

## JavaScript (basics)

"The" language of the Web
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## Goal

- Learn JavaScript as a language
- Understand the specific semantics and programming patterns
- We assume a programming knowledge in other languages
- Updated to ES6 (2015) language features
- Supported by server-side (Node.js) and client-side (browsers) run-time environments


## Outline

- What is JavaScript?
- History and versions
- Language structure
- Types, variables
- Expressions
- Control structures
- Arrays
- Strings

JavaScript - The language of the Web
WHAT IS JAVASCRIPT?

The languages that dominated
Top languages over the years


## JavaScript

- JavaScript (JS) is a programming language
- It is currently the only programming language that a browser can execute natively...
- ... and it also run on a computer, like other programming languages (thanks to Node.js)
- It has nothing to do with Java
- named that way for marketing reasons, only
- The first version was written in 10 days (!)
- several fundamental language decisions were made because of company politics and not technical reasons!

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## HISTORY AND VERSIONS

## JAVASCRIPT VERSIONS

- JAVASCRIPT (December 4th 1995) Netscape and Sun press release
- ECMAScript Standard Editions: https://www.ecma-international.org/ecma-262/
- ES1 (June 1997) Object-based, Scripting, Relaxed syntax, Prototypes
- ES2 (June 1998) Editorial changes for ISO 16262
- ES3 (December 1999) Regexps, Try/Catch, Do-While, String methods
- ES5 (December 2009) Strict mode, JSON, .bind, Object mts, Array mts
- ES5.1 (June 2011) Editorial changes for ISO 16262:2011

ES6 (June 2015) Classes, Modules, Arrow Fs, Generators, Const/Let,
Also: ES2015 Destructuring, Template Literals, Promise, Proxy, Symbol, Reflect

- ES7 (June 2016) Exponentiation operator (**) and Array Includes
- ES8 (June 2017) Async Fs, Shared Memory \& Atomics


## JavaScript versions

- ECMAScript (also called ES) is the official name of JavaScript (JS) standard
- ES6, ES2015, ES2016 etc. are implementations of the standard
- All browsers used to run ECMAScript 3
- ES5, and ES2015 (=ES6) were huge versions of JavaScript
- Then, yearly release cycles started
- By the committee behind JS: TC39, backed by Mozilla, Google, Facebook, Apple, Microsoft, Intel, PayPal, SalesForce, etc.
- ES2015 (=ES6) is covered in the following


