

# Exercise 28

## GETTING THE VALUE OF A SELECTED OPTION

□ Here's what you'll create in `index.html`:

Pick your favorite flower:

You've already worked with `<select>` elements, but to refresh your memory, here's the pattern:

```
<select id='favorite-color'>
  <option value="">--Make a selection--</option>
  <option value="red">Red</option>
  <option value="blue">Blue</option>
</select>
```

The default selected option is the first one — the "`--Make a selection--`" option. When the user *changes* the selection to an actual color, I want to call a function.

This sounds like a good case for which one?

1. checkbox
2. JavaScript object
3. event handler
4. CSS rule

I hope you went with event handler. We should be getting used to working with form elements (and `<select>` is a form element) having an event handler when we want to react to a user action.

Previously, we've use an `onclick` event handler. This time, we'll use an `onchange` event handler — and we'll point that to a function you're about to write: `favoriteFlower`.

That function won't take any arguments. Instead, we'll do the following:

These are the steps to  
code for the  
"favoriteFlower" function

1. Get the value of the selected option.
2. Place that in a `<span id="favorite-flower"></span>` element that I placed in `index.html`.

How do you get the value of the selected option? That's pretty easy. If you remember, when we were getting the value of the text input boxes and then populating a JavaScript object, we used this snippet:

```
document.querySelector('#first-name').value
```

That got us the value of whatever the user typed in. Here, though, the user isn't typing anything in — they're just making a selection. Happily, that same snippet of code will return the value of the option the user selected.

As for placing the value of the user's selection into an HTML element, you've done that several times.

Your tasks:

- ❑ 1. Create the select box with an id of `flowers` with an event handler of `onchange` set to `"favoriteFlower()"`.
- ❑ 2. Create `<option>`s for several kinds of flowers, each with their own unique `value`.
- ❑ 3. Write the `favoriteFlower` function (refer to the steps to code above)
- ❑ 4. Run the repl and rejoice!

You might think you don't know how to do this, but you probably do. If you get stuck, look at the two files: `answer.html` and `answer.js`. Don't copy/paste them or you won't learn much!