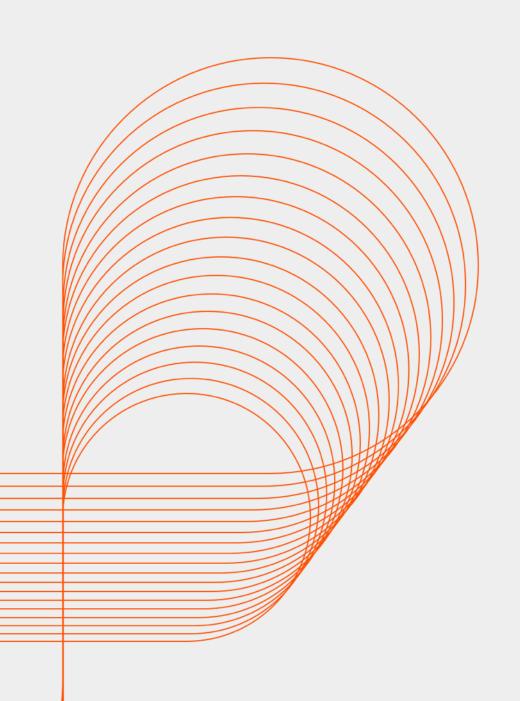


JavaScript: Functions

Persistent Interactive | Persistent University



Key learning points:

- Overview, importance and characteristics of functions
- Let and Const keyword
- Different types of functions :
 - Function Declaration
 - Function Expression
 - Anonymous Functions
 - Arrow functions
- Scopes
 - Local
 - Global



What if we don't write functions?

- Without functions code is
 - redundant
 - any changes result lot of reworking
 - tedious to type in
 - problematic to read if code needs to change
 - not maintainable
 - error-prone
 - not reusable
 - not optimized

Write functions to eliminate all above limitations!



JavaScript Functions

- A function is
 - group of code which can be called anywhere on the page
 - used to reuse the code to compute different things based on different inputs
- Different approaches to write a function :-
 - function declaration
 - function expression
 - anonymous function



How to write a function in JavaScript?

- Follow below steps to write a function :-
 - 'function' keyword followed by
 - function name (optional)
 - parenthesis for function parameters '()'
 - function parameters (optional) followed by
 - curly braces '{}'
 - function body inside curly braces (optional)

```
function display(message){
    console.log(message);
}

(function(){
    console.log('learn functions');
});
```



How to invoke a function in JavaScript?

- Function with names :-
 - function name followed by
 - parenthesis '()'
 - arguments within parenthesis (optional)
- Function without names :-
 - parenthesis '()'
 - arguments within parenthesis (optional)

```
display('learn function declaration');

(function(message)
{
    console.log(message);
})("learn anonymous functions");
```



JavaScript Scope and Execution

- JavaScript with **ES5 syntax(i.e., using var)** does not support block level scope and only manages function level scope, there are only two scopes:
 - global scope
 - local scope(function level scope)

- In declaration scenario, JavaScript follows C-language declaration system, declaring at the top in the global context
- All function and variable declarations are maintained at the top, called **Declaration Hoisting**



Block-scoped Variables...

- Block scoping is done via let and const in ES6.
- Block scoped variables exists only within the block that surrounds them.

```
function newFunc(){

If(true) {
      const test =123;
}

console.log(test); //ReferenceError: test is not defined
}
```



Example using let:

 let declared variable exists only inside the block where they are declared.

```
function newFun(){
If (a>b){
      let test=a;
      a=b;
      b=test;
console.log(test===a);
//Reference Error : test is not defined
      return a;
newFun();
```



Example using const:

 Variables declared with const must be initialized immediately with a value and that value cannot be changed afterwards.

```
const test1;
//Syntax Error: missing = in const declaration

const test2= 123;

test2=456;
//TypeError: 'test2' is read-only
```



Block-scoped Functions:

- Block scoped functions are like let function expressions in which function definition is removed once the function is done with the execution.
- These functions are hoisted to the top of the containing block. But the function expressions that use let are not hoisted.

```
function fun () { return 1 }
  console.log(fun() === 1)
  {
     function fun () { return 2 }
     console.log(fun() === 2)
  }
  console.log(fun() === 1)
} // true true true
```



Comparison of let and const to var:

- Unlike var, const and let are block level declarations.
- const and let aren't hoisted.
- Repeated declarations produce errors in case of let and const.
- They don't create properties of the global object when used at global scope that happens with var declaration.
- Unlike let, Attempting to assign a const to a previously defined constant will throw an error in both strict mode and non-strict mode.

Function Declaration

Function name is mandatory when writing function using function declaration syntax

Function

Function Parameters

Name

Return value

```
<script type="text/javascript">
function sayHello(name, age) {
   alert( name + " is " + age + " years old.");
   return name.toUpperCase();
</script>
```



Function Declaration continued...

Function declarations get hoisted

- These can be executed before and after their definitions without any error
- In case of duplicates, last version will be considered by the browser
- Let us check some common usage of function :-

Use case 1 : call functions on page load

Will be called on page load

```
<script type="text/javascript">
    function sayHello(name, age) {
        alert( name + " is " + age + " years old.");
        return name.toUpperCase();
     }

    window.onload = sayHello("Vishal",35);
</script>
```



Use case 2: call function from a function

Invoking a function

```
<script type="text/javascript">
          function sayHello(name, age)
          alert( name + " is " + age + " years old.");
          return name.toUpperCase();
function display(){
          var name = prompt("Enter your name");
          sayHello("Vishal",35);
</script>
```



Use case 3: calling a function on an event

- We can also call a function when user performs some actions
 - click of a button or types some key

