React Lesson 1: What is React?

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What is React?

React is a JavaScript library used to build user interfaces (UIs). It helps you build web apps that update quickly without reloading the whole page.

Simple Example:

Imagine a calculator. Without React, changing a number reloads the whole app. With React, only that number changes.

Core Ideas:

- Components: Tiny building blocks of UI (like LEGO pieces)

- Props: Data sent into a component (like giving a hat to a LEGO figure)

- State: Data that a component manages itself (like score in a game)

- JSX: HTML + JS mixed together

Getting Started:

Install Node.js from https://nodejs.org/

Create a React App:

Run in terminal:

npx create-react-app my-first-react-app

cd my-first-react-app

npm start

Sample Component (App.js):

```
function App() {
  return (
    <div>
      <h1>Hello, React!</h1>
```

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```
    <p>This is my first component</p>

  </div>

  );

}

export default App;
```

Explanation:

- function App() creates a component

- return (...) defines the UI

- JSX is HTML + JS

- export default App allows reuse

Practice:

Try editing App.js:

- Change the text

- Add a button: <button>Click me</button>

- Add your name with <h2>Hello, I'm [Your Name]</h2>

Summary:

- React builds fast UIs using components

- Components = LEGO pieces

- JSX mixes HTML and JS

- You built your first app!

Next: JSX and Rendering UI