

Python Learning Journal 1.1

- 1. In your own words, what is the difference between frontend and backend web development? If you were hired to work on backend programming for a web application, what kinds of operations would you be working on?**

Frontend development focuses on what the user sees. That can be the UI, the design, the different menu options, etc. If the user can see and interact with something I would consider it part of the Frontend. Backend then is everything the user does not see. If I was hired as a backend developer, processes such as connecting to a database, setting up user data encryption, or linking an API would all be tasks I could be asked to do.

- 2. Imagine you're working as a full-stack developer in the near future. Your team is asking for your advice on whether to use JavaScript or Python for a project, and you think Python would be the better choice. How would you explain the similarities and differences between the two languages to your team? Drawing from what you learned in this Exercise, what reasons would you give to convince your team that Python is the better option?**

Python and Javascript are both scripting languages based around coding line by line with standardized syntax. They also both use dynamic typing for variable declaration. Python's biggest advantage is its concise and easy to read nature, which is extremely helpful when multiple team members are passing around the same code and need to quickly decipher what each piece of the code is doing. This advantage, along with Python's robust built in framework are great assets that would help me sell Python as the better option for our project.

3. Now that you've had an introduction to Python, write down 3 goals you have for yourself and your learning during this Achievement. You can reflect on the following questions if it helps you. What do you want to learn about Python? What do you want to get out of this Achievement? Where or what do you see yourself working on after you complete this Achievement?

1. I want to expand my knowledge of programming languages, and learning Python is another crucial step in that endeavor. Python is one of the most widespread languages and knowing it will open many doors for me in the future.
2. I want more practice with database setup and manipulation. This achievement will have me setting up and using a MySQL database which is exactly what I need to feel more comfortable with the process.
3. One of the coding projects I was interested in was a drink making app, where a user enters ingredients and the app calculates different mixes and drinks from them. This achievement ironically contains a lot of extremely similar ideas and functions which will serve as a great test run for my own app in the future.