# Introduction to State in React

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### **Local Variables and React Rendering**

- 1. Local variables don't persist between renders. When React renders this component a second time, it renders it from scratch—it doesn't consider any changes to the local variables.
- 2. Changes to local variables won't trigger renders. React doesn't realize it needs to render the component again with the new data.

Therefore, to update a component with new data, two things need to happen:

- 1. Retain the data between renders.
- 2. **Trigger** React to render the component with new data (re-rendering).

#### React useState Hook to the rescue

The <u>useState</u> Hook provides these two things:

- 1. A **state variable** to retain the data between renders.
- 2. A **state setter function** to update the variable and trigger React to render the component again.

When you call <u>useState</u>, you are telling React that you want this component to remember something:

```
const [index, setIndex] = useState(0);
```

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In this case, you want React to remember the index.



The convention is naming this pair as <code>const[something, setSomething]</code>. You could name it anything you like, but conventions make things easier to understand across projects.



Hooks can only be called at the top level of the component function. We cannot use hook in if-else, for loops or nested functions

## State is isolated and private

State is local to a component instance on the screen. In other words, **if you** render the same component twice, each copy will have a completely isolated state! Changing one of them will not affect the other.

## State is tied to a position in the render tree

- This means different instances of a component rendered at different positions will have separate states.
- This also means that once a component is not rendering, its state will not be preserved

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## **Assignments**

- Follow the following steps:
  - Create an array of Problems Array having question-and-answer
  - Render only one Problem Component in the Parent component. The parent component will also have a Next and Previous Button
  - Clicking on these buttons should show the next and previous Problem respectively. Hint: Use these buttons to update the index state variable.
- Now add a <a href="https://showAnswer">showAnswer</a> state variable to show or hide the answer field inside the Problem component.

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