Title: What is pass by value & pass by reference ?

Answer:

Primitive parameters (such as a number) are passed to functions **by value**; the value is passed to the function, but if the function changes the value of the parameter, **this change is not reflected globally or in the calling function**.

If you pass an object (i.e. a non-primitive value, such as `Array` (https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Global_Objects/Array) or a user-defined object) as a parameter and the function changes the object's properties, that change is visible outside the function, as shown in the following example:

```
function myFunc(theObject) {
  theObject.make = 'Toyota';
}

var mycar = {make: 'Honda', model: 'Accord', year: 1998};
var x, y;

x = mycar.make; // x gets the value "Honda"

myFunc(mycar);
y = mycar.make; // y gets the value "Toyota"
                // (the make property was changed by the function)
```

Tags: functions / methods, javascript