

Lecture Two: Functions & Event Handlers

Functions – p. 25

- A JavaScript **function** can be passed arguments, or **parameters**, specifying the value or values that the function is to operate upon
- A JavaScript **function** contains a set of JavaScript **statements** that will perform a task
- A JavaScript **function** is defined once, but can be **executed**, **invoked** or **called** many times
- A JavaScript **function** can also **return a value**

```
function saySomething(message) {  
    alert(message);  
}
```

```
// The function here is defined by using the keyword "function"
```

```
// The function is then given a "functionName" defined by the author
```

```
// The functionName then uses the parenthesis operator, which is used to  
invoke a function and holds the parameters of the function
```

```
// The statement of the function, which is the body of the function held  
within curly brackets and separated by semi-colons, is what actually  
performs the task(s) of the function(s)
```

Event Handlers

- JavaScript deals with events that the user performs while visiting your page using commands called **event handlers**
- A JavaScript **event handler** is written within an HTML tag and triggers events that the user (or the page) should perform
- A JavaScript **event handler** assigns a **function** directly to the value of the event handler

```
onclick="saySomething('Four score and seven years ago...')"
```

```
// the event-handler is located within the anchor tag of your link
```

```
// the value of the event-handler is the "function which it calls"
```

```
// The value of this assignment calls the function with a string-value
```

One New Window

```
function newWindow() {
    window.open("images/pixel2.jpg", "catWin", "width=330,height=250")
}

// This function "newWindow" does not state parameters to be defined by
the link

// Instead the function leaves its parenthesis empty and uses the
statement "window.open" to define the parameters

// Notice that these parameters are written as a string-value within
double quotes and separated by commas

<a href="javascript:newWindow()">Pixel</a>

// Another way to simulate the "onClick" event-handler is to simply
call the javascript directly from the anchor tag as a standard link

// To do so, you assign the value of the link as the name of the
function called by the word "javascript" with a colon

// Notice, also, that if the parameters are defined by the function's
statement

// this example leaves the parenthesis of the funcName within the anchor
tag blank
```

Multiple New Windows

```
function newWindow(winURL, winName, winFeatures) {
    view = window.open(winURL, winName, winFeatures);
    view.focus();
}

// This function "newWindow" states three parameters to be defined by
the event handler, thus being practical to open new windows with values
defined only by the user event

<a href="#"
onClick="newWindow('newwindow.html','NewWindow','width=500,height=500')
">New Window</a>

// The "onClick" event-handler is located within the anchor tag of your
link

// the value of the event-handler is the "function which it calls"
within double quotations
```

```
// The value of this assignment calls the function with parameters  
defined within the parenthesis  
  
// The parameter values are written within single quotation marks and  
separated by commas  
  
// notice that the value for "winFeatures" contains multiple values  
separated by commas within its single quotation marks
```