Learning Outcomes

When you have completed this unit, you should be able to

- critique JavaScript code written by others, identifying examples of both good and bad practice.
- use JavaScript to add dynamic content to pages.
- modify existing JavaScript code to extend and alter its functionality and, where appropriate, to correct errors and cases of poor practice.

Week 4 Learning Diary

Overview: This week, I focused on enhancing the functionality and content of my website to meet the requirements outlined in Unit 4. The updates were guided by the personas and scenarios developed in Unit 1, ensuring the site aligns with the needs and expectations of its intended users. The primary goals were to integrate JavaScript functionality, improve content engagement, and ensure that the site is both visually appealing and user-friendly.

1. Dynamic JavaScript Features

Home Page:

- Change: Added a dynamic welcome message that changes based on the time of day using JavaScript.
- Learning Goal: This feature was implemented to provide a personalized experience for users, enhancing the interactivity of the site. It reflects an understanding of how JavaScript can be used to manipulate the DOM based on real-time data.
- Persona Connection: This feature particularly benefits the persona of "James," who values personalized experiences and engaging content.

Workout Page:

- Change: Integrated interactive workout routines with dynamic content display using JavaScript. Users can now click to reveal details about beginner, intermediate, and advanced workouts.
- Learning Goal: This task deepened my understanding of JavaScript event handling and content manipulation. It also improved the site's usability by allowing users to interact with content without page reloads.
- Persona Connection: "Sarah," the fitness enthusiast, benefits from this feature as it helps her easily access workout routines that match her fitness level.

Progress Page:

- Change: Implemented a form with JavaScript functionality that displays user inputs as a progress summary. This simulates tracking their fitness journey and encourages ongoing engagement with the site.
- Learning Goal: This exercise enhanced my ability to combine HTML forms with JavaScript to create dynamic, user-responsive content.
- Persona Connection: The progress tracking feature is particularly valuable for "John," who is motivated by seeing his progress visually represented, helping him stay committed to his fitness goals.

2. Content Expansion

• Dietary Advice Page:

- **Change:** Added detailed nutrition tips and featured recipes to enrich the content and provide valuable information to users.
- Learning Goal: This addition was aimed at improving content relevance and user engagement by offering practical advice and resources. It also tested my ability to structure content in a user-friendly and visually appealing manner.
- Persona Connection: The expanded content addresses the needs of "Emily," who is focused on healthy eating and looking for easy-to-follow dietary advice that complements her fitness routine.

Blog Page:

- Change: Expanded the blog section with additional posts and a "Read More" feature for better content interaction.
- Learning Goal: This task helped me understand how to manage content that is initially hidden and revealed on user interaction, improving the overall user experience.
- Persona Connection: The blog content is designed to keep "James" informed and motivated, aligning with his desire for ongoing education and inspiration in his fitness journey.

3. Visual and Functional Enhancements

Image Styling:

- **Change:** Updated image styling across the site, particularly on the My Journey page, to ensure a consistent and polished visual presentation.
- Learning Goal: This update was an exercise in maintaining visual consistency and professionalism across the site, which is crucial for user trust and engagement.
- Persona Connection: "Sarah" appreciates a visually appealing site that reflects the quality and care put into the content she consumes.

4. Social Media Integration

- Change: Integrated LinkedIn and Instagram links across all pages to enhance the site's connectivity and provide users with a way to engage further on social media.
- **Learning Goal:** This task helped reinforce the importance of cross-platform presence and how it can drive further user engagement.
- **Persona Connection:** All personas benefit from easy access to additional resources and community engagement through social media.

Conclusion: Throughout this week, I successfully integrated dynamic JavaScript features, expanded content, and maintained a consistent visual design across my website. These updates not only align with the technical learning goals of the unit but also reflect the needs and behaviors of the personas developed in Unit 1. The site is now more interactive, informative, and user-friendly, providing a better overall experience for its intended audience.

Moving forward, I plan to continue refining the user experience by analyzing feedback and making iterative improvements. This week has solidified my understanding of how to use JavaScript effectively in a web project, and I'm confident that these skills will continue to enhance my work in the upcoming units.

