Exercise 2

USING JAVASCRIPT TO MANIPULATE HTML

In the last assignment, you learned how to create a variable using something called a *variable assignment*. But we don't create variables only to do nothing with them; let's put them on the web page!

Back to your repl, select **Exercise 2**. Click the tab for `index.html` and find this snippet:

```
<div id="first"></div>
```

In a previous assignment, we used `<div>`s with an attribute of `class`. This time, we have a `<div>` with an attribute of `id`. Both `id` and `class` are used so that we can identify an HTML element from JavaScript.

The difference between id and class is that the same class name can be used with multiple HMTL elements on the same page. An id can be assigned to only one HTML element on the page.

☐ OK, now that you've identified that code snippet, let's go back to `index.js`. It's blank now. Create a variable called `firstName`, using the `prompt` function (the same code you used in the last assignment).

Now for the fun! This next snippet of code is going to:

a. identify the `<div>` with an `id` of `first`

b. put the value associated with `firstName` (the name the user enters) into that `<div>`.

☐ Start by placing this snippet right *after* the variable assignment for `firstName`:

```
document.getElementById("first").innerHTML = firstName
```

Now run the repl again. You should see a pop-up asking for your first name. This time, when you type in your first name and click **Enter**, your name will appear on the web page itself. We're making progress!

☐ Now, let's have you do the same thing for a last name. You'll need to do the following:

☐ Create a new `<div>` with an `id` of `last` on the `index.html` page.

☐ In `index.js`, after the initial `firstName` variable assignment, write another variable assignment for `lastName`. This will be almost identical to the one you did for `firstName`.

☐ After the variable assignment for `lastName`, use the `document.getElementById` snippet. This time use `lastName` instead of `firstName` and use `last` instead of `first` as the *argument* passed into the function `getElementById`.

I've slipped two terms into this exercise: function and argument. We'll get into what those mean later, but for now just understand functions (with or without arguments) are something you'll be writing lots of.

Run it — you should get *two* pop-up windows, one asking for the first name, the other for the last name. When that information is entered, you should now see the first name and last name displayed on the web page.

Did it work? If not, don't be discouraged: you're just starting off and, like a child learning a new language, you'll make lots of mistakes. That's OK. The same brain that somehow got you to speak your native language is hard at work putting patterns together to help you learn a programming language. Try it again. If you get really stuck, you can look at `answer.html` and `answer.js` for my solution.

I say "my solution" because, as we go forward, there may be multiple ways to successfully complete an exercise.