The Expression language (EL) has been introduced in JSP 2.0. The main purpose of this EL is to simplify the process of accessing the data from the bean properties and from the implicit objects

. By using JSP Expression Language developers can get the data from JavaBeans, Maps, Arrays, and Lists that have been stored as attributes of a web application.

Syntax of Expression Language (EL)

In a JSP, by default, the scripting elements are enabled and EL statement/expressions are disabled. To enable the EL expression in a JSP, developers need to use following page directive.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | <%@ page isELIgnored="false"%> |

*EL Syntax*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | ${expression} |

* In JSP, whatever is present in the braces gets evaluated at runtime and sent to the output stream
* The expression is a valid EL expression and can be mixed with a static text and can be combined with other expressions to form a larger expression

### Implicit Objects in Expression Language (EL)

JSP Expression Language (EL) provides many implicit objects that developers can use to get the attributes from different scopes and parameter values.  
**Note:** Do note, these Implicit Objects are different from [JSP Implicit Objects](https://www.guru99.com/jsp-implicit-objects.html) and can be used only with JSP EL.  
The list is given below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Implicit Objects** | **Type** | **Description** |
| pageScope | Map | It maps the given attribute name with the value set in the page scope. |
| requestScope | Map | It maps the given attribute name with the value set in the request scope. |
| sessionScope | Map | It maps the given attribute name with the value set in the session scope. |
| applicationScope | Map | It maps the given attribute name with the value set in the application scope. |
| Param | Map | It maps the request parameter to the single value. |
| paramValues | Map | It maps the request parameter to an array of values. |
| Header | Map | It maps the request header name to the single value. |
| headerValues | Map | It maps the request header name to an array of values. |
| Cookie | Map | It maps the given cookie name to the cookie value. |
| initParam | Map | It maps the initialization parameters. |
| pageContext | pageContext | It provides access to many objects i.e. request, session etc. |

### Reserve Words in Expression Language (EL)

There are many reserved words in the Expression Language (EL) and the list is given below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| lt | le | gt | ge |
| eq | ne | true | false |
| and | or | not | instanceof |
| div | mod | empty | null |