Unit 3 - ReactJS

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1.0 Introduction to MERN Stack

1. MongoDB

- o Database server
- Bottom tier of MERN stack
- Application data store
- JSON docs can be stored
- Key-value pairs
- o Non-SQL

2. ExpressJS

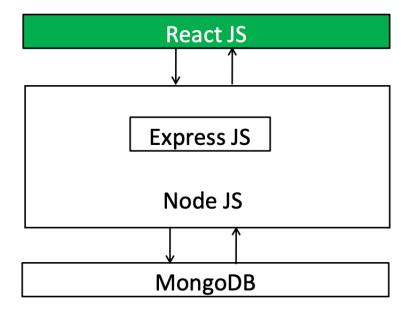
- ExpressJS and NodeJS server side frameworks
- o Middle of MERN stack
- Express: URL Routing
- Build APIs

3. ReactJS

- o This unit
- Frontend JS Library (mainly SPA)
- Components
- Connect to backend server
- Render to HTML
- Stateful, data-driven interfaces
- o Forms, error handling, events, lists

4. NodeJS

- Web server
- Use NodeJS MongoDB drivers
- Using callbacks and promises



Why MERN and not MEAN?

- Angular MVC, heavy, learning curve
- React easier, library

1.1 Introduction to React

- Released by Facebook and Instagram to help make building SPAs (single page applications) easier
- DOM manipulation is faster (using virtual DOM)
- Uses components for visual elements

Babel and JSX

- Babel is a JSX to JavaScript converter that allows us to create React elements in XML/HTML syntax
- JSX gets converted to React.createElement()

```
1
   ReactDOM.render(
2
       <div>
3
           <h1>Captain America</h1>
4
           <h1>Iron Man</h1>
5
           <h1>Thor</h1>
6
       </div>,
       destination
7
8
   );
```

JavaScript

```
ReactDOM.render(
1
2
       React.createElement("div", null,
3
           React.createElement( "h1", null, "Captain America" ),
           React.createElement ( "h1", null, "Iron Man" ),
4
           React.createElement ( "h1", null, "Thor" ),
5
6
       ),
       destination
7
8
   );
```

1.2 Getting Started with React

First Program

Include the following libraries in the <script></script> tags

```
1     <!-- React JS libraries -->
2
3     <script src="https://unpkg.com/react@16/umd/react.development.js"
          crossorigin></script>
4          <script src="https://unpkg.com/react-dom@16/umd/react-dom.development.js"
          crossorigin></script>
5
6          <!-- Babel -->
7          <script src="https://unpkg.com/@babel/standalone/babel.min.js"></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script></script
```

1. Tip: if you are using VSCode, type in html:5 and press enter to get a basic HTML5 skeleton

- 2. Be sure to include the sources in the header <script></script> tags
- 3. Create an empty <div></div> tag to manipulate using ReactDOM
- 4. Add a script tag with text type text/babel and start writing your react code!

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
 1
 2
    <html lang="en">
 3
    <head>
        <meta charset="UTF-8">
 4
 5
        <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
 6
        <title>Introduction to React</title>
 7
 8
        <script src="https://unpkg.com/react@16/umd/react.development.js"</pre>
    crossorigin></script>
9
        <script src="https://unpkg.com/react-dom@16/umd/react-</pre>
    dom.development.js" crossorigin></script>
10
        <script src="https://unpkg.com/@babel/standalone/babel.min.js">
    </script>
11
12
    </head>
13
    <body>
        <div id="container"></div>
14
        <script type="text/babel">
15
            var des = document.querySelector("#container");
16
            ReactDOM.render(
17
18
                 {/* JSX code */}
19
                 <h1> React World </h1>,
20
21
            );
22
        </script>
23
    </body>
24
    </html>
```

3. Note: the JSX code can be written as

```
1 React.createElement("h1", {color: red}, "React World!!"),
```

2.0 Introduction to Components

Simple Components

- Components are written as classes that inherit from React.Component
- A render method must be written that returns JSX
- Call the ReactDOM. render() method with an element of the newly-created component

Inside the body <script type="text/babel"></script> tags

