

 “JavaScript is a synchronous single-threaded language”

✓ Correct. But... there's more nuance.

1. What This Actually Means

Term	Meaning
✓ Single-threaded	JavaScript code (JS engine) runs in one call stack , one task at a time.
✓ Synchronous	JavaScript executes line by line in order , by default .

So:

```
console.log("A");  
console.log("B");  
console.log("C");
```

Prints:

A
B
C

This is **synchronous, single-threaded execution** — the core behavior of JS.

2. So How Does JS Handle Async Stuff?

✓ Through **browser APIs + event loop**

➔ The **JavaScript engine** is synchronous.

➔ But the **runtime environment (like browser or Node.js)** gives JS **async powers** (e.g. `setTimeout`, `fetch`, `event listeners`).

Example:

```
console.log("Start");  
setTimeout(() => console.log("Timeout done"), 1000);  
console.log("End");
```

Prints:

Start
End
Timeout done

Why?

- `setTimeout` is sent to **browser Web API**
- The **callback is queued** for later via the **event loop**
- Main thread continues — no blocking!

✅ So even though **JS is single-threaded and synchronous**, it becomes **non-blocking and async with help from environment**.

Visual Flow:

1. JS enters code → top to bottom
 2. Hits `setTimeout` → offloaded to browser
 3. Continues rest of code (no wait!)
 4. After timer → callback queued in **task queue**
 5. **Event loop** checks: is call stack empty? Yes → push callback from queue!
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✅ Summary

Concept	Is it true?	Notes
JS is synchronous by default	✅ Yes	Executes top-down, line-by-line
JS is single-threaded	✅ Yes	Only one call stack, no parallel execution
JS is asynchronous	❌ Not by itself	But the runtime (browser/Node.js) provides async support
JS is non-blocking	✅ With Promises, callbacks, etc., using event loop	

JavaScript Execution Context

✅ What is Execution Context?

An **execution context** is the **environment in which JavaScript code is evaluated and executed**.

It contains everything the engine needs to run your code, like:

- variables
- functions
- the scope
- the `this` keyword

 **Every time you run JS code (line by line), JS creates an execution context for that block.**

Components of Execution Context

As shown in your image, execution context has **2 major parts**:

1. Memory Component (Variable Environment)

- Also called “**Creation Phase**”
- Stores **variables & function declarations**
- All variables initialized with `undefined`
- Functions are stored with full code (hoisting)

 Example:

```
var a = 10;
function fn() {
  console.log("Hi");
}
```

➡ In memory phase:



```
a: undefined
fn: [Function code]
```

2. Code Component (Thread of Execution)

- Also called “**Execution Phase**”
- JS executes the code **line by line**

- Assigns real values to variables
 - Runs function code when called
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Two Phases of Execution Context

Phase	Purpose
 Memory Phase	Allocates memory, sets up hoisting
 Execution Phase	Executes the code top-to-bottom

Types of Execution Context

1. Global Execution Context (GEC)

- Created automatically for every JS file
- Only **one** GEC exists at a time
- Variables/functions declared in the file go here

2. Function Execution Context (FEC)

- Created **every time a function is invoked**
- JS creates a **new execution context** for that function

3. Eval Execution Context (Rare)

- Used when `eval()` is called
 - Not recommended, usually avoided
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Example: Dry Run

```
var x = 10;
function greet() {
  var y = 20;
  console.log(x + y);
}
greet();
```

Step-by-Step Execution

Global Execution Context is created

- Memory:

```
x: undefined
greet: function
```

- Execution:

```
x = 10
```

`greet()` → triggers Function Execution Context

● Function Execution Context (for `greet`):

- Memory:

`y`: undefined

- Execution:

`y = 20`
`console.log(10 + 20)` → 30



Call Stack

JavaScript uses a **Call Stack** to manage execution contexts:

<code>greet</code> EC	← pushed when <code>greet()</code> is called
<code>global</code> EC	← stays at bottom

Once `greet()` finishes:

<code>global</code> EC	← <code>greet</code> EC is popped off
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How It All Ties Together

Concept	Description
Execution Context	Environment where code runs
Memory Phase	Sets up variables/functions (hoisting)
Code Phase	Runs code line-by-line
Call Stack	Manages multiple function calls

⚠ Common Interview Confusion

- Is JS synchronous or asynchronous?

JS engine is **synchronous and single-threaded**
Async behavior comes via **Web APIs + Event Loop**

- What happens when you call a function?

A new **execution context** is created and pushed to the **call stack**

- Why variables are undefined before initialization?

Due to **Memory Phase (hoisting)**

JavaScript Event Loop – Explained Simply



What is the Event Loop?

The event loop is a **mechanism** in JavaScript that helps handle **asynchronous operations** in a **single-threaded** environment — without blocking the main thread.



Key Components Involved

1. Call Stack

- Executes your JavaScript code line by line.
- Follows **LIFO (Last In First Out)** structure.
- If a function is called, it's **pushed onto the stack**, and removed once finished.

2. Web APIs (Browser or Node.js APIs)

- Provided by the **browser** (e.g., `setTimeout`, `DOM`, `fetch`) or Node's `libuv`.
- These APIs run **outside JS engine**, often using threads (browser C++ threads or `libuv` in Node).
- When they finish their async task, they **register callbacks** into a queue.

3. Callback (Task) Queue

- Holds callbacks from async operations (`setTimeout`, `click`, `fetch`).
- Waits for the **call stack to be empty**.

4. Event Loop

- Constantly checks:

Is the call stack empty?

If yes → takes the **first task from the queue** and pushes it onto the stack.



Example – Dry Run

```
console.log("Start");

setTimeout(() => {
  console.log("Inside timeout");
}, 1000);

console.log("End");
```



What happens:

1. "Start" → logged immediately
2. `setTimeout()` → Web API handles it, sets a timer
3. "End" → logged immediately

4. After 1 sec → callback is placed in the **callback queue**
 5. Once call stack is empty → **event loop pushes** callback to stack
 6. "Inside timeout" → gets logged
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Is JavaScript Multithreaded?

- ✗ JavaScript itself is **single-threaded**
 - ✓ But the **browser (or Node)** provides multi-threaded **Web APIs** to handle async work.
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Visual Model (like in Akshay Saini or Philip Roberts)

JS Engine

```
|  
|--> Call Stack  
|--> Web APIs (e.g., setTimeout, fetch)  
|--> Callback Queue (aka Task Queue)  
|--> Event Loop (the watcher)
```

What Makes Event Loop Powerful?

- JS can run **non-blocking async code**
 - No need for threads like Java or C++
 - Efficient for I/O, UI updates, networking, and timers
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✓ Summary (Interview Level)

Concept	Summary
JS Threading	Single-threaded engine
Web APIs	Provided by browser/Node to offload work
Call Stack	Where JS executes
Callback Queue	Holds async callbacks
Event Loop	Moves callbacks to stack once it's empty