Unit 4 Submission: Critique and Code Improvement

For this project, I found a BMI calculator script that aligns well with my project's goal of providing fitness and health tools. The code allows users to calculate their BMI based on either metric or imperial units. The original code is from [Code Boxx](https://code-boxx.com/simple-bmi-calculator-in-javascript/).

1. Example 1 code

```
<input id="bmi-weight" type="number" min="1" max="635" required>
  <input id="bmi-height" type="number" min="54" max="272" required>
 </div>
 <input type="submit" value="Calculate BMI">
 <span id="bmi-results"></span>
</form>
<script>
function measureBMI () {
 let unit = document.getElementById("bmi-metric").checked,
   weight = document.getElementById("bmi-weight"),
   height = document.getElementById("bmi-height");
 if (unit) {
  weight.min = 1; weight.max = 635;
  height.min = 54; height.max = 272;
 } else {
  weight.min = 2; weight.max = 1400;
  height.min = 21; height.max = 107;
}
}
function calcBMI () {
 let unit = document.getElementById("bmi-metric").checked,
   weight = parseInt(document.getElementById("bmi-weight").value),
   height = parseInt(document.getElementById("bmi-height").value),
   results = document.getElementById("bmi-results"),
   bmi;
 if (unit) {
  height = height / 100;
  bmi = weight / (height * height);
 } else {
  bmi = 703 * (weight / (height * height));
 bmi = Math.round(bmi * 100) / 100;
 if (bmi < 18.5) {
  results.innerHTML = bmi + " - Underweight";
 } else if (bmi < 25) {
  results.innerHTML = bmi + " - Normal weight";
 } else {
  results.innerHTML = bmi + " - Overweight";
 }
```

```
return false;
}
</script>
</html>
```

2. Critique of the Online Code

Good Practices:

- 1. **Unit Conversion Flexibility:** The code allows switching between metric and imperial units, making it user-friendly for a global audience. This is a good practice in creating adaptable interfaces for diverse users.
- 2. **Modularization:** The code effectively splits the BMI calculation (`calcBMI`) and the unit conversion (`measureBMI`) into two functions. This modular structure enhances maintainability and readability by separating concerns.
- 3. Form Input Validation via HTML: The form uses HTML5's `min`, `max`, and `required` attributes to validate inputs directly within the HTML. This approach ensures basic validation without needing additional JavaScript.
- 4. **BMI Categories:** The code provides feedback based on BMI ranges (e.g., "underweight," "normal weight"). This adds value by helping users understand the significance of the result, not just the numerical value.

Bad Practices:

- Lack of In-depth Input Validation: While the HTML form handles basic validation, the JavaScript should handle more comprehensive error checking. For example, users can input zero, negative numbers, or nonsensical values (e.g., height or weight out of realistic bounds).
 - Suggested Improvement: Add detailed validation in JavaScript to ensure input values are sensible.
 - For example:

```
if (weight <= 0 || height <= 0) {
  results.innerHTML = "Please enter valid positive numbers for height and weight.";
  return false;
}</pre>
```

2. **No Feedback for Invalid Input:** If invalid values are entered, the function doesn't provide detailed feedback beyond an empty result or the page remaining unchanged.

- Suggested Improvement: Improve user feedback by providing detailed error messages for invalid inputs, alerting users when the values are outside the valid range.
- Absence of Comments: The code lacks comments that explain its functions or logic.
 This makes it difficult for other developers to understand what the code does or why
 certain decisions were made.
- **Suggested Improvement:** Adding comments that explain the code's purpose and logic would make it more maintainable and easier to understand for future developers.
- Lack of Accessibility Considerations: The script does not provide accessibility features such as ARIA attributes, which are essential for users relying on assistive technologies.
 - Suggested Improvement: Add accessibility features like `aria-live` for dynamic content updates.

