



Part 1

a. Intro to React

- Quickly set up React application with `npx create-react-app`
- Run the application with `npm start` (this is an alias for `npm run start`)

```
import React from 'react'
import ReactDOM from 'react-dom'

const App = () => (
  <div>
    <p>Hello world</p>
  </div>
)

ReactDOM.render(<App />, document.getElementById('root'))
```

Components

- React is **Declarative** by using **Components** that represents what to be rendered to the screen
- Names must be **capitalized**
- All content that needs to be rendered on screen is usually defined as **React Components**
- The component is defined as **a JavaScript function** and returns **JSX**
 - A components must return **one root element** or **an array of elements**

```
// we can wrap the return values with empty tag to get rid of extra div-elements
return (
  // <> is a shorter format for <React.Fragment>
  <>
```

```

    <h1>Hello</h1>
    <h2>Hi</h2>
  </>
)

```

- We can render **dynamic content** inside of a component as well. `<p> { a + b } </p>`
 - Use `{ }` to embed JS code within JSX, the result of the evaluation will be rendered

JSX

- HTML-like code that's compiled into JavaScript by **Babel**
- `create-react-app` set up the compilation process automatically
- Every tag needs to be closed (e.g. use `
` and not `
`)

Multiple Components

- A component can be called with its name in a tag such as `<App />`
- Components can be called within components, even multiple times



A color philosophy of React is to **build reusable components**

Props: passing data to components:

- props are to components what **arguments are to functions**

```

// receiving props
const Hello = (props) => {
  <p> {props.name} {props.age} </p>
}
// passing props
<Hello name="Maya" age={26 + 10} />

```

b. JavaScript

- The official name of JS is **ECMAScript**
- JS is constantly updated to get new features from newer versions. However, browsers do not support all of the newest features. So code using the newer syntax is **transpiled** to an older version.



Babel is the most popular transpiling tool

- **Node.js** is a **JS runtime environment**, we need it for executing JS code outside of the browser

Variables:

- `const` and `let` for defining block scoped variables
- `var` declares function-scoped variables and **should not be used** for it causes confusion

```
const x = 1           // defines a constant, value cannot be changed
let y = 5             // defines a normal variable, provides block-scoping

console.log(x, y)     // 1, 5
y += 10
console.log(x, y)     // 1, 15
y = 'sometext'        // variable type can change
console.log(x, y)     // 1, sometext
x = 4                 // error, because x is const
```

Arrays:

- `push` adds new element to an array, `concat` returns an array that concatenated with a new element

- React prefers the use of **immutable data structures**, so `concat` is more preferred than `push`
- use `forEach` to do something for each element in an array
- `map` creates a new array based on the old array and a function
- **Destructuring** `...` can unpack values from arrays and objects

```
const t = [1, -1, 3]
// contents of array can be modified even as a const
// the pointer to the array is constant but the array can change
t.push(5)

const t2 = t.concat(5) // creates new array [1, -1, 3, 5, 5]

console.log(t.length) // 4
console.log(t[1])     // -1

// iterate through the array with for loop
t.forEach(value => {
  console.log(value) // 1, -1, 3, 5 each to own line
})

// map
const t = [1, 2, 3]
const mt = t.map(value => value * 2)
console.log(mt) // [2, 4, 6]

// destructuring assignment: assign items of an array easily to variables
const t = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
const [first, second, ...rest] = t

console.log(first, second) // 1, 2
console.log(rest)         // [3, 4, 5]
```

Objects:

- Define objects with **object literals** by listing properties within `{ }`
- Reference or add properties with `.` or `[]`

```
// define objects with object literals
// values of the properties can be any type
const object1 = {
```

```

    name: "John Doe",
    age: 35,
    education: "PhD",
    grades: [2, 3, 5, 3],
  }

  // reference the properties using "dot" notation or brackets
  console.log(object1.name) // John Doe
  console.log(object1[name]) // John Doe

  // add properties using [] or .
  object1['secret number'] = 1234
  object1.address = "Waterloo"

```

Functions:

- The newest way is to use **arrow functions** (like lambda functions in Python)
- Before we have to use the `function` keyword (named functions or function expressions)

```

// arrow functions
const sum = (p1, p2) => {
  console.log(p1)
  console.log(p2)
  return p1 + p2
}

const result = sum(1, 5)
console.log(result)

// exclude parentheses if there is only a single parameter
const square = p => {
  console.log(p)
  return p * p
}

// when the function only contains a single expression, braces and `return` are not needed
const square = p => p * p

//-----BEFORE ARRAY FUNCTIONS-----
// named functions
function product(a, b) {
  return a * b;
}
// function expression
const average = function(a, b) {

```

```
return (a + b) / 2  
}
```

c. Component State, event handlers

Component helper functions

- we can define functions inside component that can access all props that are passed to the component

