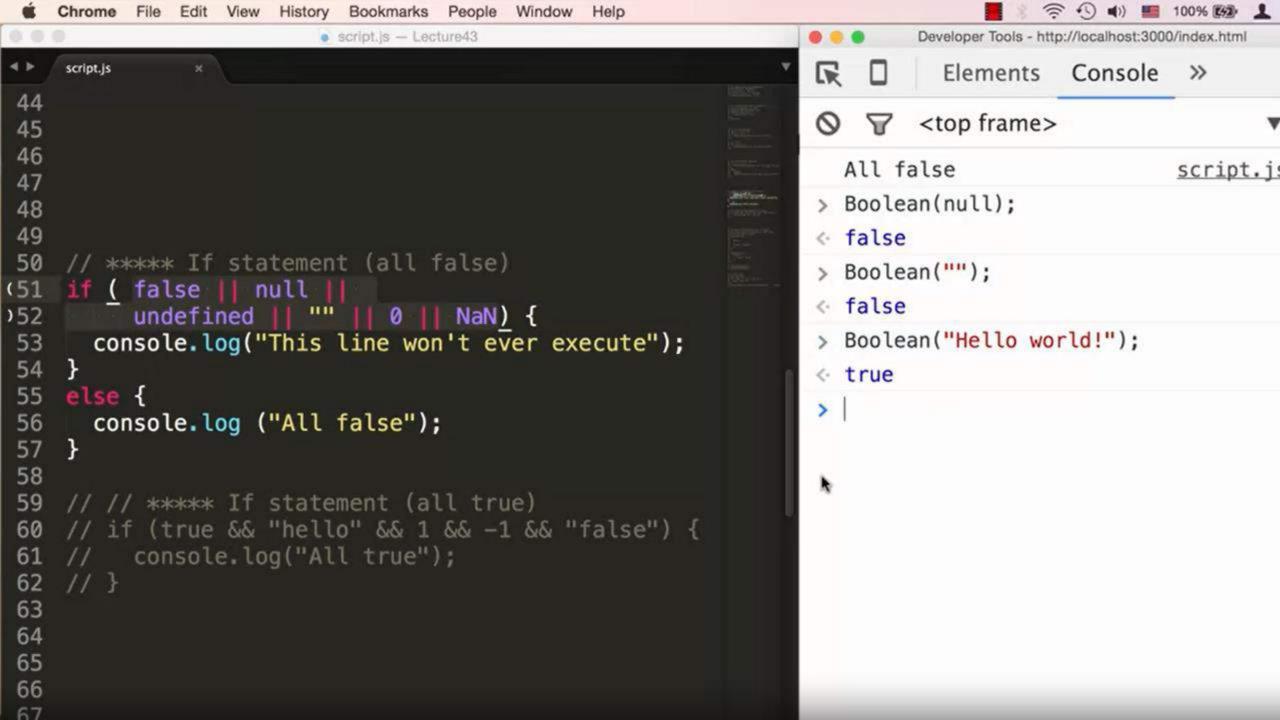
script.j

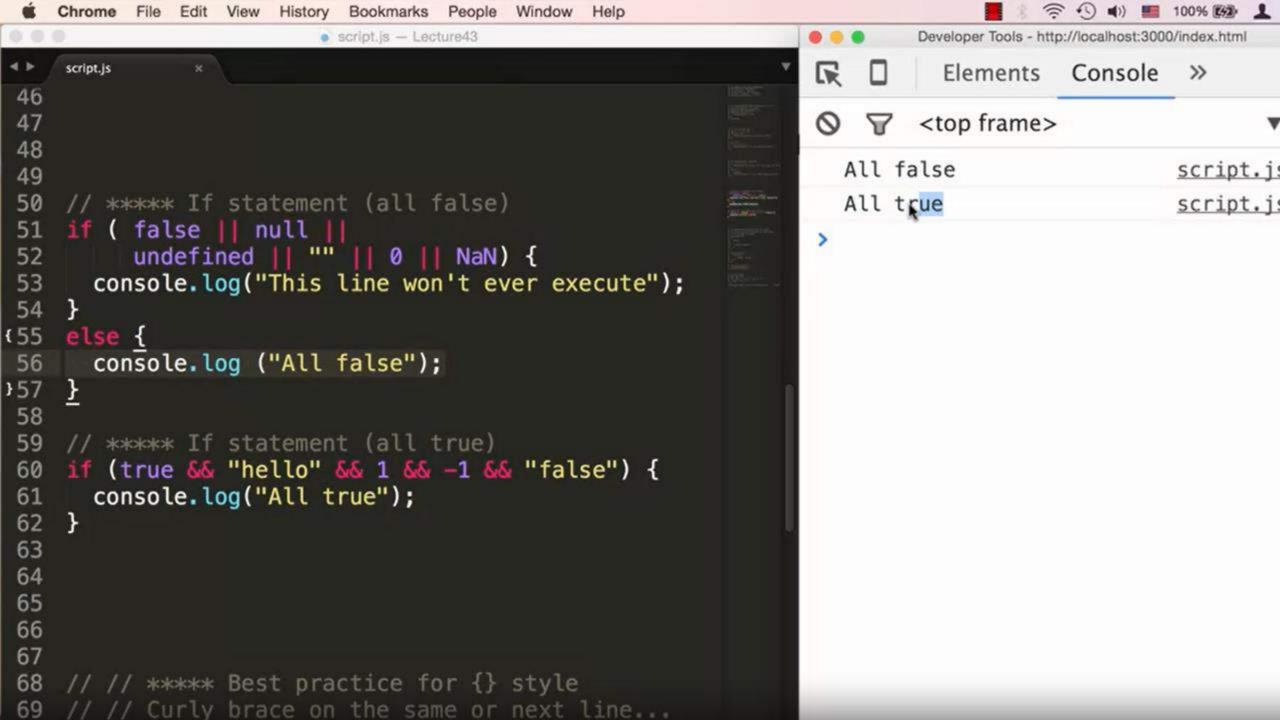
script.j

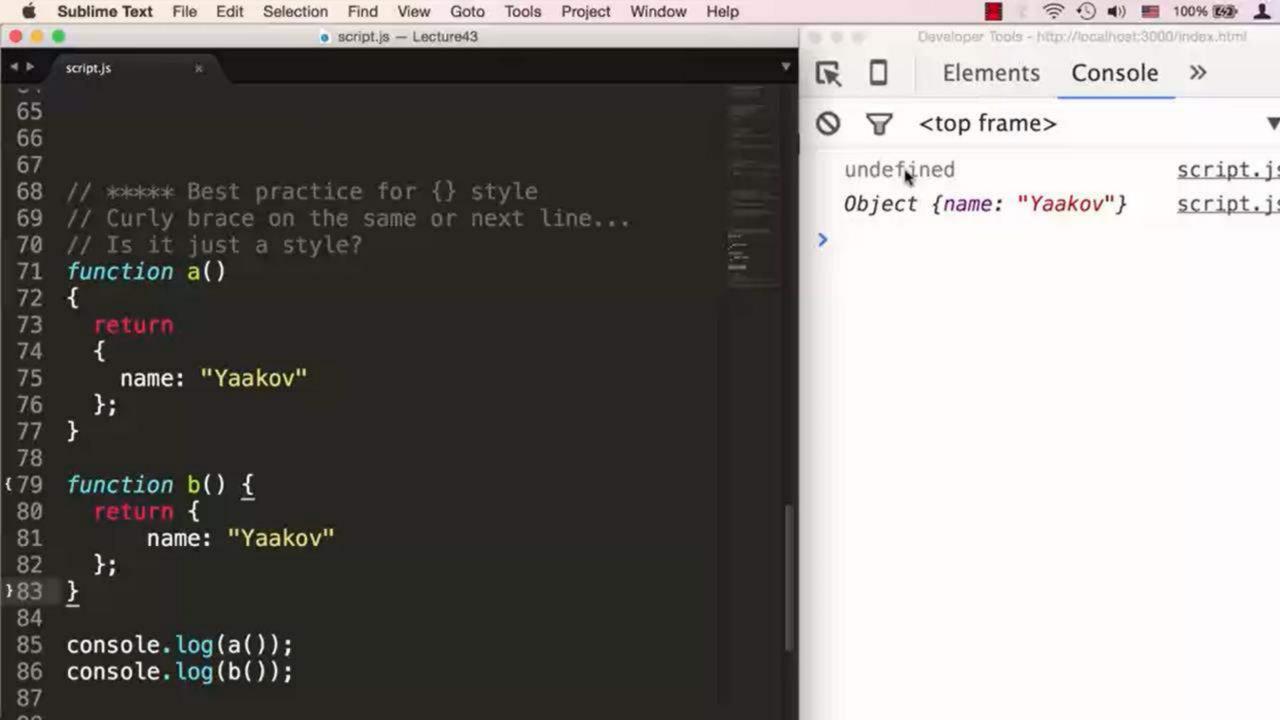
script.j

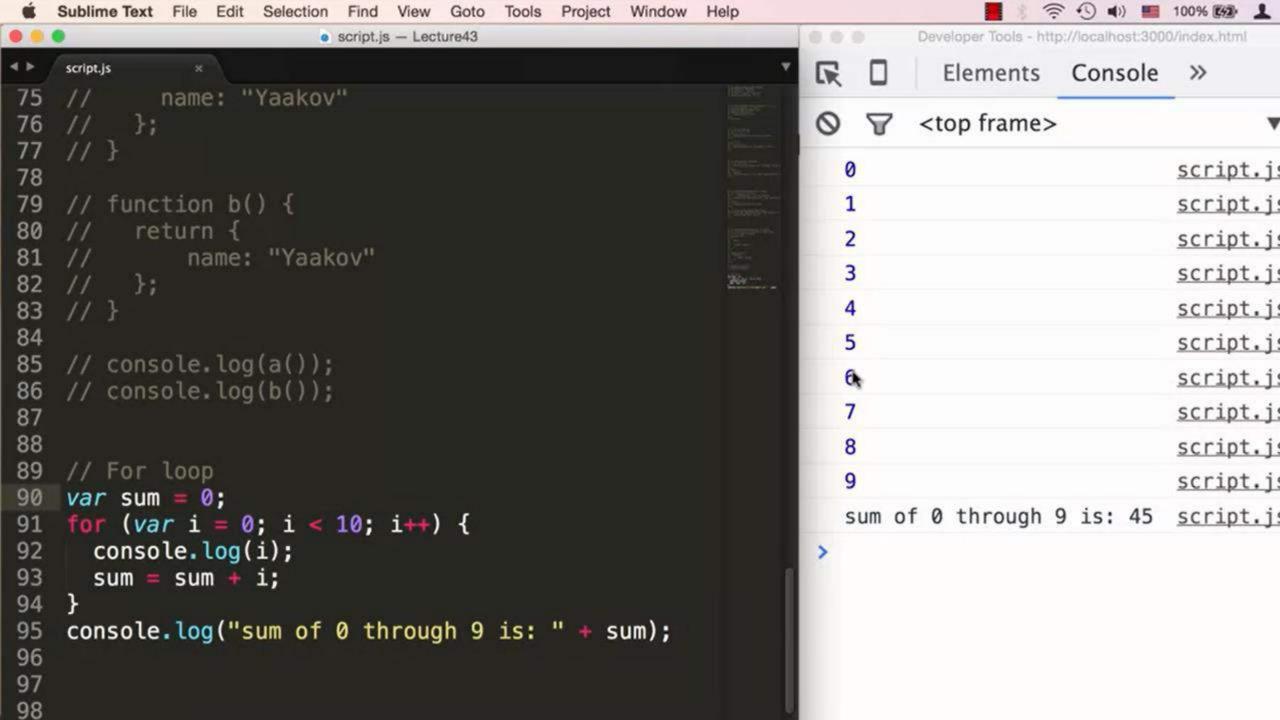
Console





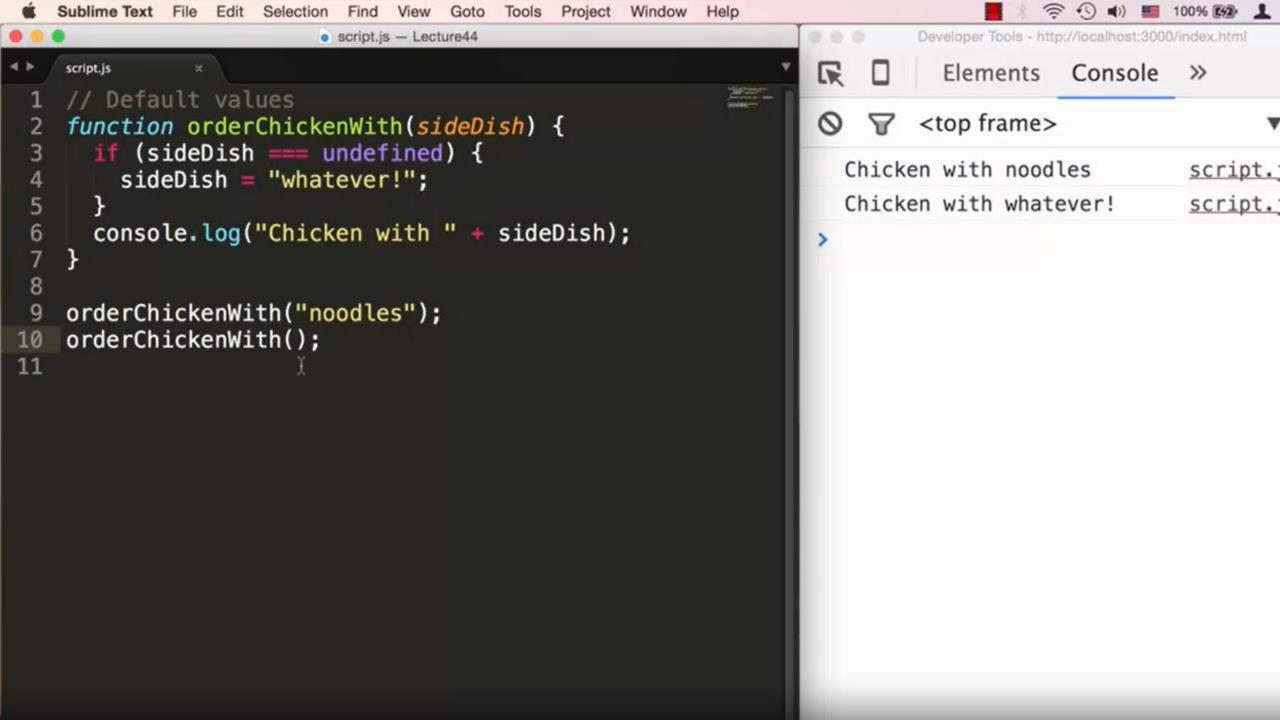


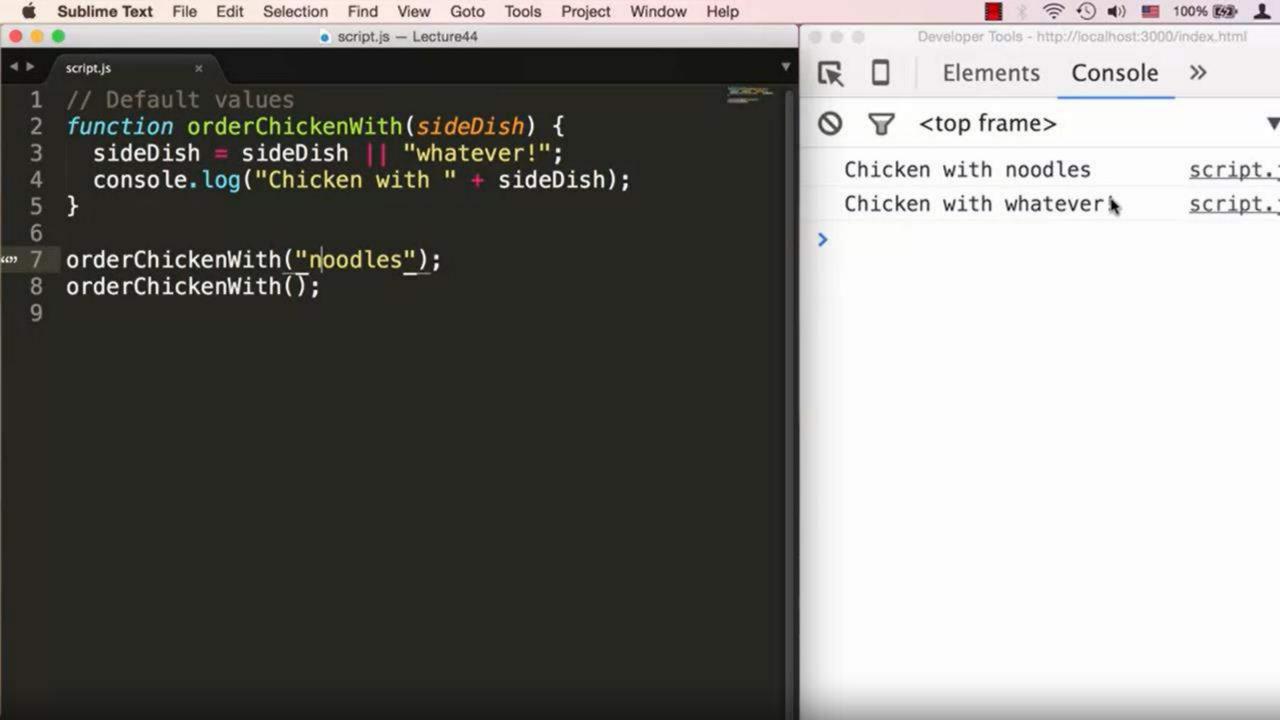


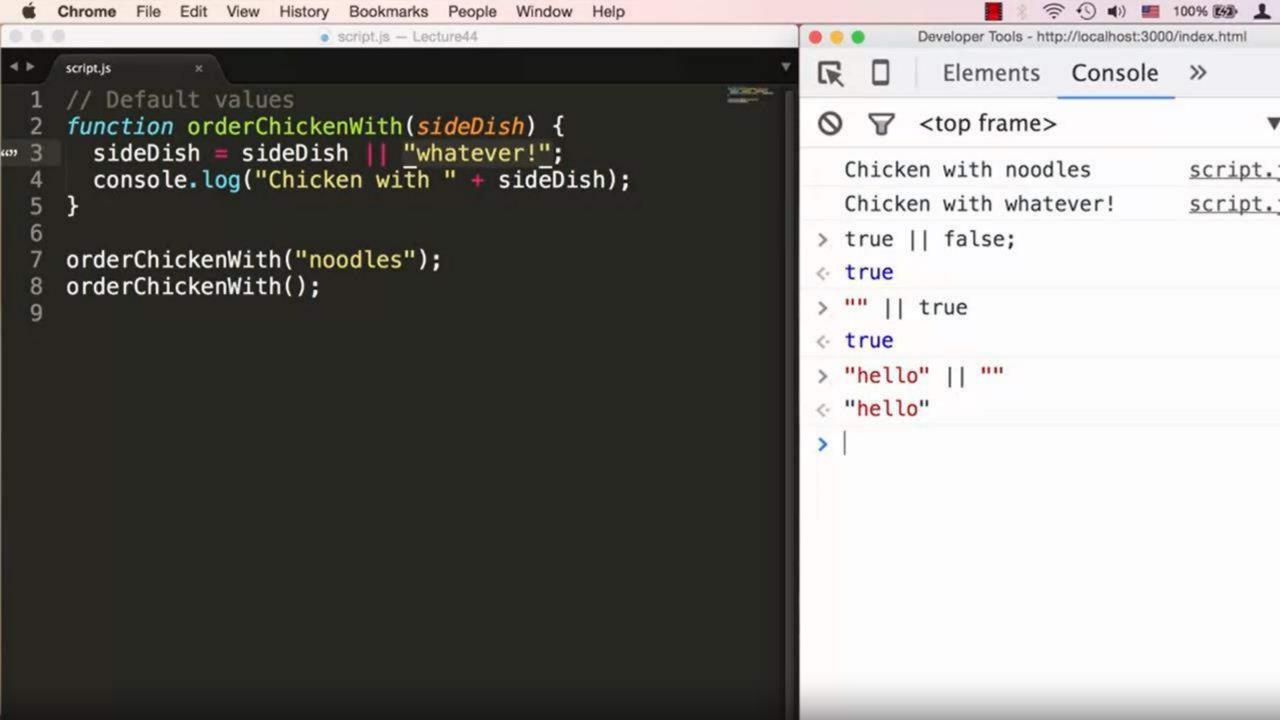


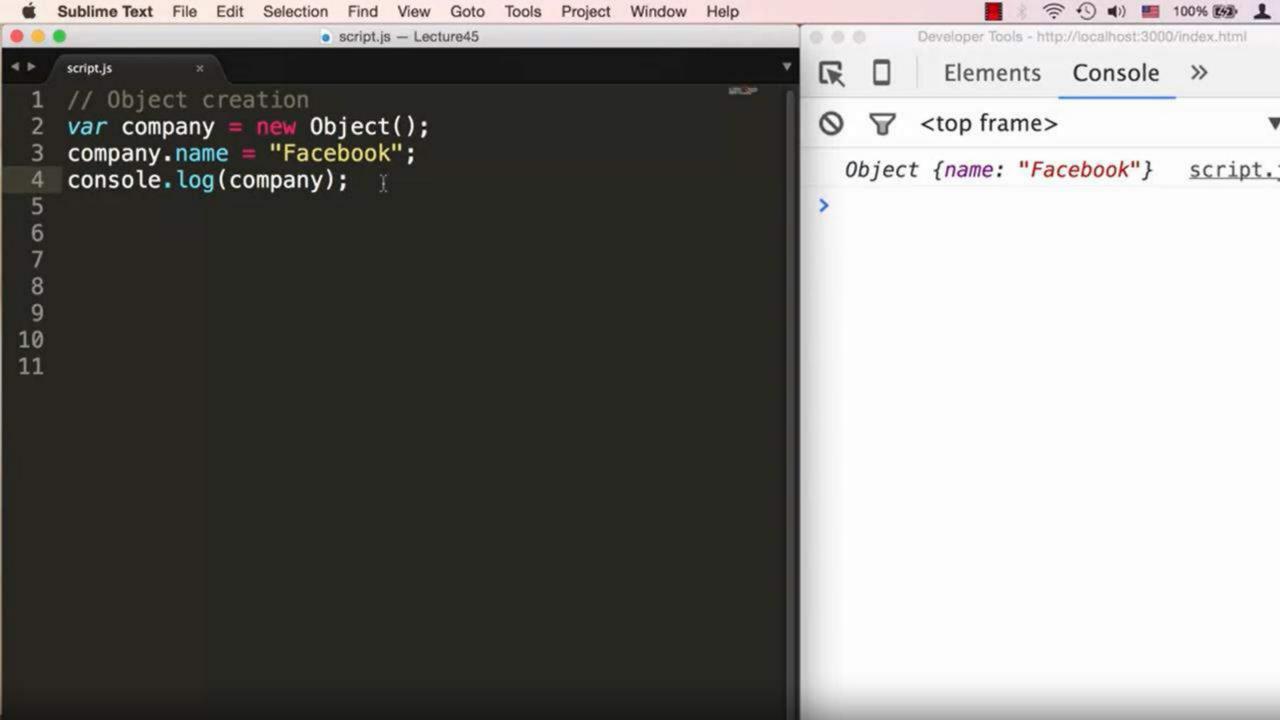
