Introduction to JavaScript — Part Two

Website Development 2

Lecture 2 Outline

- Date Object
- Functions
- Arrays

Date object

- Date()
- Constructs an empty date object.

For example: var now=new Date();

getDate()

Returns the day of the month.

var dayNum =
now.getDate();

getDay()

Returns an integer representing the day of the week, Sunday is 0 and Saturday is 6.

var day = now.getDay();

getMonth()

Returns the month field of the Date object, represented by an integer, January is 0 and December is 11.

var month =
now.getMonth();

getFullYear()

Returns the year as a four digit number.

var thisyear =
now.getFullYear();

Date: Other Retrieval methods

getHours()
getMinutes()

getSeconds()
getMilliseconds()

getTime()

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Functions:

- consist of one or more statements (i.e., lines of program code that perform some operation).
- are separated in some way from the rest of the program, for example, by being enclosed in curly brackets, {.....}
- are given a unique name, so that they can be called from elsewhere in the program.
- Functions are used where the same operation has to be performed many times within a program.

In JavaScript, functions are created in the following way:

```
function name()
{
    statement;
    statement;
}
```

However, it is often necessary to supply information to a function so that it can carry out its task.

```
function addVAT(price)

{
   price *= 1.21;
   alert(price);
}
```

We would call this function in the following way:

```
addVAT (costPrice);
```

Sometimes we also need to get some information back from a function.

```
function addVAT(price)
{
   price *= 1.21;
   return(price);
}
```

We would call this function in the following way:

```
var newPrice = addVAT(costPrice);
```

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Arrays

 The Array object is used to store a set of values in a single variable name.

```
var data= new Array();
data[0] = "Hurling";
data[1] = "Rugby";
data[2] = "Football";
data[3] = "Soccer";
data[4] = "Tennis";
```

Array Manipulation

```
for (count=0; count<len; count++) {
  document.write(data[count] + "<br>}
```

```
for (x in data) {
  document.write(data[x] + "<br>}
```

Object based array functions

- Arrays have lots of nifty built in functions such as:
 - join(),
 - push(),
 - pop(),
 - sort(),
 - slice(),
 - splice(),
 - and more...

join()

The join() method is used to put all the elements of an array into a string. The elements will be separated by a specified separator.

```
data.join(', ');
data.join('<br> ');
```

push()

The push() method adds one or more elements to the end of an array and returns the new length.

data.push('golf');

unshift()

The unshift() method adds one or more elements to the start of an array and returns the new length.

data.unshift('golf');

pop()

The **pop()** method is used to remove and return the last element of an array.

data.pop();

shift()

The **shift()** method is used to remove and return the first element of an array.

data.shift();

splice()-delete

The **splice()** command must specify where it should begin deleting (index number of first item to be deleted) and how many items it should delete.

data.splice(2,2);

splice()-add

The splice() command must specify where the new items should be located, 0 to indicate that you do not want to delete any items, then the list of items to be inserted: one or more values separated by commas.

data.splice(2,0, "Cricket", "Snooker");

splice()-replace

The process is the same as adding an item, but instead of specifying 0 for the second piece of information, you supply the number of items to be replaced. This is followed by the list of items that are replacing the deleted (replaced) items.

data.splice(2,2, "Cricket", "Snooker");

reverse()

concat()

The reverse() method is used to reverse the order of the elements in an array.

The **concat()** method is used to join two or more arrays.

data.reverse();

data.concat(data);

sort()

sort() - numeric

The sort()
method is used
to sort the
elements of an
array.

To sort numbers, you must add a function that compare numbers.

data.sort();

data.sort(function(a,b){return a - b});