JavaScript Class 2: jQuery

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Goals for Today

We hope that by the end of class today:

- You will be able to explain what jQuery is to a friend.
- You will have practice using jQuery, and understand first-hand how it makes JavaScript programming easier.

What is jQuery?

- jQuery is a library of JavaScript functions.

- It contains many functions to help simplify your programming, including:

  - HTML element selection & manipulation
  - CSS manipulation
  - HTML events
  - JavaScript effects and animations

What is a library?

- Software libraries hold functions, rather than books.

  - When you include a library in your code, you can leverage all the functions available in the library in your code.

  - This lets you leverage the work of others to do common tasks.

Why use jQuery?

- jQuery empowers you to "write less, do more."
  - Great <u>documentation</u> and tutorials.
  - It's a tiny library! Only 20KB.
  - Google, amazon, microsoft and IBM all use jQuery in their sites.
  - To learn more: <u>http://jquery.com/</u>

jQuery: A Brief History

- jQuery was created by John Resig, a JavaScript tool developer at Mozilla.

- **January 2006**: John announced jQuery at BarCampNYC: BarCampNYC Wrap-up

- **September 2007:** A new user interface library is added to jQuery: jQuery UI: Interactions and Widgets

- **September 2008**: Microsoft and Nokia announce their support for jQuery

- **December 2009:** jQuery wins .Net Magazine's Award for Best Open Source Application

Adding jQuery to your HTML page

There are two ways to include jQuery on your page:

1. Download the library and and include it in the head element:

```
<head>

        <script type="text/javascript" src="jquery.js"></script>

</head>
```

2. Use the hosted jQuery library from Microsoft or Google:
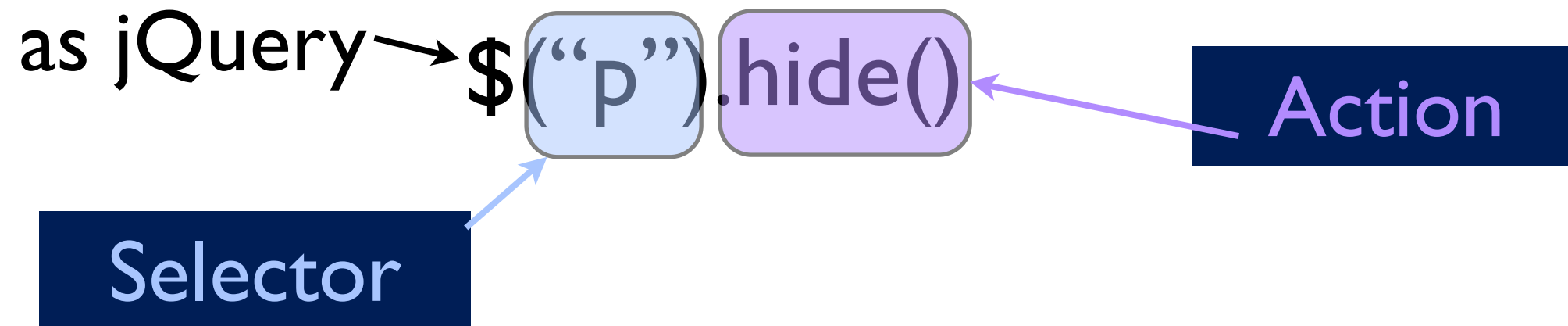
```
<head>
     <script type="text/javascript" src="http://
ajax.googleapis.com/ajax/libs/jquery/1.4.2/jquery.min.js">
     </script>
 </head>
```

jQuery Syntax

- jQuery allows you to **select** elements and then perform **actions** on them. Its syntax reflects this:

  - **$(selector).action()**

Defines this as jQuery → $("p").hide()

Selector

Action

jQuery Selectors

$(selector).action()

- jQuery selectors allow us to find html elements.
- jQuery selectors are much like CSS selectors. Instead of finding to an html element to apply styles, you can find an html element to modify, remove or replace.
- jQuery selectors allow you to select HTML elements (or groups of elements) by:
  - element name
  - attribute name

What jQuery looks like

- Here are a few examples of jQuery, using the action **hide**:

$(this).hide() - hides current element

$("p").hide() - hides all paragraphs

$(".test").hide() - hides all html elements with class="test"

$("#test").hide() - hides the html element with id="test"