Summary

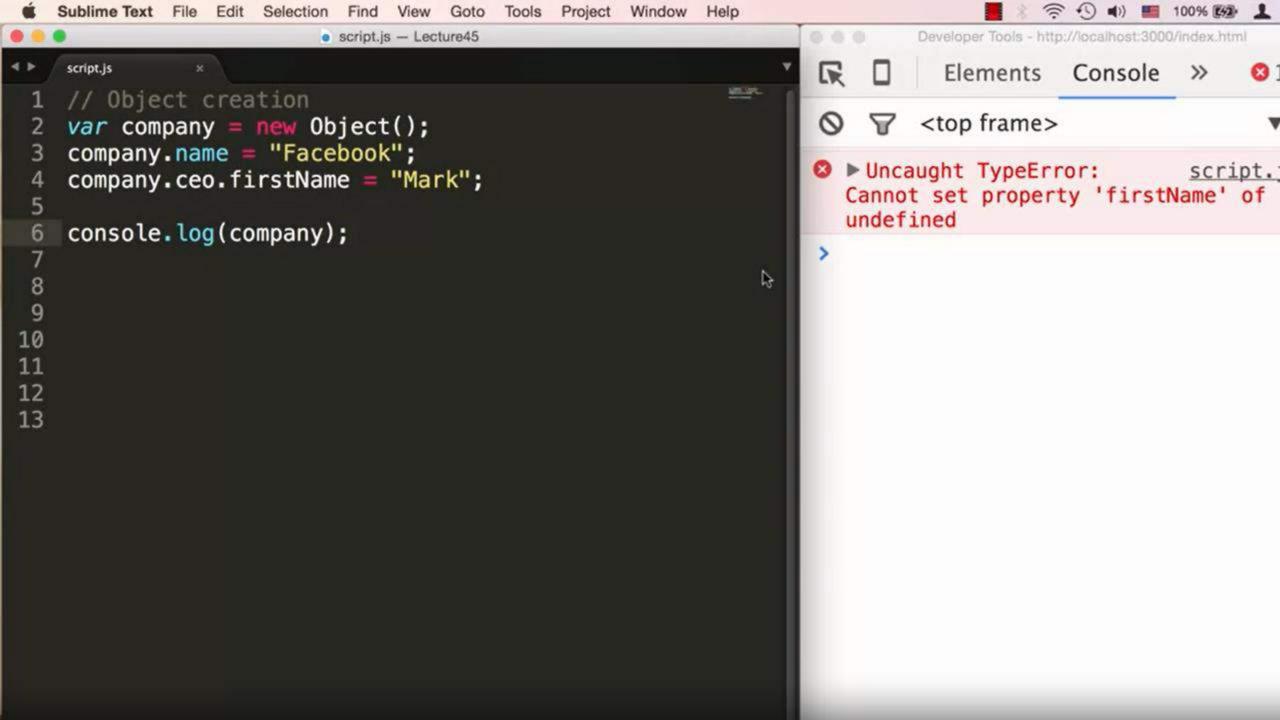
- String concatenation
- Math operations
- → Type coercion
- ♦ Regular (==) and Strict (===) equality
- What is true and what is false in Javascript
- ♦ Opening curly brace placement (NOT just style)
- Always place semicolons at the end of statements
 - Some disagree: http://mislav.net/2010/05/semicolons/
- ♦ Basic for loop syntax