Destructuring

- a useful feature to destructure values from objects and arrays upon **assignment**
- `const { name, age } = props`
- `const Hello = ({ name, age }) => {}`

Page re-rendering:

- repeatedly calls a function with delay with `setInterval`
- repeatedly calling ReactDOM.render is not a good way to re-render components

Stateful component



Before the state hook, we need to use class components to handle states

- We can add state that **could change during the lifecycle of the component** with **React's** `state hook`
- state hook
- `import { useState } from "react"`
- `useState` **returns a stateful value, and a function to update it**
 - `const [counter, setCounter] = useState(0)`
 - `counter` is assigned the initial value of state 0
 - `setCounter` is assigned to a function that will be used to modify the state
- When state modifying function is called, **React re-renders the component**, and the function body of the component gets **re-executed**



`useState` creates the application state, and calling the function that changes the state causes the component to rerender

Event handling

- Registered to be called when specific events occur (e.g. clicking of a button)

```
<button onClick={() => setCounter(counter+1)}> plus </button>
```

NOTE: **Event handler is a function!**

- An event handler is supposed to be either a **function** or a **function reference**

Passing state to child components:

- write React components that are small and reusable across the application and even across projects.

d. A more complex state, debugging React apps

complex state:

- we can have multiple states by using the `useState` function multiple times

```
const [left, setLeft] = useState(0)
const [right, setRight] = useState(0)
```

- Alternatively, we can group the states together

```
const [clicks, setClicks] = useState({left: 0, right: 0})
```

- And event handlers like this, using the **object spread syntax** ...

```
const handleLeftClick = () => {
  const newClick = {
    // spread operator
    ...clicks,
    left: clicks.left + 1
  }
  setClicks(newClicks)
}
```

- **NOTES! we must change state using the state changing function, or else it won't cause rerendering**

Conditional rendering:

- return different JSX based on conditionals (e.g. if statements)
- If you want to add conditionals in JSX, use the ternary operator (`? :`), regular if statements don't work in JSX

Debugging React applications

- First rule of web dev: keep the browser's developer console open at all times
- when we use `console.log`, don't combine objects by using the plus operator, instead use `,`


```
console.log("props value is", props)
```

- write the command `debugger` in your code, the execution will pause after it execute the debugger command
- the **React developer tools** extension is useful to inspect React components
- VSCode has snippet built in, type `log` and hit tab to autocomplete to `console.log()`

Rules of Hooks

- must not be called from inside of a loop, a conditional expression, or any place that's not a function defining a component. (To make sure the hooks are always called in the same order)



hooks may only be called from the inside of a **React functional component**

Event Handling Revisited

- we can use function that returns a function as event handler

```
const hello = (who) => () => {  
  console.log('hello', who)  
}  
  
<button onClick={hello('world')}>button</button>
```

- This can be utilized in defining generic functionality that can be customized with parameters



Do not define components inside components: provides no benefits and leads to problems

What is the Virtual DOM?

- The DOM and why rendering it stinks
- The Virtual DOM
- The Virtual DOM as implemented by React
- Diffing / Reconciliation
- Peek at the source code

DOM(Document Object Model) : an API that represents an HTML page as a **tree structure** (each node is an HTML element)

- The purpose of the DOM is to allow JS to manipulate HTML (`document.getElementById`)
- The DOM updates is very inefficient (it re-renders every node)

Virtual DOM:

- We render changes to the Virtual DOM before the real DOM
- Virtual DOM batch changes together for efficiency, updating is efficient
- It's a lightweight representation of the DOM
- It uses "Reconciliation" (diffing) to find the minimum # of modifications required for updating the DOM
- the key we uses allows React to differentiate elements on the same level

React Fiber: a rewrite of React's reconciliation algorithm

Takeaways From Exercises

- When we see repeated JSX elements, it might be a good idea to refactor them into another components
 - For example, the circled code in below image could be refactored

```
return (  
  <div>  
    <h1>Anecdote of the day</h1>  
    <p>{anecdotes[selected]}</p>  
    <p>has {vote[selected]} votes</p>  
    <button onClick={clickVote}>vote</button>  
    <button onClick={chooseNext}>next anecdote</button>  
    <h1>Anecdote with most votes</h1>  
    <p>{anecdotes[mostVoted]}</p>  
    <p>has {vote[mostVoted]} votes</p>  
  </div>  
)  
);
```

- It's better to destructure the props if possible
 - For example, if we know a component **Part** will accepts props of **name** and **exercise**, instead of declaring the components like

```
const Part = (props) => {  
  return (  
    <p>  
      {props.name} {props.exercise}  
    </p>  
  );  
};
```

we can destructure the props like

```
const Part = ( {name, exercise} ) => {  
  return (  

```

```
        <p>  
            {name} {exercise}  
        </p>  
    );  
};
```