## Official ECMA standard (formal and unreadable)

```
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```

ecma

ECMA-262, $10^{\text {th }}$ edition, June 2019
ECMAScript® 2019 Language Specification

## Contributing to this Specification

This specification is developed on Gittub with the help of the ECMAScript community. There are a number of ways to contribute to the development of this specification:

GitHub Repository: https://github.com/tc39/ecma262
Issues: All Issues, File a New Issue
Pull Requests: All Pull Requests, Create a New Pull Request
Test Suite: Test2 2
Editors
$\circ$ Brian Terlson (@bterlson)
Bradley Farias (@bradleymeck)
○ Jordan Harband (@liharb)

## Community

- Mailing list: es-discuss
- IRC: \#tc39 on freenode

Refer to the colophon for more information on how this document is created.

## Introduction

## JavaScript Engines

- V8 (Chrome V8) by Google
- used in Chrome/Chromium, Node.js and Microsoft Edge
- SpiderMonkey by Mozilla Foundation
- Used in Firefox/Gecko
- ChakraCore by Microsoft
- it was used in Edge
- JavaScriptCore by Apple
- used in Safari


## Standard vs. Implementation (in browsers)

Browser compatibility

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | ,ompa | data |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\square$ |  |  |  |  |  | [ |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { O} \\ & \stackrel{0}{0} \\ & \text { ! } \\ & \text { © } \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { \& } \\ & \stackrel{8}{山 己} \\ & \text { e } \end{aligned}$ |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \frac{\pi}{0} \\ & \text { O } \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 믕 } \\ & \text { 을 } \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & \frac{0}{0} \\ & 0 . \\ & 0 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |
| Fetchevent $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ | 40 | Yes | 44 * | No | 27 | No | 40 | 40 | 44 | 27 | No | 4.0 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { FetchEvent() } \\ & \text { constructor } \end{aligned} \quad \mathbb{Z}$ | 40 | Yes | 44 | No | 27 | No | 40 | 40 | 44 | 27 | No | 4.0 |
| client $\quad \boldsymbol{\square} \boldsymbol{\text { ¢ }} \mathbf{A}$ | 42 | ? | 44 | No | 27 | No | 42 | 44 | No | ? | No | 4.0 |
| clientid $\quad \boldsymbol{\Delta}$ | 49 | ? | 45 * | No | 36 | No | 49 | 49 | 45 | 36 | No | 5.0 |
| isreload $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ | 45 | 17 | 44* | No | 32 | No | 45 | 45 | 44 | 32 | No | 5.0 |
| ${ }_{\text {navigationPreload }} \boldsymbol{\Delta}$ | 59 | ? | ? | No | 46 | No | 59 | 59 | ? | ${ }^{43}$ | No | 7.0 |
| preloadResponse $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ | 59 | 18 | ? | No | 46 | No | 59 | 59 | ? | 43 | No | 7.0 |
| replacesclientid | No | 18 | 65 | No | No | No | No | No | 65 | No | No | No |
| request $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ | Yes | ? | 44 | No | Yes | No | Yes | Yes | ? | Yes | No | Yes |
| respondwith $\boldsymbol{\Delta}$ | 42 * | ? | 59** | No | 29 | No | 42 * | 42 * | ? | 29 | No | 4.0 |
| resultingClientId | 72 | 18 | 65 | No | 60 | No | 72 | 72 | 65 | 50 | No | No |
| targetClientid | ? | ? | ? | No | ? | No | ? | ? | ? | ? | No | ? |

$\square$. Compatibility unknown
No support
A Non-standard. Expect poor cross

- Experimental. Expect behavior to
Non-Standard. Ex
browser support

Deprecated. Not for use in new websites.

* See implementation notes


## JS Compatibility

- JS is backwards-compatible
- once something is accepted as valid JS, there will not be a future change to the language that causes that code to become invalid JS
- TC39 members: "we don't break the web!"
- JS is not forwards-compatible
- new additions to the language will not run in an older JS engine and may crash the program
- strict mode was introduced to disable very old (and dangerous) semantics
- Supporting multiple versions is achieved by:
- Transpiling - Babel (https://babeljs.io) converts from newer JS syntax to an equivalent older syntax
- Polyfilling - user- (or library-)defined functions and methods that "fill" the lack of a feature by implementing the newest available one


## JS Execution Environments



## JavaScriptTutor

Write code in JavaScript ES6 $\checkmark$

```
let nome = "Fulvio"
let cognome = "Corno";
function hello(c, n) {
    n = n || "sig.
        const saluto = n + " " + c ;
        return saluto ;
    }
let s1 = hello(cognome, nome)
let s2 = hello(nome)
let nome2 = [...nome]
#14 let cognome2 = [...cognome]
```

(drag lower right corner to resize code editor)

http://pythontutor.com/javascript.html

## Browser and JS console



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## LANGUAGE STRUCTURE

## Lexical structure

- One File = One JS program
- Each file is loaded independently and
- Different files/programs may communicate through global state
- The "module" mechanism extends that (provides state sharing in a clean way)
- The file is entirely parsed, and then executed from top to bottom
- Relies on a standard library
- and many additional APIs provided by the execution environment


## Lexical structure

```
> let ööö = 'appalled'
> ööö
'appalled'
```

- JavaScript is written in Unicode (do not abuse), so it also supports nonlatin characters for names and strings
- even emoji
- Semicolons (;) are not mandatory (automatically inserted)
- Case sensitive
- Comments as in C (/*. .*/ and // )
- Literals and identifiers (start with letter, \$, _)
- Some reserved words
- C-like syntax


## Semicolon (; )

- Argument of debate in the JS community
- JS inserts them as needed
- When next line starts with code that breaks the current one
- When the next line starts with \}
- When there is return, break, throw, continue on its own line
- Be careful that forgetting semicolon can lead to unexpected behavior
- A newline does not automatically insert a semicolon: if the next line starts with (or [ , it is interpreted as function call or array access
- We will loosely follow the Google style guide, so we will always insert semicolons after each statement
- https://google.github.io/styleguide/jsguide.html

```
// first line of file

\section*{Strict Mode}
- Directive introduced in ES5: "use strict" ;
- Compatible with older version (it is just a string)
- Code is executed in strict mode
- This fixes some important language deficiencies and provides stronger error checking and security
- Examples:
- fixes mistakes that make it difficult for JavaScript engines to perform optimizations: strict mode code can sometimes be made to run faster than identical code that's not strict mode
- eliminates some JavaScript silent errors by changing them to throw errors
- functions invoked as functions and not as methods of an object have this undefined
- cannot define 2 or more properties or function parameters with the same name
- no octal literals (base 8, starting with 0 )
- ...