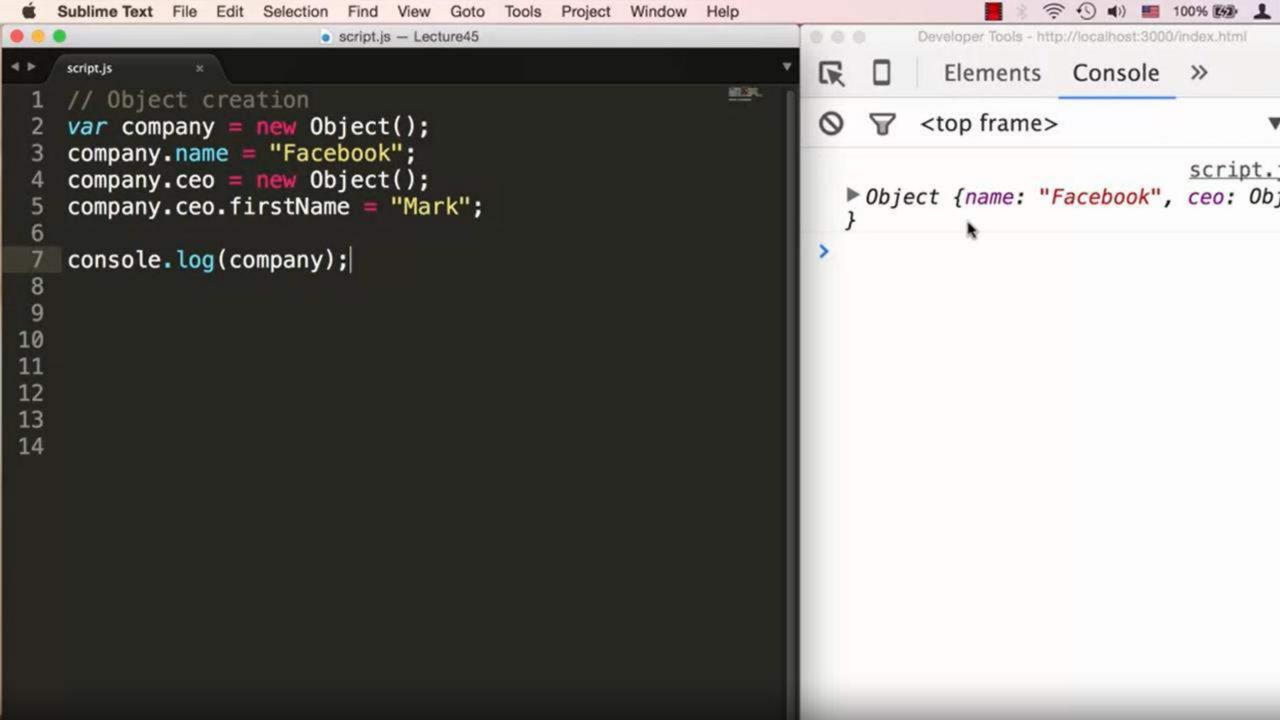


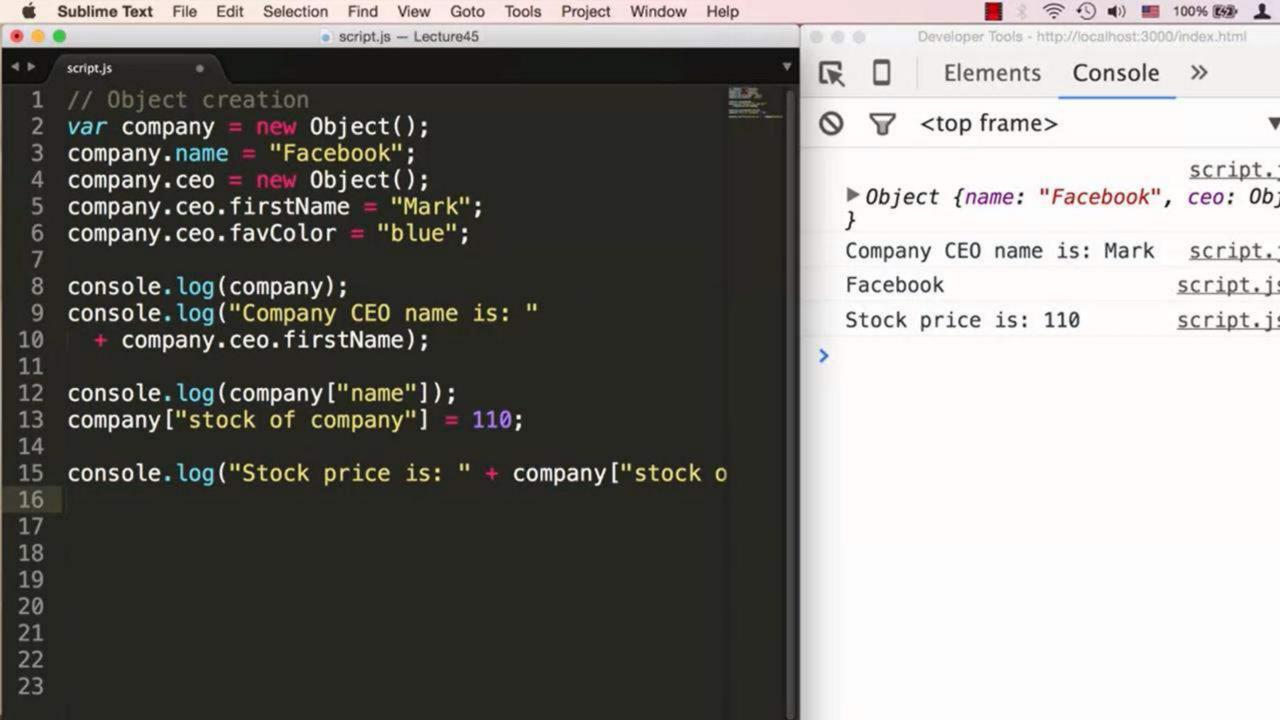


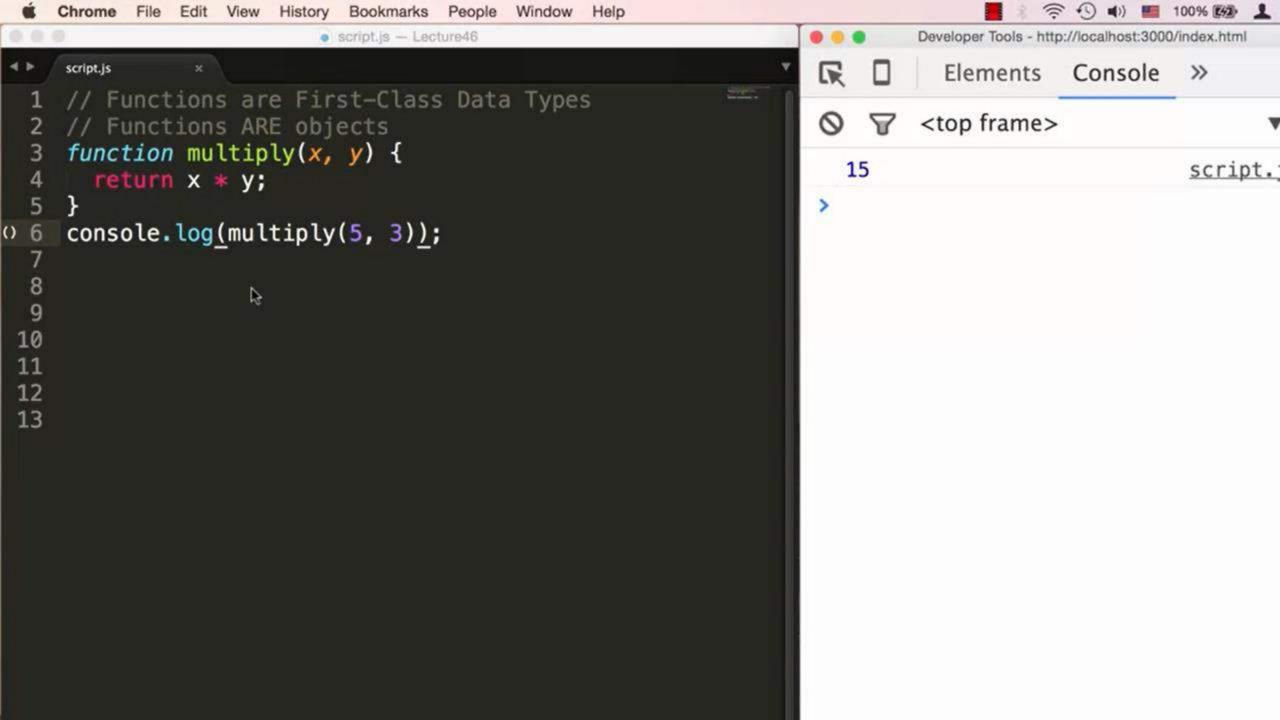


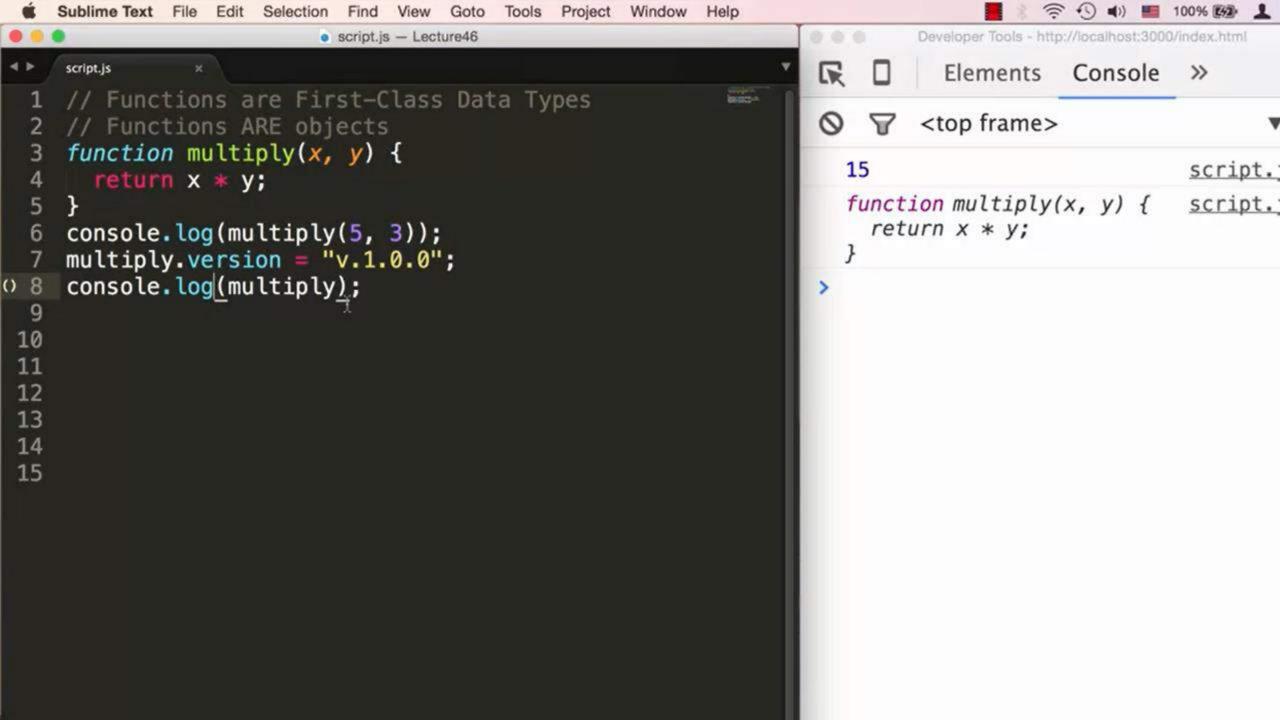


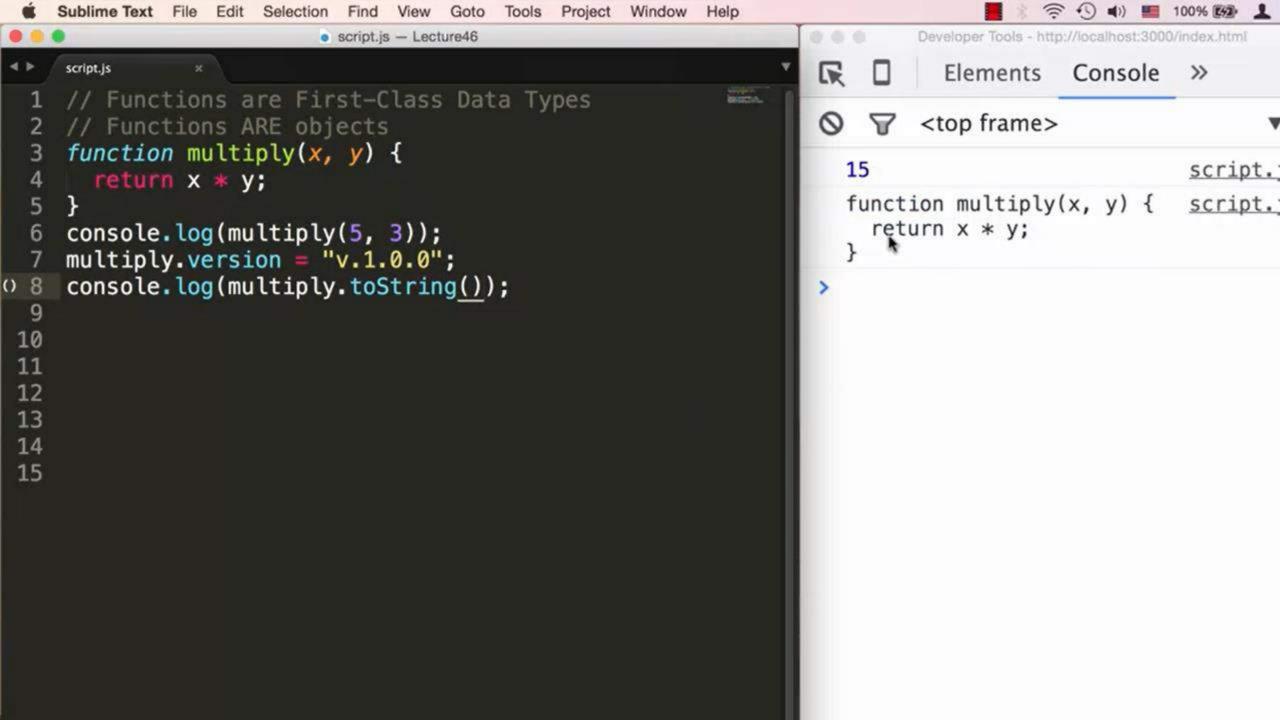