```
var des = document.querySelector("#container");
   class Helloworld extends React.Component {
        render() {
 5
            return <h1> Hello components! </h1>
 6
        }
7
   }
9
   ReactDOM.render(
        <Helloworld />,
10
11
   );
12
```

Rendered in a browser



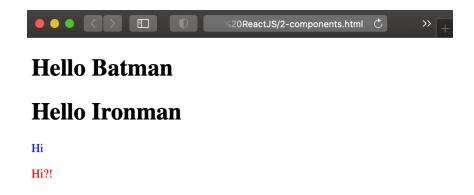
Hello components!

Parameterised Components (using this.props)

- JSX code within {} is JS
- this.props refers to the properties passed in the JSX from the ReactDOM.render() function

```
var des = document.querySelector("#container");
 1
 2
    class Helloworld extends React.Component {
 3
 4
        render() {
 5
            {/* This is a JSX comment */}
 6
            {/* {this.props.greet} is displayed in the <h1></h1>
 7
            tags on the browser*/}
 8
            return <h1> Hello {this.props.greet} </h1>
9
        }
10
    }
11
12
    class Hello extends React.Component {
13
        render() {
14
            return (
                {/* A component can have child elements like in HTML */}
15
                <div className={this.props.type}>
16
17
                     {/* this.props.children contains the text within the tags,
18
                     not an array of children */}
19
                     {this.props.children}
20
                </div>
21
            );
22
        }
23
    }
24
25
    ReactDOM.render(
26
        <div>
27
            {/* property greet is passed */}
28
            <Helloworld greet="Batman"/>
29
            <Helloworld greet="Ironman"/>
30
            <Hello type="greeting">
31
32
                Ηi
            </Hello>
33
            <Hello type="shocking">
34
35
                Hi?!
36
            </Hello>
37
        </div>,
38
        des
39
   );
```

```
1
   <style>
2
       .greeting {
3
            color: blue
4
       }
5
6
       .shocking {
7
            color: red
8
9
   </style>
```



2.2 Styling Components

Hard-Coded Approach

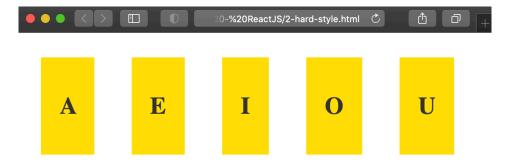
- To style various components, we can add CSS style to the <style></style> tags in the head
- This is not the best way to do it

```
1 .letter {
2    background-color: #ffde00;
3    color: #333;
4    display: inline-block;
5    padding: 25px;
6    margin: 25px;
7 }
```

Inside the body <script type="text/babel"></script> tags

```
var des = document.querySelector("#container");
 1
 2
 3
    class Letter extends React.Component {
 4
        render() {
 5
            return <div className="letter">
                <h1>{this.props.children}</h1>
 6
 7
            </div>;
 8
        }
9
    }
10
11
    ReactDOM.render(
12
        <div>
13
            <Letter> A </Letter>
14
            <Letter> E </Letter>
15
            <Letter> I </Letter>
            <Letter> 0 </Letter>
16
17
            <Letter> U </Letter>
18
        </div>,
19
        des
20
   );
```

Rendered in a browser

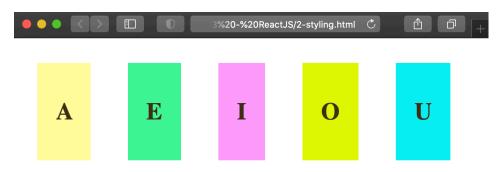


Styling it the React Way

- Create a style object in the Letter component class
- Syntax similar to CSS but uses camelCase
- Reads backgroundColor property from <Letter> </Letter> tags
- No <style></style> tags in the head