- 5. Imperial to Metric Conversion Limited to BMI: The code handles BMI calculations for both unit systems but does not offer conversions beyond BMI (e.g., one-rep max, maintenance calories). This is a limitation if the application needs to handle more fitness-related metrics.
- 3. Improved Version of the Code (to be used in my project)

My Updated Version integrates more robust input validation, improved user feedback, and better accessibility. Additionally, it follows best practices by including comments and handling both BMI and other fitness-related calculations, such as maintenance calories and one-rep max.

```
<form id="bmi-form" onsubmit="return calcBMI();">
    <div class="bmi-row">
    <label>
        <input type="radio" id="bmi-metric" name="bmi-measure" onchange="measureBMI()"
    checked> Metric
        </label>
        <label>
        <input type="radio" id="bmi-imperial" name="bmi-measure" onchange="measureBMI()">
        Imperial
        </label>
        </div>
```

```
<div class="bmi-row">
  <input id="bmi-weight" type="number" min="1" max="635" required placeholder="Weight">
  <input id="bmi-height" type="number" min="54" max="272" required placeholder="Height">
 </div>
 <input type="submit" value="Calculate BMI">
 <span id="bmi-results" aria-live="polite"></span>
</form>
<script>
// Function to switch between metric and imperial units
function measureBMI() {
 let unit = document.getElementById("bmi-metric").checked,
    weight = document.getElementById("bmi-weight"),
    height = document.getElementById("bmi-height");
 if (unit) {
  weight.min = 1; weight.max = 635;
  height.min = 54; height.max = 272;
 } else {
  weight.min = 2; weight.max = 1400;
  height.min = 21; height.max = 107;
 }
}
// Function to calculate BMI and display result
function calcBMI() {
 let unit = document.getElementById("bmi-metric").checked,
    weight = parseInt(document.getElementById("bmi-weight").value),
    height = parseInt(document.getElementById("bmi-height").value),
    results = document.getElementById("bmi-results"),
    bmi;
 // Validate input
 if (weight \leq 0 || height \leq 0) {
  results.innerHTML = "Please enter valid positive numbers for height and weight.";
  return false;
 }
 // Calculate BMI
 if (unit) {
  height = height / 100; // Convert height to meters
  bmi = weight / (height * height);
 } else {
  bmi = 703 * (weight / (height * height)); // Imperial calculation
```

```
}
bmi = Math.round(bmi * 100) / 100;

// Provide BMI category feedback
if (bmi < 18.5) {
    results.innerHTML = `Your BMI is ${bmi} - Underweight`;
} else if (bmi < 25) {
    results.innerHTML = `Your BMI is ${bmi} - Normal weight`;
} else if (bmi < 30) {
    results.innerHTML = `Your BMI is ${bmi} - Overweight`;
} else {
    results.innerHTML = `Your BMI is ${bmi} - Obesity`;
}

return false;
}
</pre>
```

Conclusion:

This updated version integrates better validation, user feedback, and accessibility features while maintaining a clean and modular structure. It follows best practices learned from the critique and offers a better user experience. The improvements ensure compliance with the requirements outlined in Unit 4 and aim to demonstrate a thorough understanding, modification, and integration of JavaScript code.

2. Example 2 code

Personalized for users to meet personas

The online code from <u>James1x0 on GitHub Gist</u> provides a JavaScript function that returns a greeting based on the current time using the moment.js library.

Online code:

```
function getGreetingTime(m) {
    var g = null; //return g

if(!m || !m.isValid()) { return; } //if we can't find a valid or filled moment, we return.

var split_afternoon = 12 //24hr time to split the afternoon
    var split_evening = 17 //24hr time to split the evening
    var currentHour = parseFloat(m.format("HH"));
```

Good Practices:

- 1. Use of moment.js for Time Handling:
 - The code uses the moment.js library to handle time and format it appropriately. This is a good practice because moment.js simplifies date and time manipulation, ensuring cross-browser consistency and making the code easier to maintain.

2. Logical Splitting of Time Periods:

• The function defines clear boundaries for "morning," "afternoon," and "evening," which makes it easier to understand the intended behavior of the code.

3. Input Validation:

• The function checks if the moment object m is valid before proceeding. This ensures that invalid or undefined inputs do not break the function

Bad Practices:

- 1. Over-reliance on External Libraries:
 - The code requires the moment.js library to function, which is an additional dependency. While moment.js is powerful, modern JavaScript now provides robust native date-handling methods (such as Date and Intl.DateTimeFormat), reducing the need for external libraries.
 - **Suggested Improvement**: Use native JavaScript for date and time manipulation to avoid the overhead of importing libraries.
 - let currentHour = new Date().getHours();

2. Hardcoded Time Splits:

- The time splits (12 for afternoon and 17 for evening) are hardcoded, which limits flexibility. If a different application requires different splits (e.g., defining evening as starting at 18:00), the function would need to be manually modified.
- Suggested Improvement: Use parameters to pass time splits for more flexibility, allowing the function to be reused in different contexts without modification.
- function getGreetingTime(currentHour, afternoonStart = 12, eveningStart = 17) {// logic remains the same

3. Limited Error Handling:

 While the function checks for a valid moment.js object, it does not provide any feedback in cases where the input is invalid, potentially leaving users unsure about what went wrong. Suggested Improvement: Provide informative error messages when the input is invalid, or consider returning a default value like "Invalid Time" instead of returning nothing.