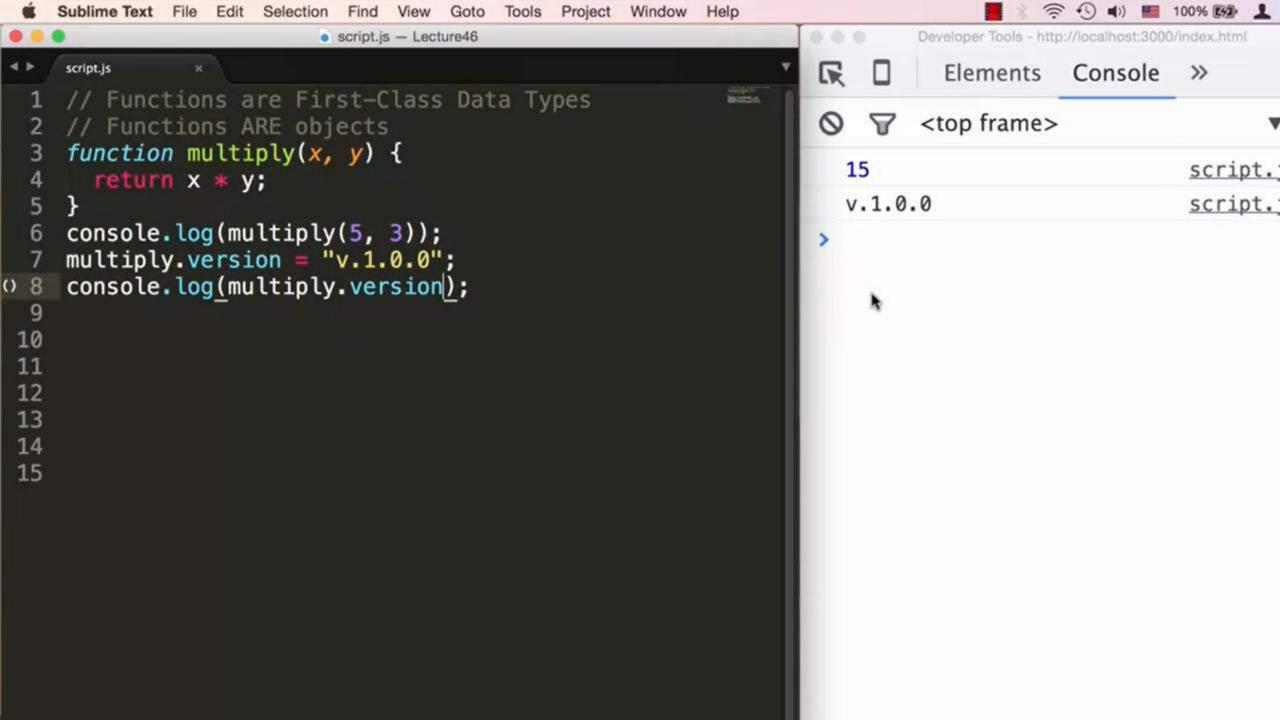












In this lecture, we will discuss...

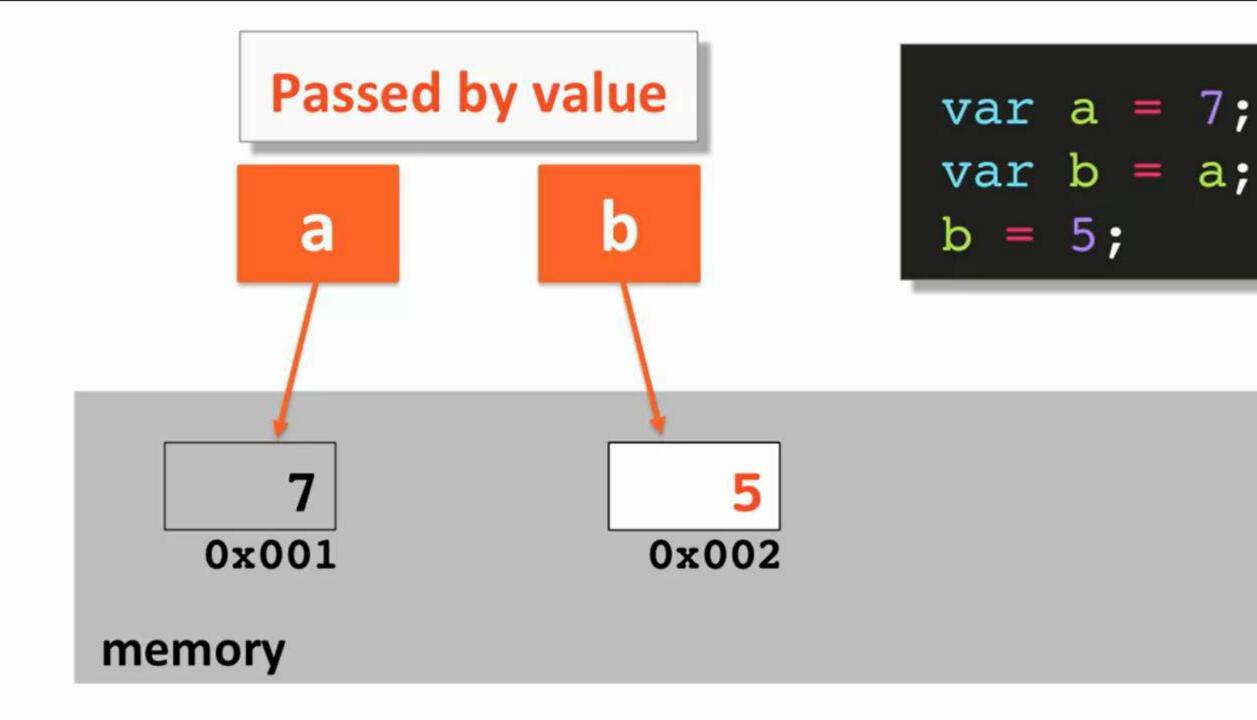
Passing Variables by Value vs. by Reference