```
1 var des = document.querySelector("#container");
```

```
3
    class Letter extends React.Component {
4
        render() {
 5
            var letterStyle = {
 6
                 backgroundColor: this.props.backgroundColor,
 7
                 color: '#432e19',
                 display: 'inline-block',
 8
 9
                 padding: '25px',
                 margin: '25px'
10
11
            };
            return <div style={letterStyle}>
12
13
                 <h1>{this.props.children}</h1>
14
            </div>;
        }
15
16
    }
17
18
    ReactDOM.render(
19
        <div>
20
            <Letter backgroundColor='#ffff99'> A </Letter>
            <Letter backgroundColor='#45f594'> E </Letter>
21
            <Letter backgroundColor='#ff99ff'> I </Letter>
22
23
            <Letter backgroundColor='#dbfb10'> 0 </Letter>
24
            <Letter backgroundColor='#00f2f4'> U </Letter>
25
        </div>,
        des
26
27
    );
```

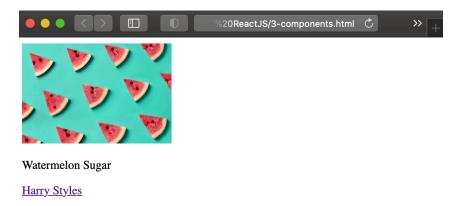


3.0 Complex Components

- Good for reusability and composability
- Components that contain components
- For example, a component called SearchResult that contains the components
 ResultImage, ResultCaption and ResultLink

Hard-Coded

```
class ResultImage extends React.Component {
 1
 2
        render() {
 3
            return (
                 <img src="images/watermelon.jpg" width="200px"></img>
4
 5
            );
 6
        }
 7
    }
8
9
    class ResultCaption extends React.Component {
10
        render() {
11
            return (
12
                Watermelon Sugar
13
            );
14
        }
15
    }
16
17
    class ResultLink extends React.Component {
18
        render() {
19
            return (
20
                <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E07s5ZYygMg">Harry
    Styles</a>
21
            );
22
        }
23
    }
24
25
    class SearchResult extends React.Component {
26
        render() {
27
            return (
28
                <div>
29
                     <ResultImage/>
30
                     <ResultCaption/>
31
                     <ResultLink/>
32
                </div>
33
            );
34
        }
35
    }
36
37
    ReactDOM.render(
38
        <SearchResult/>,
        document.querySelector("#container")
39
40
    );
```



Better Composite Components

- To remove the hardcoding, the properties like src, href etc., have to be passed on using this.props from the parent Components to its sub components, as follows
- If desired, styling may be added as previously discussed

```
class ResultImage extends React.Component {
 1
 2
        render() {
 3
            return (
                 <img src={this.props.src} width={this.props.width}></img>
 4
 5
            );
 6
        }
 7
    }
8
9
    class ResultCaption extends React.Component {
        render() {
10
            return (
11
12
                {this.props.children}
13
            );
14
        }
    }
15
16
17
    class ResultLink extends React.Component {
        render() {
18
19
20
                 <a href={this.props.href}>Harry Styles</a>
21
            );
22
        }
23
    }
```

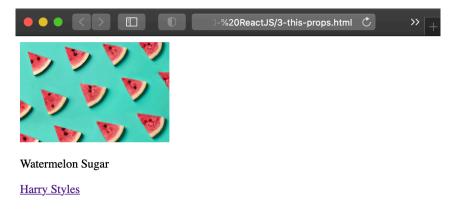
```
24
25
    class SearchResult extends React.Component {
        render() {
26
27
            return (
28
                     {/* Tedious way to transfer properties */}
29
                     <ResultImage src={this.props.src} width=</pre>
30
    {this.props.width}/>
31
                     <ResultCaption>{this.props.children}</ResultCaption>
32
                     <ResultLink href={this.props.href}/>
                 </div>
33
34
            );
        }
35
    }
36
37
38
39
    ReactDOM.render(
40
        <SearchResult src="images/watermelon.jpg" width="200px"</pre>
    href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E07s5ZYygMg">Watermelon
    Sugar</SearchResult>,
        document.querySelector("#container")
41
42
    );
```



Transferring Properties Better

• To simplify the tedious process of transferring components, we use the spread operator - ...

