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Theory: Introduction to JavaScript

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These days, it is difficult to find sites that do not allow visitors to interact with them. Think sliders, web galleries, animation and whatever other interactive events that pop out when you press some button. The processing of user input, the ability to send/receive data from servers and other interactive behavior are provided by **JavaScript**.

§1. What is JavaScript

JavaScript (JS) is one of the most used programming languages. It was created by *Brendan Eich* in 1995, and it took him ten days. You read it right: JavaScript was really developed in just ten days!



The JavaScript logo

According to [GitHub 2018](#), JS tops the list of the most popular programming languages. It is used for both front-end and back-end development.

JavaScript is not Java. These are different programming languages. Their similar names were a marketing move to draw attention to the new language and take advantage of the popularity of Java.

JavaScript is based on the **ECMAScript** standard (often shortened to **ES**). The latest version of this standard is **ES11**.

§2. The first program

Programs written in this language are called **scripts**. Here is an example of a simple JS script that prints `I am starting to learn JavaScript!`:

```
1 | console.log("I am starting to learn JavaScript!");
```

All modern browsers have a built-in program that allows you to execute JS directly in them. Let's look at the result of our first program in the browser. To do this, press **Ctrl+Shift+J**/**Ctrl+Shift+K** or **Cmd+Opt+J**/**Cmd+Option+C** on Mac, write the JS code in the opened console, then press **Enter**.

```
> console.log("I am starting to learn JavaScript!");  
I am starting to learn JavaScript!
```

As you can see, the result of our first script was the line `I am starting to learn JavaScript!`.

The browser console is not always easy to use, so you can also run this code [on this site](#).

§3. Conclusion

JavaScript has a huge community of developers all over the world. This programming language is easy to learn and pleasant to write programs in. You will still come across difficulties, but when you do, you can always ask other programmers for help or even find [a ready-made answer!](#)

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There is a lot of new information in this topic, so we tried not to bore you with the history of JavaScript creation. If you still want to read it, you can visit this page on [Wikipedia](#) and then continue learning.

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