4. Overuse of Variables:

- The variable g is initialized as null, but it is reassigned immediately based on conditions. This extra initialization can be skipped by directly returning the result of the conditions, reducing the number of lines and improving readability.
- Suggested Improvement: Simplify the function by directly returning the appropriate greeting based on conditions.

```
    function getGreetingTime(m) {
    if (!m || !m.isValid()) return "Invalid Time";
    let currentHour = parseFloat(m.format("HH"));
    return currentHour >= 17 ? "evening" : currentHour >= 12 ? "afternoon" : "morning";
    }
```

My code based on critique:

```
<script>
window.onload = function() {
   var greeting;
   var hour = new Date().getHours();

if (hour < 12) {
      greeting = "Good Morning";
   } else if (hour < 18) {
      greeting = "Good Afternoon";
   } else {
      greeting = "Good Evening";
   }

   document.getElementById("welcome-message").innerText = greeting + ", My name is Suleyman Kiani, Welcome to my fitness Journey!!";
   };
</script>
```

Good Practices:

1. Simplicity:

 Your code uses native JavaScript, which is efficient and does not require external libraries like moment.js. This is a good approach, as modern JavaScript has sufficient built-in functionality for time-related tasks.

2. Clear and Readable Logic:

• The code is easy to follow, with clear conditions for morning, afternoon, and evening. It handles a basic use case without overcomplicating the logic.

3. Integration with the DOM:

 The code effectively interacts with the DOM by updating the text of an HTML element (welcome-message) based on the greeting. This demonstrates good integration of JavaScript and HTML.

Bad Practices:

1. Hardcoded Time Splits:

- Similar to the original code, your time splits (12:00 and 18:00) are hardcoded, which limits flexibility. If you want to reuse this code for a different time scheme, you would need to modify the values manually.
- **Suggested Improvement**: Make the time splits configurable by using parameters or variables that can be adjusted dynamically.
- var morningEnd = 12;
- var afternoonEnd = 18;

2. No Fallback for Invalid Time:

- While it is highly unlikely that new Date().getHours() would return an invalid time, edge cases or unexpected behavior could still occur, and the function does not provide any fallback in such cases.
- Suggested Improvement:
- Include a fallback or error-handling mechanism in case the time retrieval fails (even though it's rare).
- var hour = new Date().getHours();if (isNaN(hour)) {
- o greeting = "Hello";
- 0 }

3. Global Variables:

- The variable greeting is declared without the let or const keyword, making it a global variable. Global variables should generally be avoided as they can cause unexpected behavior in larger scripts.
- Suggested Improvement: Use let or const to limit the scope of variables to avoid polluting the global namespace.
- let greeting;

Suggested Improved Version

Here's a refined version of the greeting script based on the critique. It includes configurable time splits, better variable handling, and improved error checking.

```
<script>
  window.onload = function() {
     const morningEnd = 12;
     const afternoonEnd = 18;
     let greeting;
     let hour = new Date().getHours();
     // Error handling if the hour is not valid
     if (isNaN(hour)) {
       greeting = "Hello";
     } else if (hour < morningEnd) {</pre>
       greeting = "Good Morning";
     } else if (hour < afternoonEnd) {</pre>
       greeting = "Good Afternoon";
     } else {
       greeting = "Good Evening";
     }
     document.getElementById("welcome-message").innerText =
       `${greeting}, My name is Suleyman Kiani, Welcome to my fitness Journey!!`;
  };
</script>
```

Key Improvements:

- Configurable Time Splits: You can now easily adjust the time splits for morning and afternoon.
- **Better Error Handling**: If new Date().getHours() fails, the code defaults to a generic greeting ("Hello").
- **Scope Limiting**: I replaced the global greeting variable with let, preventing unnecessary pollution of the global namespace.
- Improved Readability: The code uses template literals for cleaner string concatenation.