```
1
    class ResultImage extends React.Component {
 2
        render() {
 3
            return (
 4
                 <img src={this.props.src} width={this.props.width}></img>
 5
            );
 6
        }
 7
    }
 8
9
    class ResultCaption extends React.Component {
10
        render() {
11
            return (
12
                 {this.props.caption}
13
            );
14
        }
    }
15
16
17
    class ResultLink extends React.Component {
18
        render() {
            return (
19
20
                <a href={this.props.href}>{this.props.children}</a>
21
            );
22
        }
23
    }
24
25
    class SearchResult extends React.Component {
26
        render() {
27
            return (
                <div className="result">
28
29
                     <ResultImage {...this.props}/>
                     <ResultCaption {...this.props}/>
30
                     <ResultLink {...this.props}/>
31
32
                </div>
33
            );
34
        }
    }
35
36
37
    ReactDOM.render(
        <SearchResult src="images/watermelon.jpg"</pre>
38
            width="200px" caption="Watermelon Sugar"
39
            href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E07s5ZYygMg">
40
            Harry Styles
41
42
        </searchResult>,
43
44
        document.querySelector("#container")
45
   );
```



4.0 Stateful Components

- Up until now, we have only dealt with static/stateless components that do not undergo any state changes
- Components may need to change based on user actions, timers, responses from servers etc.

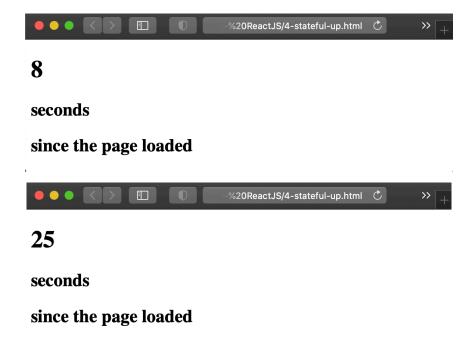
Basic Counter Component

- Shows number of seconds that the user has been on the page for
- We create a Component Counter with a constructor(), componentDidUpdate() method,
 componentDidMount() method, timer() method and a render() method
- The constructor(props, context) is to initialise the counter and this.state and should always call the super(props, context) constructor
- The method componentDidMount() can be used to start the counter and set the timer
- The timer() method calls the setState() function, which is what makes the component stateful

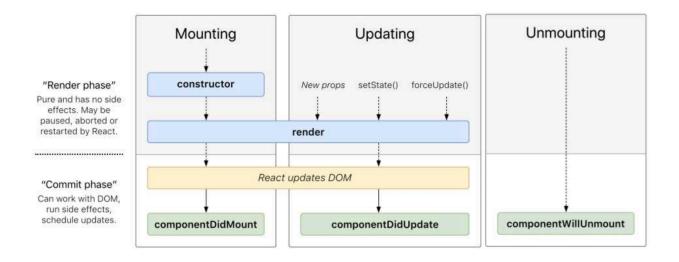
•

```
class Counter extends React.Component {
    constructor (props, context) {
        super(props, context);
        this.state = {
            seconds: 0
        };
}
```

```
this.timer = this.timer.bind(this);
 8
        }
9
10
        componentDidUpdate() {
11
            console.log("Updating!!");
12
        }
13
14
        componentDidMount() {
15
            this.t = setInterval(this.timer, 1000);
16
        }
17
18
        componentWillUnmount() {
19
            clearInterval(this.t);
            console.log("Stopped!!!");
20
        }
21
22
23
        timer () {
24
            this.setState((prevState) => {
25
                 return {
26
                     seconds: prevState.seconds + 1
27
                 }
28
29
            })
30
        }
31
32
        render() {
33
            return (
34
                 <h1>{this.state.seconds}</h1>
35
        }
36
    }
37
38
39
    class CounterDisplay extends React.Component {
40
        render() {
            return (
41
42
                 <div>
43
                     <Counter/>
44
                     <h2> seconds </h2>
45
                     <h2> since the page loaded </h2>
46
                 </div>
47
            )
48
        }
49
    }
50
51
52
    ReactDOM.render(
53
        <CounterDisplay/>,
54
        document.querySelector("#container")
55
    );
```



Component Life Cycle



5.0 Stateless Components

- Class-based components are quite heavy
- For some stateless components, function-based components can be used
- Properties can be passed as parameters, not using this

Inside the body <script type="text/babel"></script> tags

```
1
    function Stuff(props) {
 2
        return (
 3
            <div>
4
                <h1>Hello {props.name}</h1>
            </div>
 6
        );
 7
    }
8
9
   ReactDOM.render(
        <Stuff name="Thor"/>,
10
        document.querySelector('#container')
11
    );
12
```

Rendered in a browser



More on Stateless Components