Register the handler display() to be called on button click

</body>



Function Arguments

- JavaScript maintains two objects inside functions :
 - arguments
 - this

- "arguments" is array like object that contains
 - all the arguments passed to a function
 - property called "callee" through which host function can be referenced
- 'this' represents current object, refer object constructors for more details

Function Parameters and Arguments

- While calling a function, function arguments are not mandatory
- While writing a function, function parameters are not mandatory
- No error if a function is invoked
 - without passing any argument
 - with less number of arguments than the function parameters
 - with more number of arguments than the function parameters

Function Expression

- Function expressions are not hoisted
- These can be executed only after their definitions

```
var display = function(){
    console.log('welcome to persistent');
};
display();
```



Anonymous Functions

- Anonymous functions :
 - functions without names
 - not available before its definition
 - if executed immediately, called as 'Immediately Invoked Function Expression'

```
function(){
    console.log('welcome to persistent');
})();
```



Some more features of JavaScript functions

- Functions act as a value like :
 - get assigned to variables which can invoke it
 - stored in objects or arrays
 - passed to or returned from other functions
- Only functions introduce scope :
 - function defined outside any function becomes global
 - function defined inside any function becomes local to that function boundary
 - if variables are declared using 'var' keyword, above rule gets applied
 - if variables are declared without using 'var' keyword then becomes global variables irrespective of location



Identify scopes!!

Scope of 'a' is local to function 'findScope'

Scope of 'b' is global (irrespective of the location) as it is declared without using 'var' keyword

Scope of 'c' is global because it is declared outside the outermost function (here, only 1 function)

Scope of 'd' is global as declared without using 'var' keyword

function findScope(){ var a = 10; // ?? b = 20; // ?? var c = 30; // ?? d = 40; // ??



What Are Arrow Functions ? (ES6 Feature)

- Arrow functions are a concise syntax for writing function expressions.
- They use a fat arrow syntax i.e., => for writing functions.
- They are anonymous functions that simplify function scoping and 'this' keyword.
- These functions cannot be used as constructors so they will throw an error when used with new.
- The prototype property on arrow function does not exist.
- They are one-line mini functions, where we avoid having function keyword and return keyword because its implicit in arrow function.

What Are Arrow Functions ?...

 Basic Syntax for a Function to calculate square of a number.

```
var calsq=(function(num){
          return num*num;
});
console.log(calsq(9)); //81
```



What Are Arrow Functions ?...

 Using arrow function, the previous code can be rewritten as:.

```
let calsq= (num)=>{
    return num*num;
};
console.log(calsq(6)); //36
```



Expression Bodies

- Expression bodies-are a single line expression.
- They use => token and an implied return value.

```
let evenNos= [2,6,10];
let oddNos= evenNos.map(x \Rightarrow x+1);
console.log(oddNos); //3,7,11
```



Statement Bodies

- Statement Bodies are multiline statements
- Used for more complex logic.
- To have a return value is also possible from the statement in case of statement bodies of arrow functions.



Lexical this

With arrow syntax, we can safely access the lexical this
without worrying about its getting changed in the function
assign for forEach. Previously, we would have had to
create a separate "that" closure variable to enable
accessing the correct this.



Default Parameter Values (Using ES6)

- It makes easier to handle function parameters.
- In JS, any number of parameters can be passed to a function.
- ES6 enables us to set a default parameter to a function.
- Parameters with default values are considered to be optional.

```
function add(x, y = 4, z){
    return x + y + z;
}

console.log(add(1,6,2));  // 8-> y===4

console.log(add(1, undefined,2));  // 5->y as default
```



Default Parameter Values...

Default parameters can also be set by executing function.
 Its not restricted to only primitive values

```
function getDefaultInc() {
                    return 1;
function newInc(number, increment = getDefaultInc()) {
                    return number + increment;
console.log(newlnc(4, 4));
                                                   // 8
console.log(newInc(3));
                                                   // 4
```



Rest Parameters (using ES6)

- JavaScript allows functions to call with more parameters than the function declares.
- If rest operator(...) is used in front of the last formal parameter, it specifies that it will receive all remaining actual parameters in an Array.
- It must always be the last parameter.
- If there are no remaining parameters, an empty Array is set to rest parameter.

```
function f(s, ...t){
.... //function body
}
f('a', 'b', 'c');
s='a'; t=['b', 'c']
```



Spread Operator (using ES6)

- Spread operator looks exactly like the rest operator
 i.e.(...), but it works exactly opposite to rest operator.
- Spread operator convert the items of an iterable into arguments of a function call or into elements of an Array.
- Unlike rest operator, spread operator can be used anywhere in a sequence of parts.

```
Math.max(-1, 5, 11,3) // 11
Math.max(-1, ...[-1, 5, 11], 3) // 11
```



Spread Operator...

 Spread operator also works for constructor calls in addition to function and method calls // Spread operator for Constructor new Date(...[2007, 11, 24]) //Christmas Eve 2007

It can also be used inside Array Literals. E.g.

// Spread operator for Array Literals
[1, ...[2,3],4] // [1,2,3,4]



Summary: Session#

With this we have come to an end of our session, where we discussed:

- Importance of function, their characteristics and features
- Different ways to implement a function like function declaration, function expression & anonymous functions
- Local & global scope

-

At the end of this session, we expect you to:

- Understand functions along with all discussed concepts
- Implement all variants of functions as per requirement
- Understand scope of var with let keyword
- Implement Arrow functions
- Understand error handling inJavaScript



Appendix

- References
- Key Contacts

Reference Material: Books

Head First JavaScript Programming

- By: Eric T. Freeman;
 Elisabeth Robson
- Publisher: O'Reilly Media, Inc.

Professional: JavaScript® for Web Developers

- By: Nicholas C. Zakas
- Publisher: Wrox





Thank You !!!

Persistent Interactive | Persistent University