Passing (or Copying) By Value

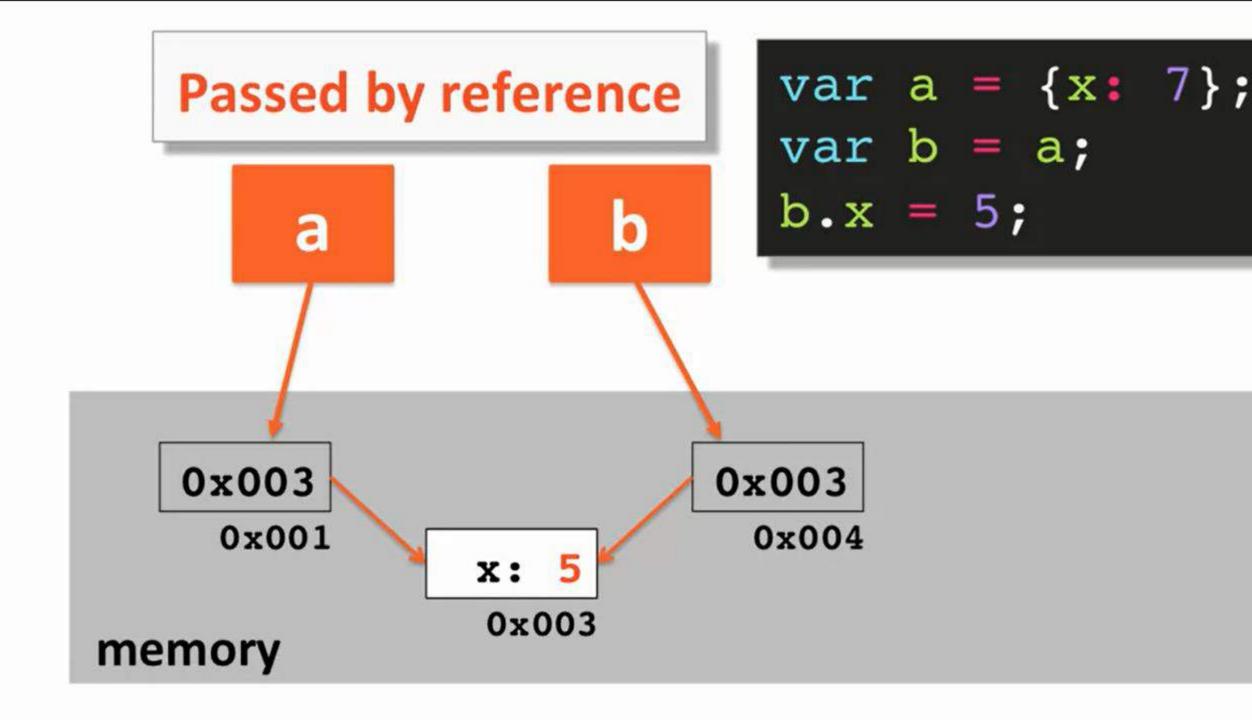
Given b=a, passing/copying by value means changing copied value in b does not affect the value stored in a and visa versa

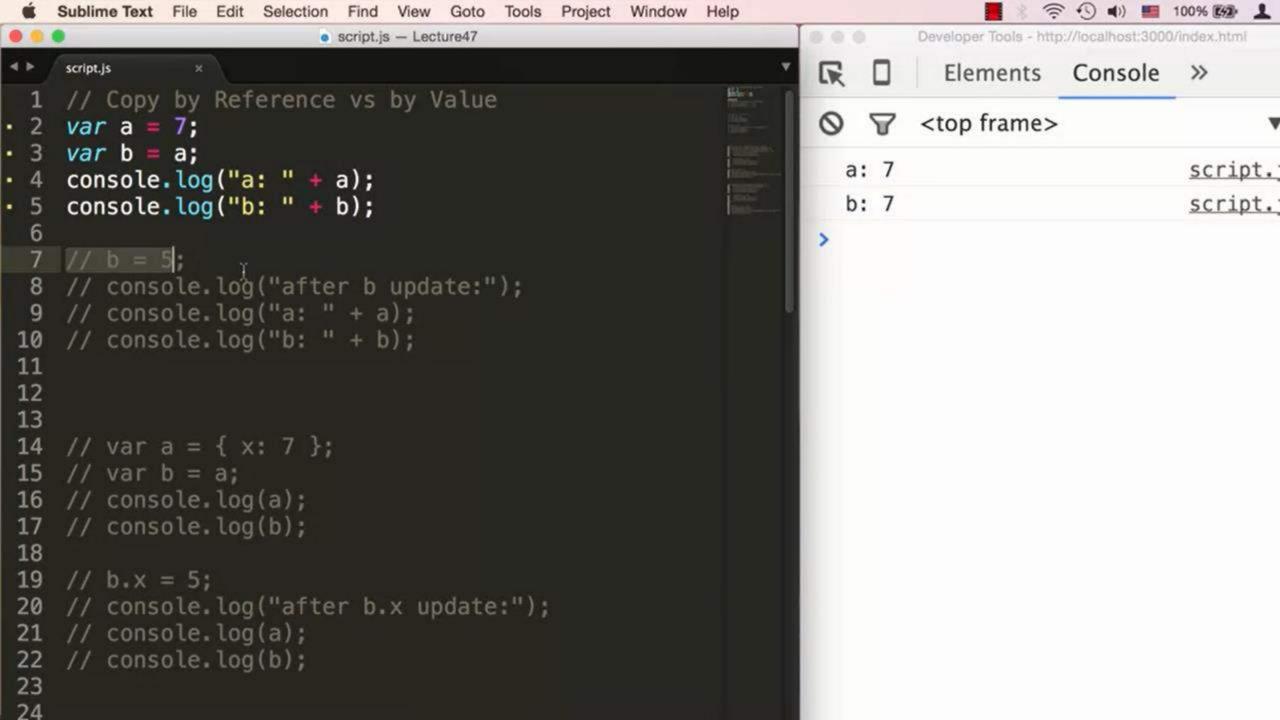
In Javascript, primitives are passed by value, objects are passed by reference

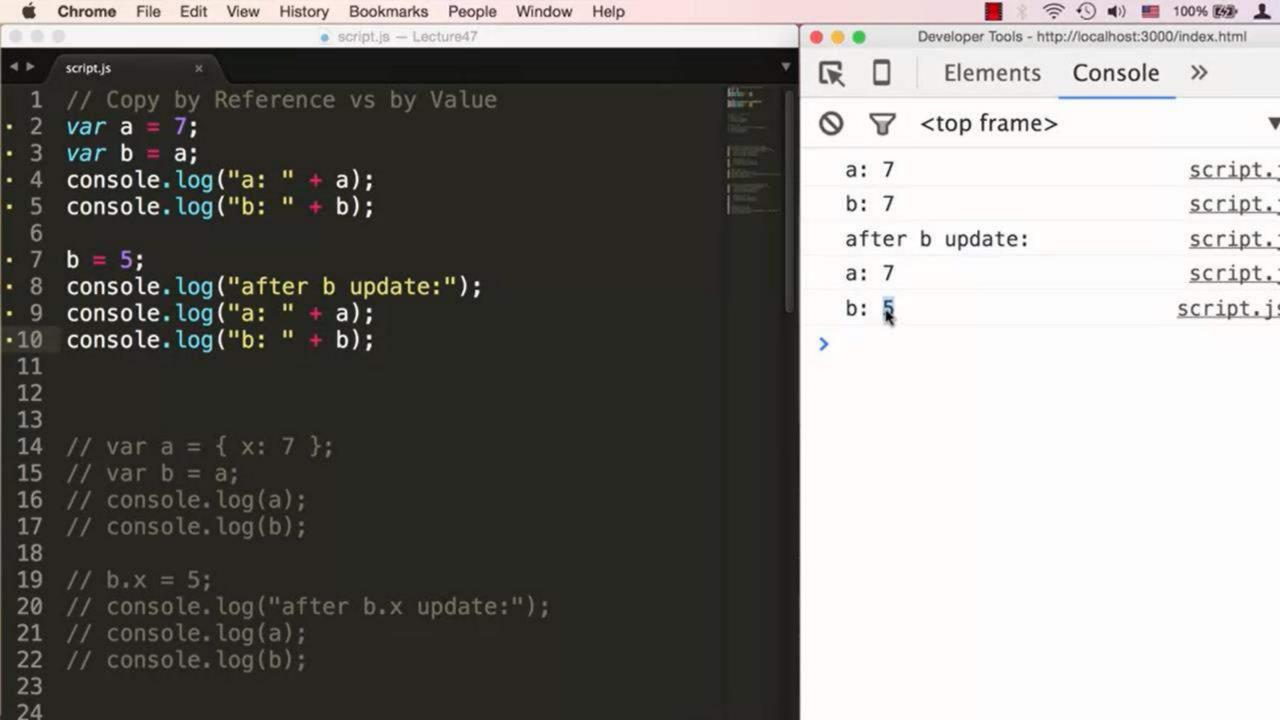
"Under the hood", everything is actually passed by value

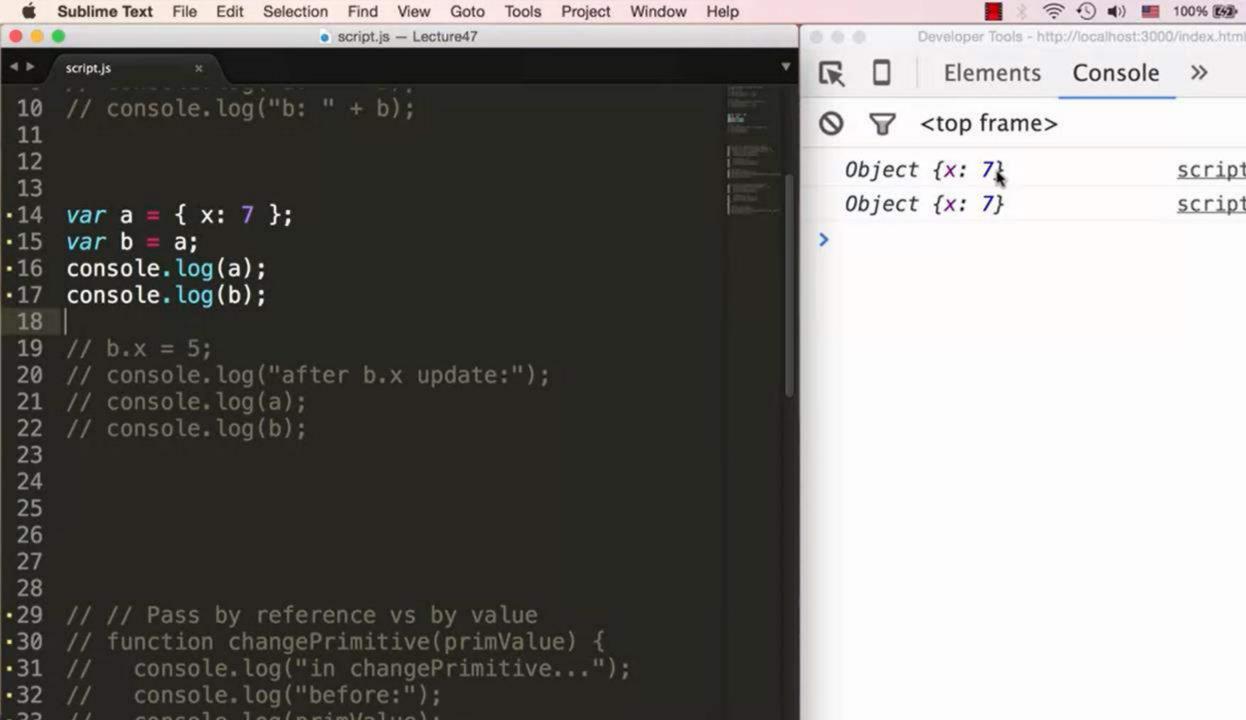


```
var a = {x: 7};
   0x003
    0x001
              x: 7
               0x003
memory
```