```
var des = document.querySelector("#container");
1
 2
 3
   function Helloworld(props) {
        return <h1> Hello {props.greet} </h1>
4
 5
    }
 6
    function Hello(props) {
7
8
        return (
9
            <div className={props.type}>
                {props.children}
10
            </div>
11
12
       );
13
14
```

```
15
16
    ReactDOM.render(
17
        <div>
            <HelloWorld greet="Batman"/>
18
19
            <Helloworld greet="Ironman"/>
            <Hello type="greeting">
20
                Ηi
21
22
            </Hello>
            <Hello type="shocking">
23
24
25
            </Hello>
26
        </div>,
27
        des
28
   );
```



6.0 Key Property

- When returning an array or list of elements, the individual elements should be uniquely identified by a key property
- Helps React identify each element in the list
- Unique key properties for each child in an array or iterator

Hard-Coded Method

```
function Stuff() {
1
2
    return (
3
       Batman,
4
5
          Superman,
6
          Joker,
7
8
    )
9
 }
```



Using Map Method

• Map method on an array or list calls a callback function for each element of the array

Example of map()

```
const numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
const doubled = numbers.map((number) => number * 2);
console.log(doubled);
```

Output

```
E [2, 4, 6, 8, 10] (5)
```

Using key property

- Return a <1i> element for each item
- If listItems does not have a key property, error

Inside the body <script type="text/babel"></script> tags

```
1
   function NameList(props) {
2
       const names = props.names;
       const listItems = names.map((name, index) => {name}
3
   );
4
5
       return (
6
           7
       )
8
   }
9
   const names = ["Batman", "Joker", "Superman"];
10
11
12
   ReactDOM.render(
       <NameList names={names}/>,
13
       document.querySelector('#container')
14
15
   );
```

Rendered in a browser



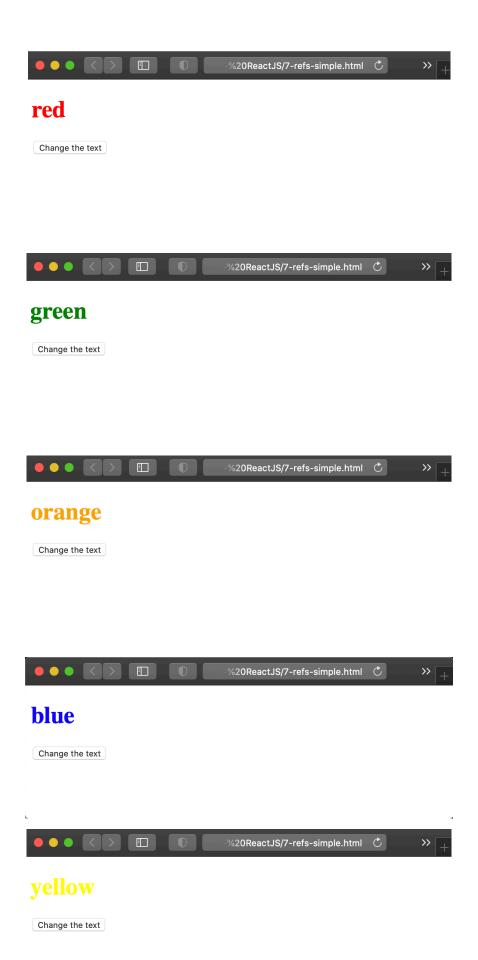
7.0 References

- Instead of accessing DOM elements in JSX, can use refs
- Can be used to induce changes in Components or Elements after they are rendered
- ref s are callback functions passed as properties

```
var colors = ['yellow', 'red', 'green', 'blue', 'orange']
class CustomText extends React.Component {
    constructor(props, context) {
        super(props, context)
        this.myText = null;
        this.setTextRef = element => {
```

