

DWA_02.8 Knowledge Check_DWA2

1. What do ES5, ES6 and ES2015 mean - and what are the differences between them?

ES is an abbreviation for ECMAScript and the numbers that follow relate to the version when this edition came out (ES5/ES6) or the year that it came out (ES2015). After ES6 the editions are written as the year they came out instead of as a number.

There are functionality differences between each version as new features are created. With each upgrade, JavaScript also runs faster and has better features that improve the performance of the program.

2. What are JScript, ActionScript and ECMAScript - and how do they relate to JavaScript?

ECMAScript is a standardized scripting language that JavaScript, JScript and ActionScript are based off of. Microsoft did not have access to JavaScript in the early days of development so they had to reverse engineer it and created JScript. ActionScript is a knock off version of JavaScript.

3. What is an example of a JavaScript specification - and where can you find it?

An example of this is how single line commenting should work: They should always start with “//”, accept any character except line breaks and they should end before the first line break. You can find specifications online at webpages such as MDN and Ecma International.

4. What are v8, SpiderMonkey, Chakra and Tamarin? Do they run JavaScript differently?

These are all JavaScript compilers that run the code differently to each other. They take the human written code (words) and turn it into binary code (numbers) for machines to understand.

5. Show a practical example using caniuse.com and the MDN compatibility table.

If I want to see what browsers “this” functionality works with, I can just enter that into the search bar in caniuse.com and it will list all the browsers and versions that it will and

won't work with separately. If it is supported it will be in green and if it is not supported it will be in red.

Similar can be done using MDN where I searched for "this" compatibility table and it showed me browsers that this feature can work on as well as the version. These can be cross references between the websites to make triple sure that what you want to do on a specific browser is supported.
