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Week 1 Questions

Differences between let and var?

Let keyword is used for a declaration that cannot be changed and they usually have limited scopes. Var keyword is for declarations of any type and can be adjusted after.

What are Optionals?

Similar to the declaration of null pointers in C++; optionals can either have a value (something to point to) or nothing. Helps with handling the absence of a value.

What is optional chaining vs optional binding?

Optional binding is the process of checking whether a variable has a value, if not, assign a default value. On the other hand optional chaining refers to a process for calling specific properties or method for an optional that may be null (nil)

How to unwrap optionals?

The exclamation mark (!) can unwrap an optional (without a value) by force, but it might produce a runtime error and crash the program. To prevent that, optional binding can be used.

What are closures?

Closures are blocks of functional code that can be collectively used throughout.

Differ class and struct?

The main difference is that class is a reference type while structs (like enums) are value type. There are performance differences as well such as classes being slower than structs. However value types such as structs are thread-safe since they don't require any synchronization. Lastly, classes have more abilities such as Inheritance, type casting, deinitializers (memory deallocation) and reference count which structs don't.

What is the '??' syntax for?

This syntax assists with optional binding by allowing us to check whether a variable has a value or it's nil. If it's nil we have the chance to assign a default value.