```
/* this.myText is a reference to the element
 8
                 and can be used to perform raw DOM operations */
9
                 this.myText = element;
10
            }
11
            this.changeText = event => {
                 this.myText.innerHTML = "Changed";
12
                 var i = Math.floor(Math.random()*5);
13
14
                 this.myText.innerHTML = colors[i];
15
                 this.myText.style.color = colors[i];
16
            }
        }
17
18
19
        render() {
20
21
            return (
22
                 <div>
                     <h1 ref={this.setTextRef}>This is my text</h1>
23
24
                     <input type="button" value="Change the text" onClick=</pre>
    {this.changeText}/>
25
                 </div>
26
27
            )
28
        }
29
    }
30
31
    ReactDOM.render(
32
        <CustomText/>,
        document.querySelector('#container')
33
34
    );
```





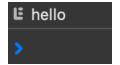
7.1 Passing References

• Parents can pass a ref callback to its child element to get a reference to the child element

```
function CustomInput (props) {
 2
        return (
 3
            <div>
4
                 <input ref={props.inputRef} type="text"/>
 5
            </div>
 6
        )
 7
    }
 8
9
    class Parent extends React.Component {
10
        constructor(props, context) {
11
            super(props, context);
12
13
            this.doClick = event => {
14
                 this.inputText.focus();
15
                 console.log(this.inputText.value);
            }
16
        }
17
18
19
        render() {
20
            return (
21
                 <div>
22
                     <CustomInput inputRef={el => {this.inputText = el}}/>
23
                     <button onClick={this.doClick}>Click</button>
                 </div>
24
            )
25
26
        }
27
    }
28
29
    ReactDOM.render(
30
        <Parent/>,
31
        document.querySelector('#container')
32
    );
```



Console



8.0 Events

- Similar to DOM events, but with some syntax differences
- React events use camelCase and not lowercase (as in DOM events)
- With JSX, event handler is a function and not a string
- Event objects are of type SyntheticEvent object

SyntheticEvent Object Characteristics

- SyntheticEvent is a wrapper around the DOMEvent object
- Event handlers are registered at the time of rendering, rather than using addEventListener after the element has been created
- Returning false does not prevent the default browser behaviour
- e.preventDefault() or e.stopPropagation() should be used

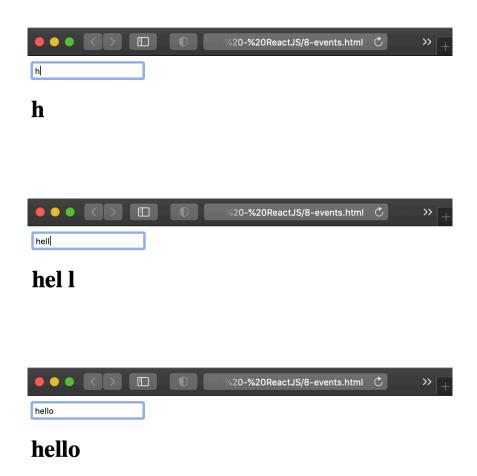
SyntheticEvent Object properties

- booleanbubbles
- booleancancelable
- DOMEventTargetcurrentTarget
- booleandefaultPrevented
- numbereventPhase

- booleanisTrusted
- DOMEventnativeEvent
- voidpreventDefault()
- booleanisDefaultPrevented()
- voidstopPropagation()
- booleanisPropagationStopped()
- voidpersist()
- DOMEventTargettarget
- numbertimeStamp
- stringtype

```
class MyDiv extends React.Component {
 2
        constructor(props) {
 3
            super(props);
 4
            this.myText = null;
            this.showChar = event => {
 5
 6
                 var txt:
 7
                 this.myText.innerHTML = event.target.value + ' ';
 8
9
                 if (event.shiftKey) {
                     txt = '<span style="color:red">'+event.key+'</span>';
10
11
                 }
12
                 else {
13
                     txt = event.key;
14
                 }
15
                 this.myText.innerHTML += txt;
            }
16
17
            this.setTextRef = element => {
18
                 this.myText = element;
19
            }
20
        }
        render() {
21
22
            return (
23
                 <div>
24
                     <input onKeyPress={this.showChar} type='text'/>
25
26
                     <h1 ref={this.setTextRef}/>
                 </div>
27
28
            );
29
        }
30
    }
31
32
    ReactDOM.render(
33
        <MyDiv/>,
```