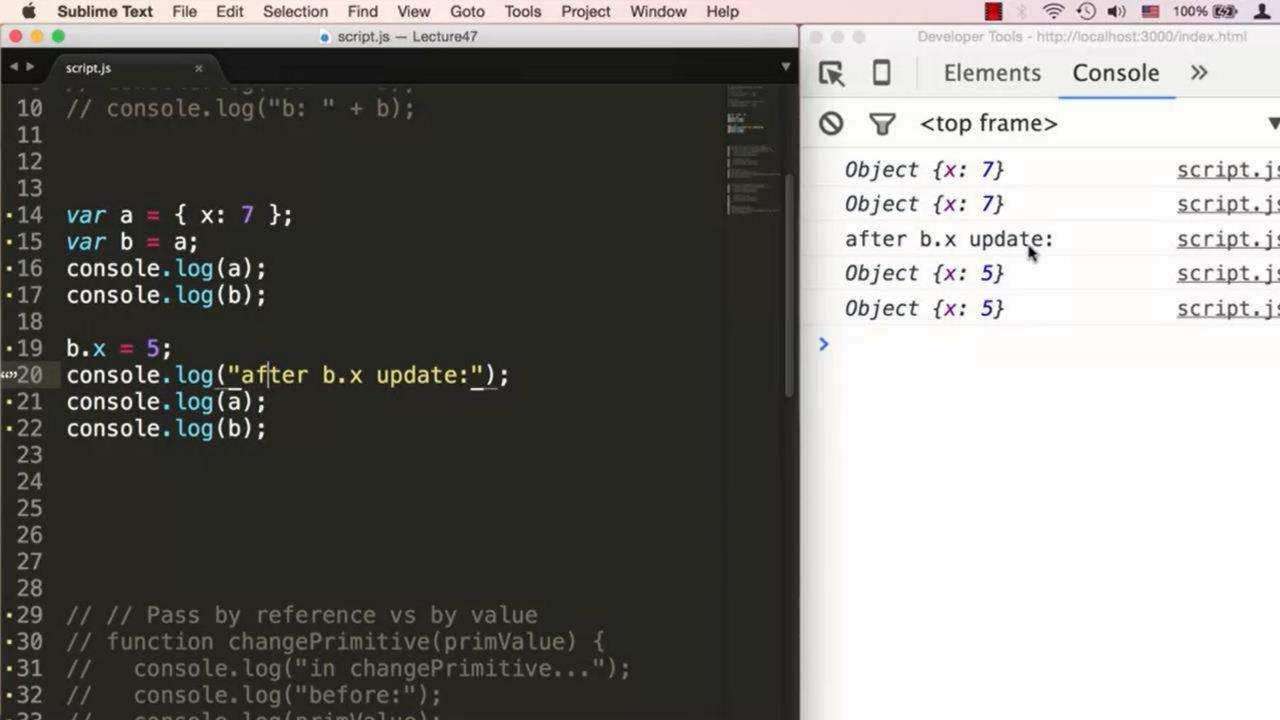


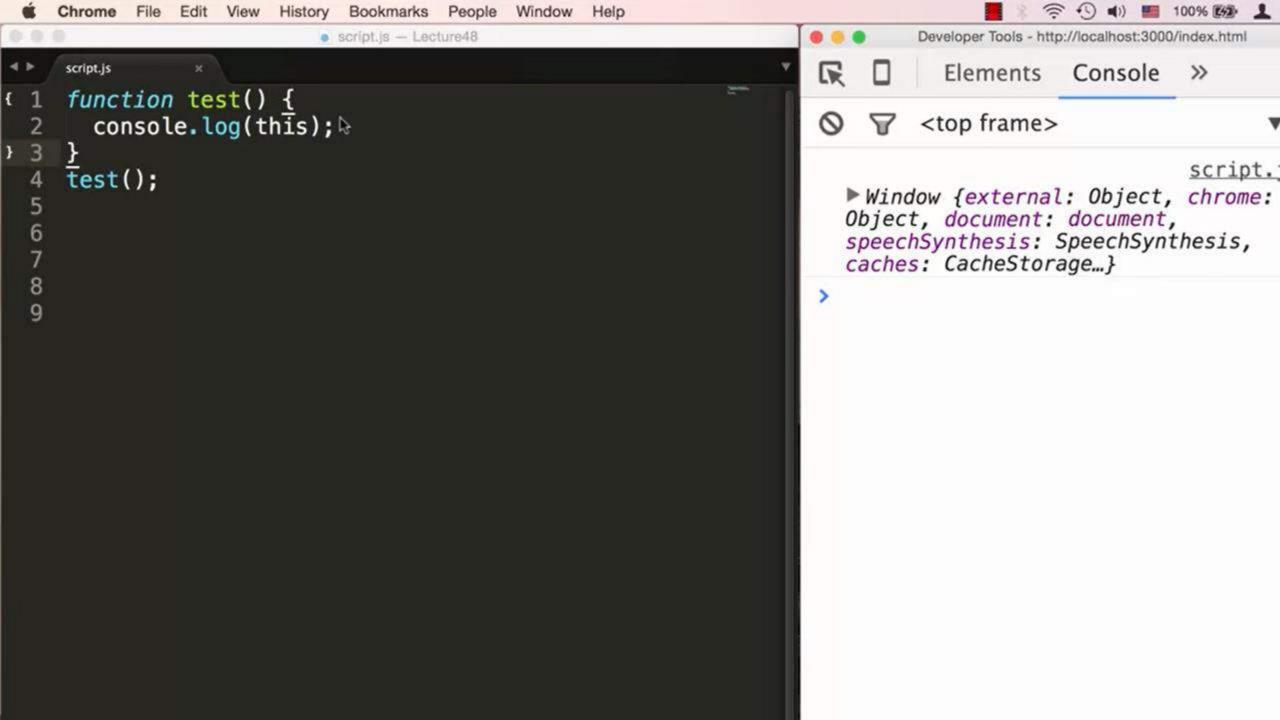


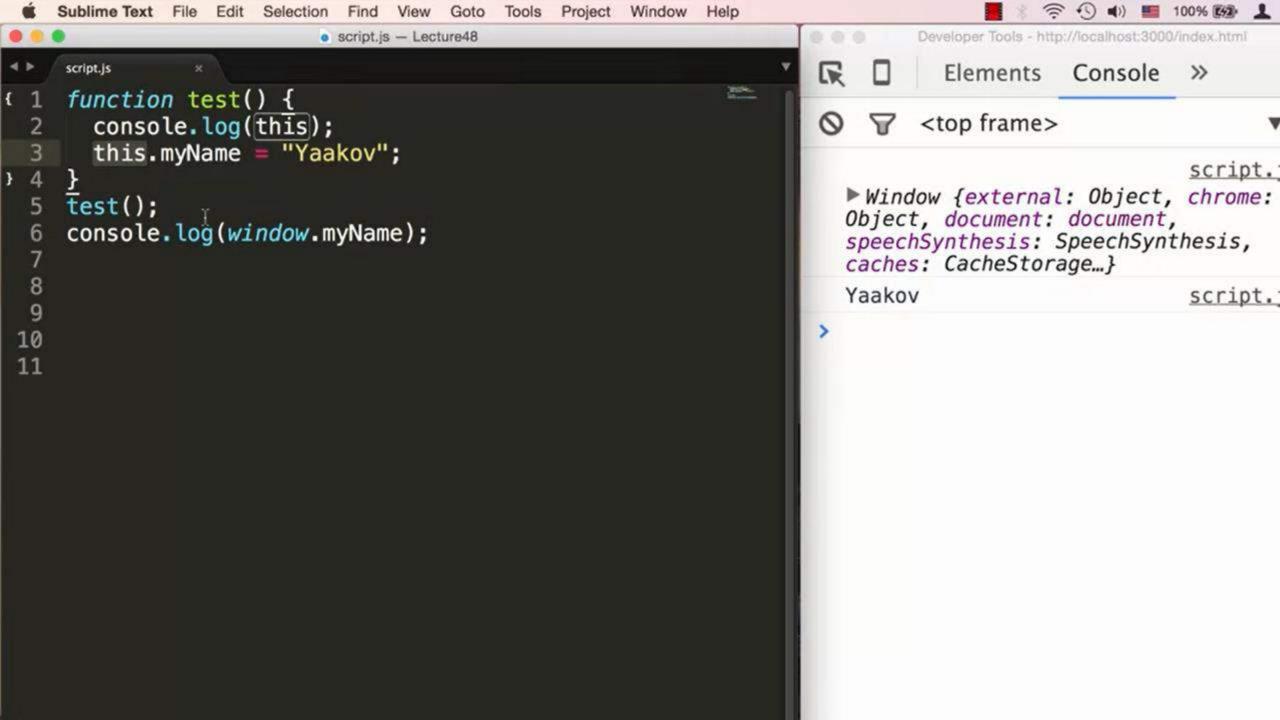
100% (242)