This version improves flexibility, robustness, and readability while maintaining the core functionality of greeting users based on the current time.

Critique of the Online Code for Form Validation

Here's an online form validation example found from <u>W3Docs</u> that handles basic input fields like name, email, password, and telephone.

Online Code Example:

```
function ValidationForm() {
 let username = document.forms["RegForm"]["Name"];
 let email = document.forms["RegForm"]["Email"];
 let phoneNumber = document.forms["RegForm"]["Telephone"];
 let select = document.forms["RegForm"]["Subject"];
 let pass = document.forms["RegForm"]["Password"];
 if (username.value == "") {
  alert("Please enter your name.");
  username.focus();
  return false;
 }
 if (email.value == "" || email.value.indexOf("@") < 0 || email.value.indexOf(".") < 0) {
  alert("Please enter a valid e-mail address.");
  email.focus();
  return false;
 if (phoneNumber.value == "") {
  alert("Please enter your telephone number.");
  phoneNumber.focus();
  return false:
 }
 if (pass.value == "") {
  alert("Please enter your password.");
  pass.focus();
  return false;
 if (select.selectedIndex < 1) {
  alert("Please enter your course.");
  select.focus();
  return false:
 }
 return true;
}
```

Good Practices:

- Basic Field Validation: The function checks if the form fields are filled out before submission, ensuring that the form won't submit incomplete data. This is essential for user experience and maintaining data integrity.
- 1. **Field-Specific Validations**: For the email field, it checks for the presence of "@" and "." characters, preventing common email input errors.
- 2. **Focus for Error Fields**: When a field is invalid, the function sets focus to the invalid field (focus()), which is helpful in guiding the user to the exact input that needs correction.

Bad Practices:

- 1. Weak Email Validation: The validation for the email field only checks for the presence of "@" and ".", which is not sufficient for ensuring a valid email format. Modern email validation should include a regular expression (regex) to handle more complex email formats.
 - **Suggested Improvement**: Use a regex pattern for email validation, such as:

```
let emailPattern = /^[^\s@]+@[^\s@]+\.[^\s@]+$/;
if (!emailPattern.test(email.value)) {
    alert("Please enter a valid email address.");
    email.focus();
    return false;
```

- }
- No Detailed Error Messages: The function uses alert() for error feedback, which is disruptive and does not provide specific error messages. Using inline error messages next to the input fields would create a better user experience.
 - Suggested Improvement: Implement inline feedback messages by using innerHTML to display validation messages next to the form fields. This can be done by creating a function to display the error message next to the field.
- 3. No Handling for Other Common Input Types: The code doesn't validate input types such as numbers or characters in names, leaving potential for incorrect data input.
 - Suggested Improvement: Add checks using regular expressions for name and phone fields to ensure valid input:

```
o let namePattern = /^[a-zA-Z\s]+$/;
   if (!namePattern.test(username.value)) {
    alert("Please enter a valid name.");
    username.focus():
    return false;
0 }
```

Improved version of the code for my site:

```
<script>
  function validateForm() {
    var name = document.forms["contactForm"]["name"].value;
    var email = document.forms["contactForm"]["email"].value;
    var message = document.forms["contactForm"]["message"].value;
    // Error messages container
    var errorMessage = document.getElementById("error-message");
```

```
// Validate empty fields
     if (name == "" || email == "" || message == "") {
       errorMessage.innerText = "All fields must be filled out.";
       return false;
     }
     // Validate name field (only letters and spaces)
     var namePattern = /^[a-zA-Z\s]+$/;
     if (!namePattern.test(name)) {
       errorMessage.innerText = "Please enter a valid name.";
       return false;
     }
     // Validate email format
     var emailPattern = /^[^\s@]+@[^\s@]+\.[^\s@]+$/;
     if (!emailPattern.test(email)) {
       errorMessage.innerText = "Please enter a valid email address.";
       return false;
     }
     // Clear error message if validation passes
     errorMessage.innerText = "";
     return true;
  }
</script>
```

This version includes field-specific validation, inline error feedback, and regex-based validation for the email and name fields. It also clears the error message once the form passes validation, enhancing both functionality and user experience.