```
document.querySelector('#container')
35 );
```



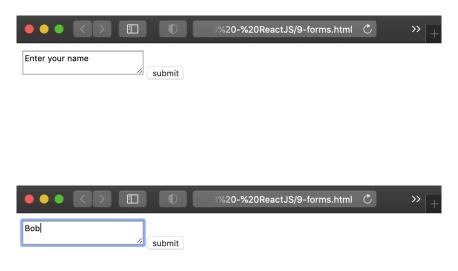
9.0 Forms

- Two main functionalities: when input value is change (onChange event) and when the form is submitted (onSubmit event)
- Form Data in React is usually handled by Components by storing them in state object, such Form components are called **Controlled Components**

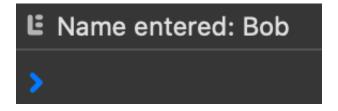
Controlled Components

- The value property of the three types of form elements <input>, <textarea> and <select> are controlled by React using the state and updated only using setState
- The value is updated in the state when onChange event is triggered on the form element (which calls setState)
- The value is also set to the state property to keep it updated at all times (single source of truth)

```
var txt, rv;
 1
 2
 3
    class ReadName extends React.Component {
 4
        constructor(props) {
 5
            super(props);
 6
            this.state = {
 7
                 value: 'Enter your name'
 8
            };
9
            /* Instead of defining
10
11
            functions in constructor */
12
            this.handleChange = this.handleChange.bind(this);
13
            this.handleSubmit = this.handleSubmit.bind(this);
14
        }
15
        handleChange = event => {
16
17
            this.setState({
                value: event.target.value
18
19
            });
        }
20
21
22
        handleSubmit = function (event) {
            console.log("Name entered: " + this.state.value);
23
24
            event.preventDefault();
25
        }
26
        render() {
27
28
            return (
29
                 <form onSubmit={this.handleSubmit}>
30
                     <textarea value={this.state.value} onChange=</pre>
    {this.handleChange}></textarea>
31
                     <input type="submit" value="submit"/>
32
                 </form>
            )
33
        }
34
```



Console

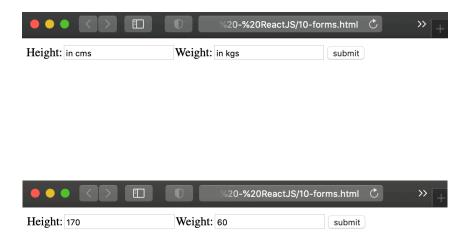


More on Forms

```
class BMICalc extends React.Component {
constructor(props) {
    super(props);
    this.state = {
        height: 'in cms',
        weight: 'in kgs',
        bmi: '0',
```

```
bmistat: '0'
8
 9
            };
10
11
            /* Instead of defining
            functions in constructor */
12
            this.handleChangeHeight = this.handleChangeHeight.bind(this);
13
            this.handleChangeweight = this.handleChangeweight.bind(this);
14
            this.handleSubmit = this.handleSubmit.bind(this);
15
16
        }
17
18
        handleChangeHeight = event => {
19
            var height_mtrs = event.target.value/100;
20
            var bmi = this.state.weight/(height_mtrs*height_mtrs);
            var bmistat = null;
21
            if (bmi < 19) {
22
                 bmistat = 'Underweight'
23
24
            }
            else if (bmi < 26) {
25
                 bmistat = 'Normal'
26
27
            }
28
            else {
29
                 bmistat = 'Overweight'
30
            }
31
            this.setState({
                 height: event.target.value,
32
33
                 weight: this.state.weight,
34
                 bmi: bmi,
                 bmistat: bmistat
35
36
            });
        }
37
38
        handleChangeWeight = event => {
39
            var height_mtrs = this.state.height/100;
40
41
            var bmi = event.target.value/(height_mtrs*height_mtrs);
            var bmistat = null;
42
            if (bmi < 19) {
43
                 bmistat = 'Underweight'
44
45
            }
46
            else if (bmi < 26) {
                 bmistat = 'Normal'
47
            }
48
49
            else {
50
                 bmistat = 'Overweight'
51
            }
            this.setState({
52
                 height: this.state.height,
53
                 weight: event.target.value,
54
55
                 bmi: bmi,
                 bmistat: bmistat
56
```