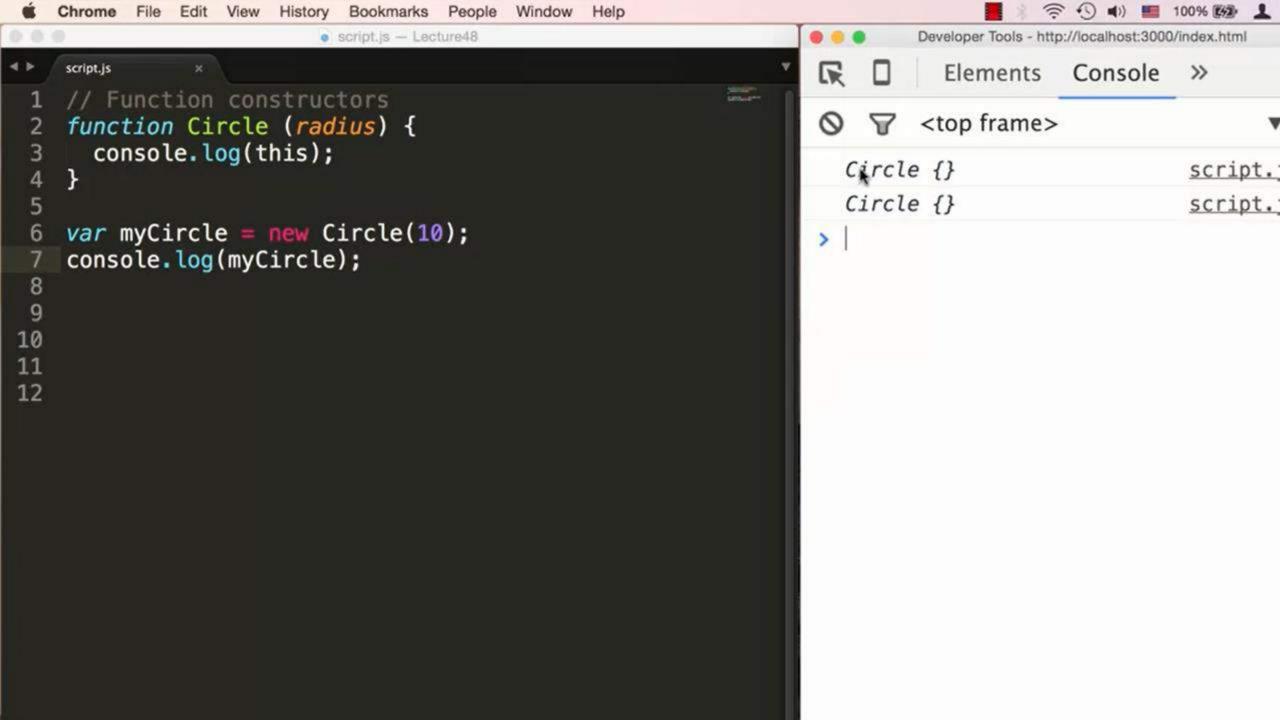
script.j

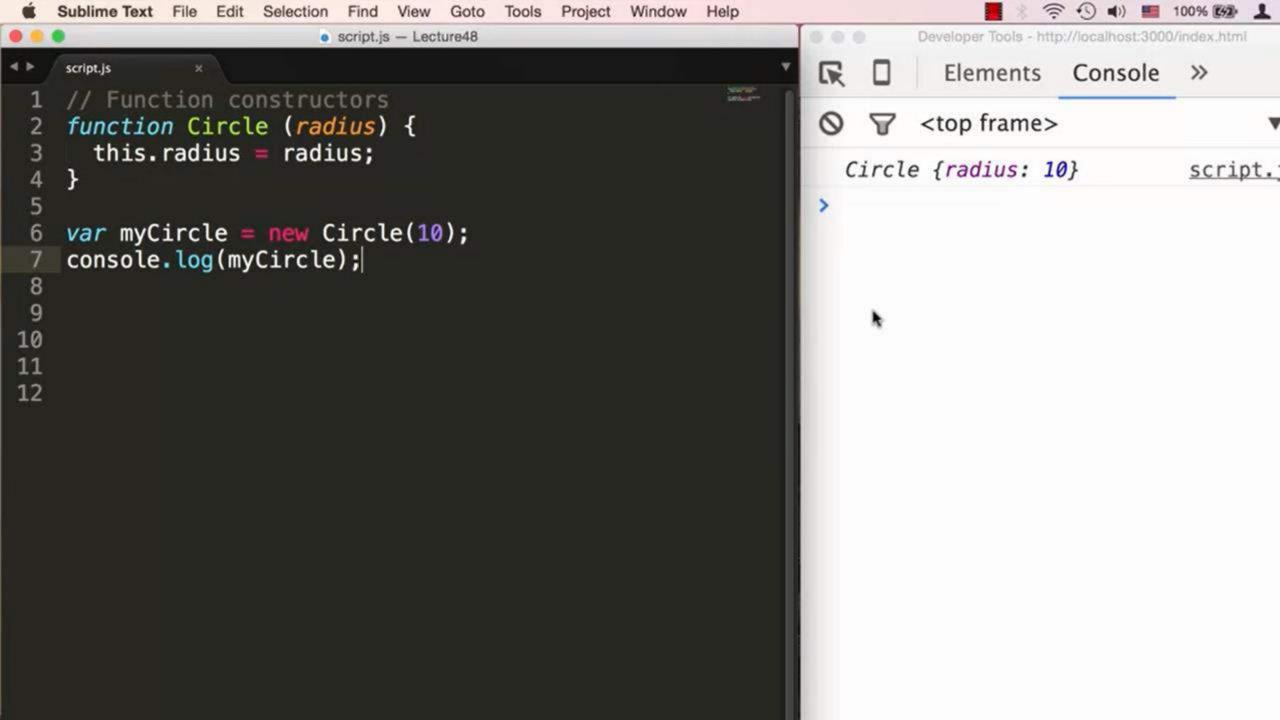
script.j

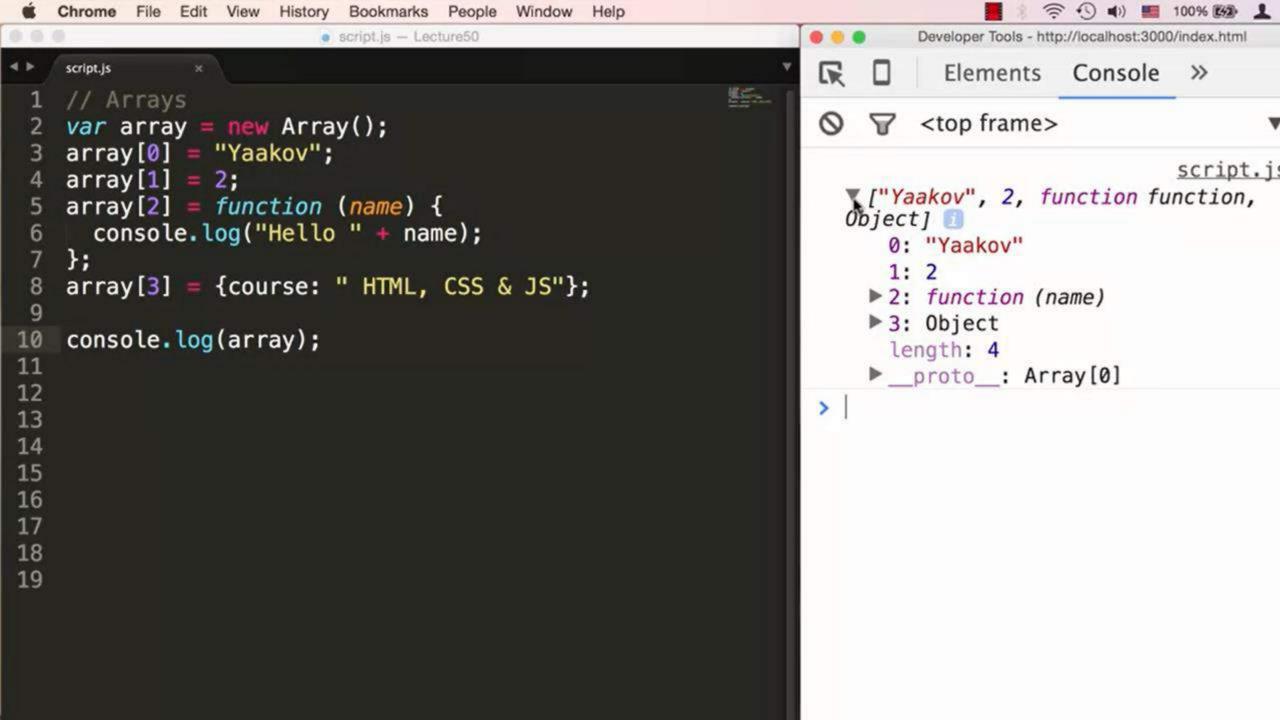


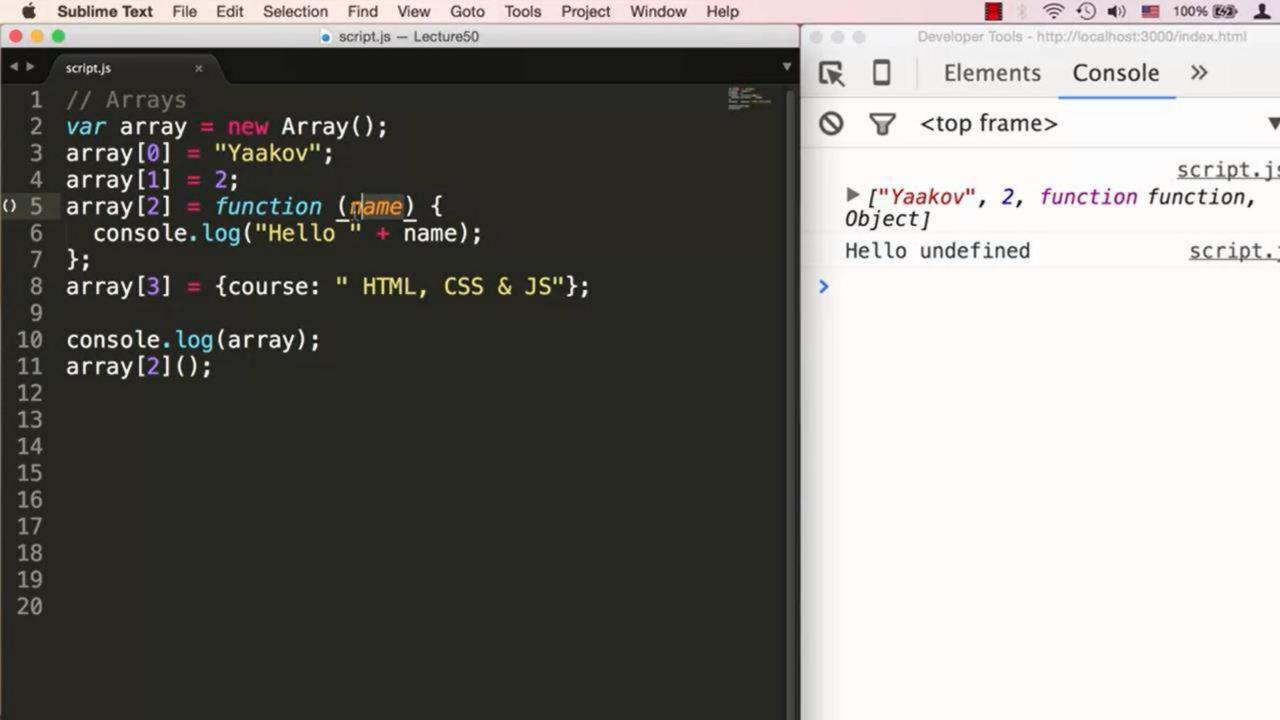


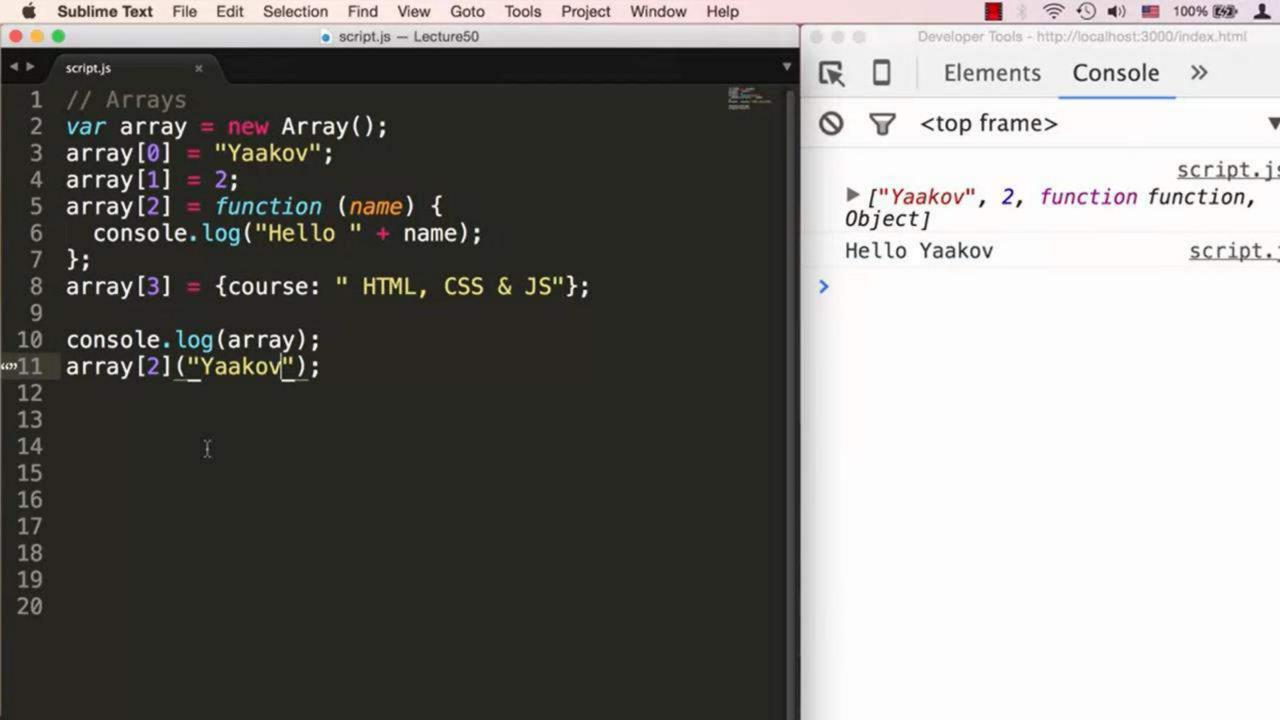