```
57
            });
        }
58
59
        handleSubmit = function (event) {
60
61
            console.log("Height entered: " + this.state.height);
            console.log("Weight entered: " + this.state.weight);
62
            console.log("BMI: " + this.state.bmi);
63
64
            console.log("BMI status: " + this.state.bmistat);
            event.preventDefault();
65
66
        }
67
68
        render() {
69
            return (
70
                 <form onSubmit={this.handleSubmit}>
71
                     <label>
72
                         Height:
                     </label>
73
74
                     <input value={this.state.height}</pre>
                         onChange={this.handleChangeHeight} type="text">
75
    </input>
76
77
                     <label>
78
                         Weight:</label>
79
                     <input value={this.state.weight}</pre>
80
                         onChange={this.handleChangeWeight} type="text">
    </input>
81
                     <input type="submit" value="submit"/>
                 </form>
82
83
            )
        }
84
    }
85
86
    ReactDOM.render(
87
        <BMICalc/>,
88
        document.querySelector('#container')
89
90
    );
```



Console

```
E Height entered: 170
E Weight entered: 60
E BMI: 20.761245674740486
E BMI status: Normal
```

Uncontrolled Components

- To write an uncontrolled component, instead of writing an event handler for every state update, you can use a ref to get form values from the DOM
- Additionally, use the defaultValue property to specify initial value in React

```
1 | <input defaultValue="Bob" type="text" ref={this.input} />
```

10.0 Context

- While passing props from parent to child, ...props needs to be passed down through all the children
- Becomes tedious
- For example here, App needs to pass the props down to DashBoard and then finally to Profile, event though DashBoard does not use it

```
1
    class Profile extends React.Component {
 2
        render() {
 3
            return (
4
                 <h1>Hello, {this.props.uname} </h1>
 6
        }
 7
    }
8
9
    function DashBoard(props) {
10
        return <Profile {...props}/>
11
    }
12
13
14
    class App extends React.Component {
15
        constructor(props) {
16
            super(props);
17
        }
18
19
        render() {
20
            return (
21
                 <DashBoard {...this.props}/>
22
            );
        }
23
24
    }
25
26
27
    ReactDOM.render(
28
        <App uname="thor"/>,
        document.querySelector('#container')
29
30
    );
```



Hello, thor

- To make this using context, we create a context object by calling React.createContext(), which has two keys: Provider and Consumer
- The property (state) passes on from the **Provider** to the **Consumer**, not having to be passed through every level

Inside the body <script type="text/babel"></script> tags

```
1
    const UContext = React.createContext();
 2
 3
    class Profile extends React.Component {
 4
        static contextType = UContext;
 5
        render() {
 6
            return (
 7
                <h1>Hello, {this.context} </h1>
 8
            );
9
        }
    }
10
11
12
    function DashBoard(props) {
13
14
        return <Profile/>
    }
15
16
17
    class App extends React.Component {
18
        render() {
19
            return (
                <UContext.Provider value={this.props.uname}>
20
21
                    <DashBoard/>
                </UContext.Provider>
22
23
            );
24
        }
25
    }
26
27
28
    ReactDOM.render(
29
        <App uname="thor"/>,
        document.querySelector('#container')
30
31
   );
```

Rendered in a browser



Hello, thor

Without defining a static contextType

```
const {Provider, Consumer} = React.createContext();
 2
 3
    class Profile extends React.Component {
4
        render() {
 5
            return (
 6
                 <Consumer>
 7
                     {function (user) {
8
                         return (
9
                              <h1>Hello, {user.uname} </h1>
10
                         )
11
                     }}
12
                 </Consumer>
13
14
        }
15
    }
16
17
18
    function DashBoard(props) {
19
        return <Profile/>
20
    }
21
22
    class App extends React.Component {
23
        constructor(props) {
24
            super(props);
25
26
            this.state = {
                 uname: ''
27
28
            }
29
        }
30
31
        componentDidMount() {
32
            this.setState({
33
                 uname: this.props.uname
34
            })
```

```
35
        }
36
37
        render() {
38
            return (
39
                <Provider value={this.state}>
40
                    <DashBoard/>
                </Provider>
41
42
            );
43
        }
44
    }
45
46
47
    ReactDOM.render(
        <App uname="thor"/>,
48
49
        document.querySelector('#container')
    );
50
```



Hello, thor