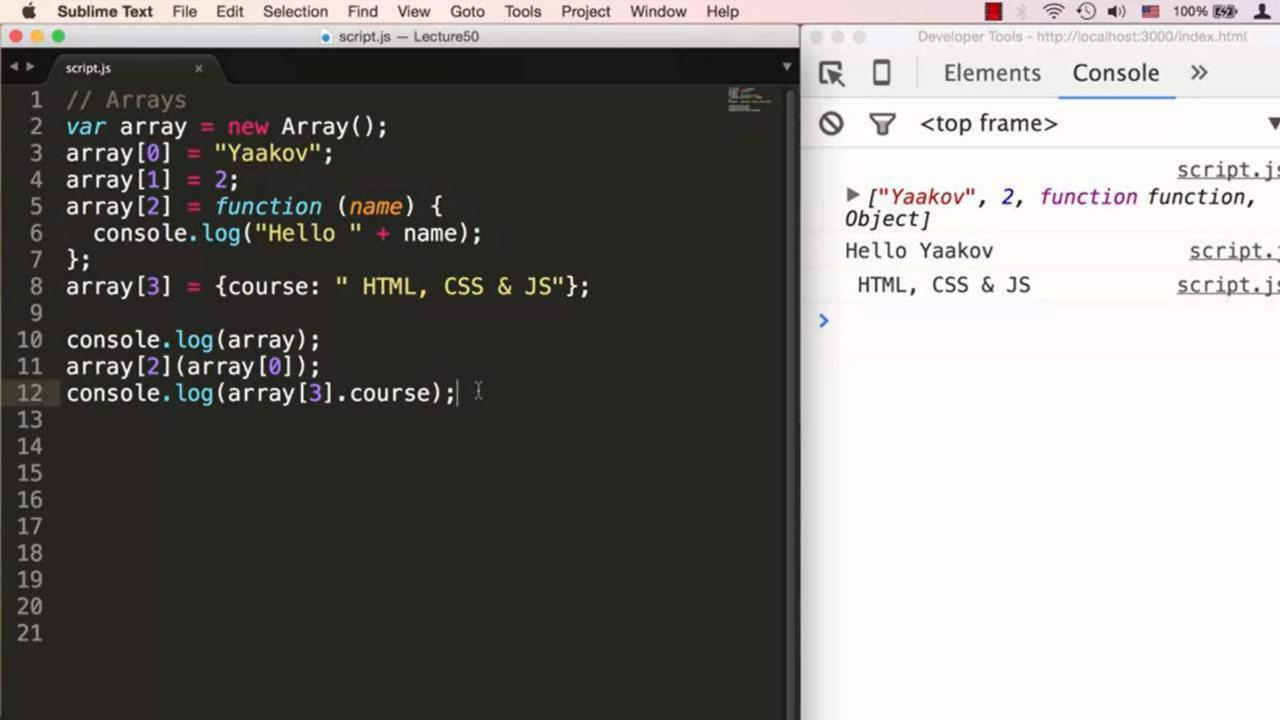


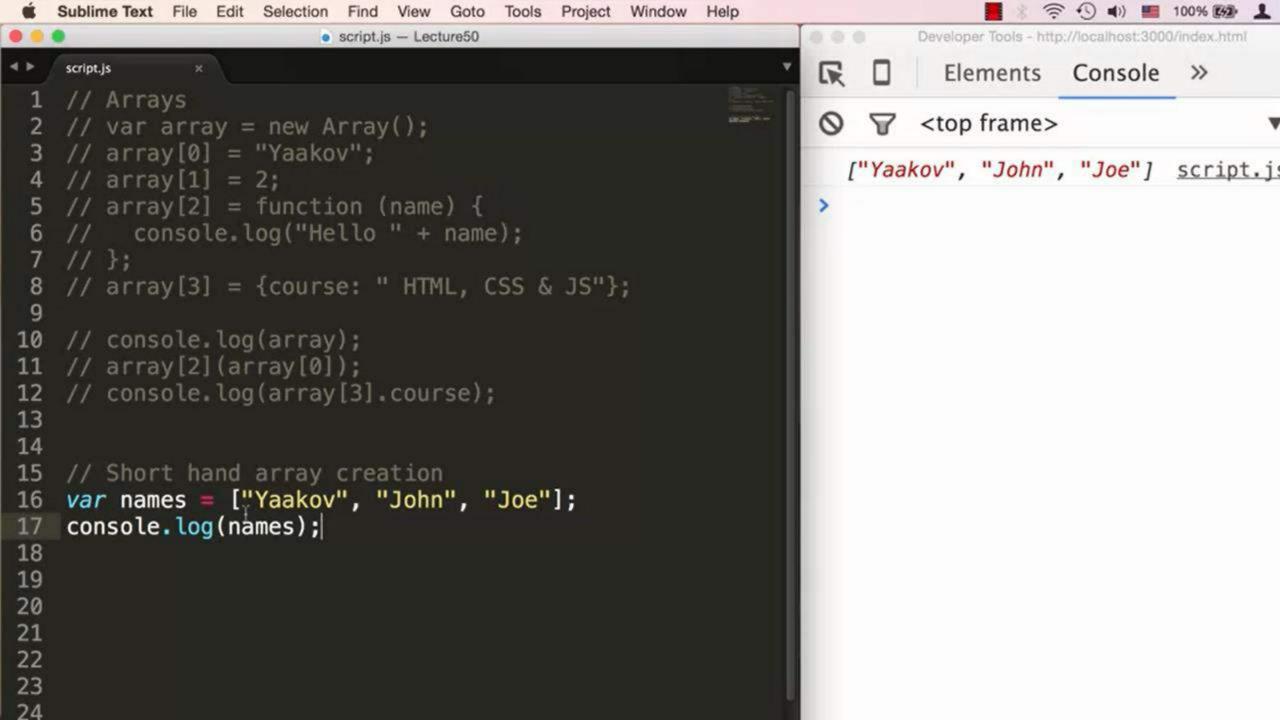


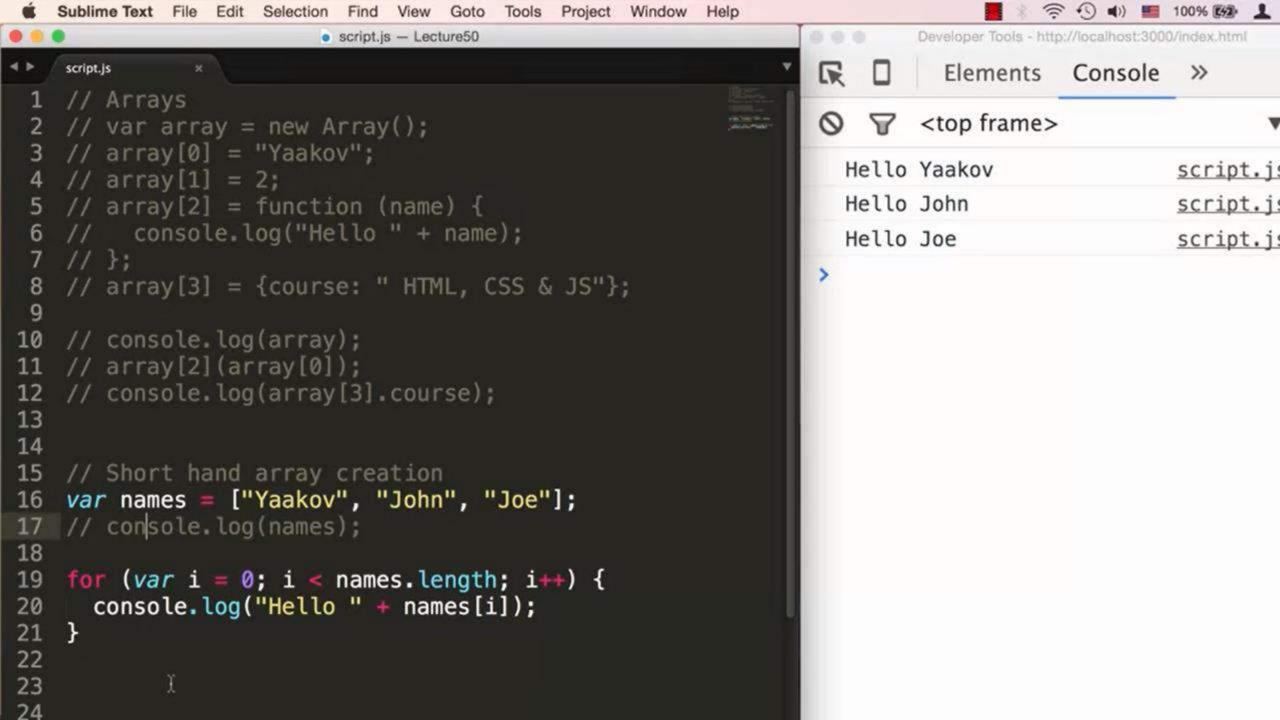


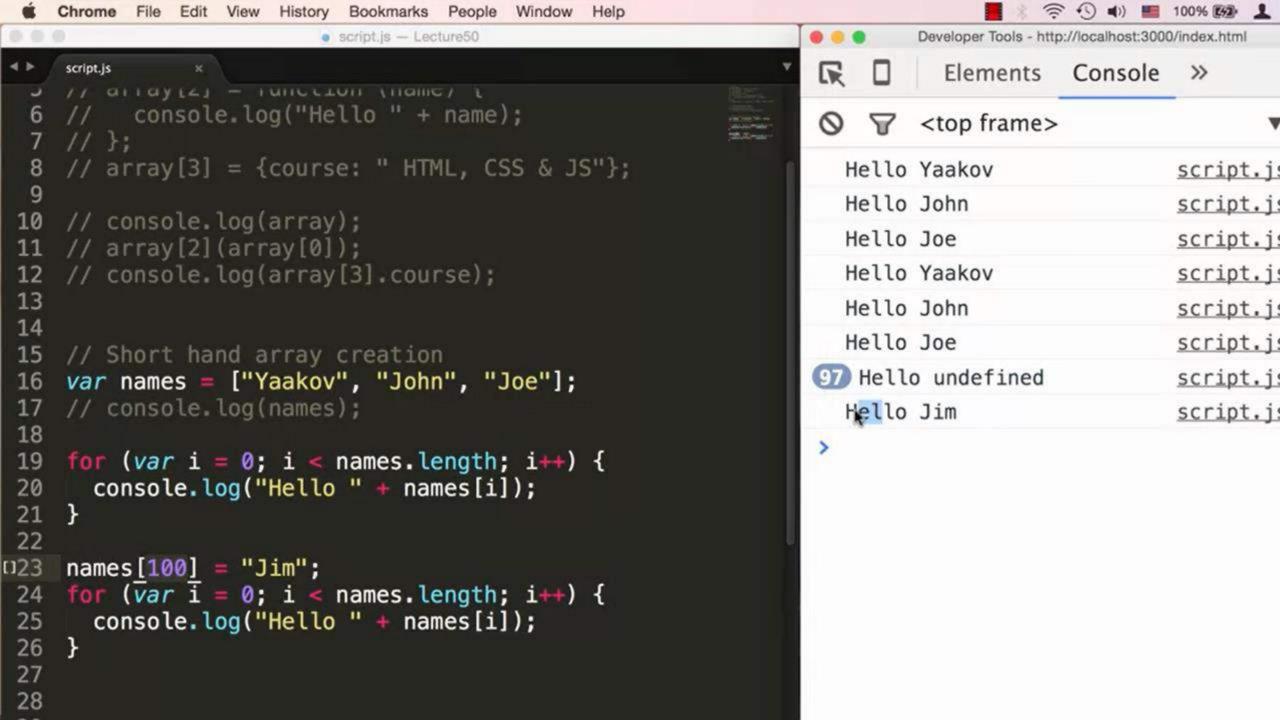


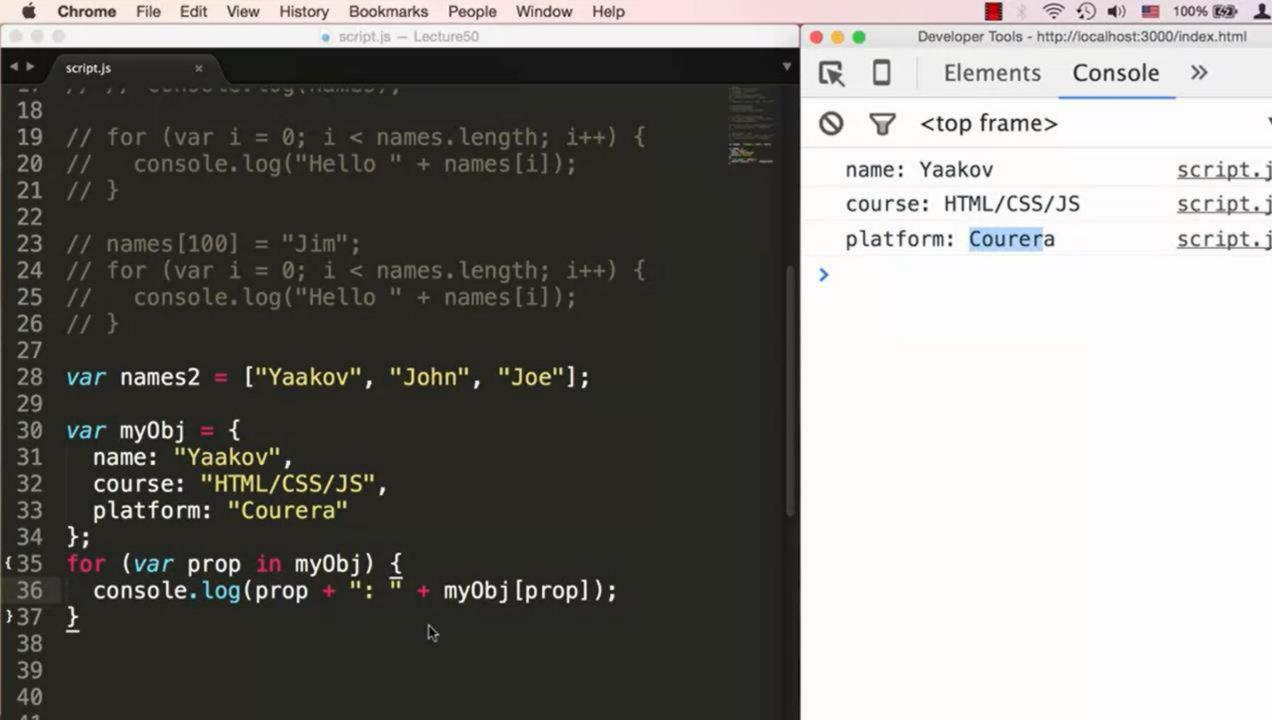












script.j

script.j

script.j