\section*{TYPES AND VARIABLES}

\section*{Values and Types}

Values have types.
Variables don't.


\section*{Boolean, true-truthy, false-falsy, comparisons}
- 'boolean' type with literal values: true, false
- When converting to boolean
- The following values are 'falsy'
- \(0,-0, \mathrm{NaN}\), undefined, null, ' '(empty string)
- Every other value is truthy'
- 3, 'false', [] (empty array), \{\} (empty object)
```

> Boolean(3)
true
> Boolean('-')
false
> Boolean(' ')
true

```
- Booleans and Comparisons
- a == b // convert types and compare results
- a === b // inhibit automatic type conversion and compare results

\section*{Number}
- No distinction between integers and reals
- Automatic conversions according to the operation
- There is also a distinct type "BigInt" (ES11, July 2020)
- an arbitrary-precision integer, can represent \(2^{53}\) numbers
- 123456789n
- With suffix ' \(n\) '

\section*{Special values}
- undefined: variable declared but not initialized
- Detect with: typeof variable === 'undefined'
- void x always returns undefined
- null: an empty value
- Null and Undefined are called nullish values
- NaN (Not a Number)
- It is actually a number
- Invalid output from arithmetic operation or parse operation

\section*{Variables}
- Variables are pure references: they refer to a value
```

>v = 7 ;
7
> v = 'hi';
'hi'

```
- The same variable may refer to different values (even of different types) at different times
- Declaring a variable:
- let
- const
- var
```

> let a = 5
> const b = 6
> var c = 7
> a = 8
8
> b = 9
Thrown:
TypeError: Assignment to
constant variable.
> c = 10
1 0

```

\section*{Variable declarations}
\begin{tabular}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|}
\hline Declarator & Can reassign? & Can re-declare? & Scope & Hoisting * & Note \\
\hline let & Yes & No & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Enclosing block \\
\(\{\ldots\}\).
\end{tabular} & No & Preferred \\
\hline const & Nos & No & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Enclosing block \\
\(\{\ldots\}\).
\end{tabular} & No & Preferred \\
\hline var & Yes & Yes & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Enclosing \\
function, \\
or global
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Yes, to beginning \\
of function or file
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Legacy, beware \\
its quirks, try not \\
to use
\end{tabular} \\
\hline None (implicit) & Yes & N/A & Global & Yes & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Forbidden in \\
strict mode
\end{tabular} \\
\hline
\end{tabular}
\({ }^{\S}\) Prevents reassignment \((a=2)\), does not prevent changing the value of the referred object ( \(a . b=2\) )
* Hoisting = "lifting up" the definition of a variable (not the initialization!) to the top of the current scope (e.g., the file or the function)

\section*{Scope}
```

"use strict" ;
let a = 1 ;
const b = 2 ;
let c = true ;
let a = 5 ; // SyntaxError: Identifier 'a' has already been declared

```

\section*{Scope}
```

"use strict" ;
let a = 1 ;
const b = 2 ;
let c = true ;
{ // creating a new scope...
let a = 5 ;
console.log(a) ;
}
console.log(a) ;

```

Each \(\}\) is called a block. 'let' and 'const' variables are block-scoped.
They exist only in their defined and inner scopes.

\section*{Scope and Hoisting}
```

"use strict" ;
function example(x) { var c ; // hoisted
let a = 1 ;
console.log(a) ; // 1
console.log(b) ; // ReferenceError: b is not defined
console.log(c) ; // undefined
if( x>1 ) {
let b = a+1 ;
var c = a*2 ;
}
console.log(a) ; // 1
console.log(b) ; // ReferenceError: b is not defined
console.log(c) ; // 2
}
example(2) ;

```

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JavaScript Guide » Expressions and operators

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\section*{EXPRESSIONS}

\section*{Operators}
- Assignment operators
- Comparison operators
- Arithmetic operators
- Bitwise operators
- Logical operators
- String operators
```

Full reference and operator precedence:
https://developer.mozilla.org/en-
US/docs/Web/JavaScript/Reference/Operators/Oper
ator Precedence\#Table

```
- Conditional (ternary) operator
- Comma operator
- Unary operators
- Relational operators

\section*{Assignment}
- let variable = expression ;
- variable = expression ;
// declaration with initialization
// reassignment
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline Name & Shorthand operator & Meaning \\
\hline Assignment & \(x=y\) & \(x=y\) \\
\hline Addition assignment & \(x+=y\) & \(x=x+y\) \\
\hline Subtraction assignment & \(x-=y\) & \(x=x-y\) \\
\hline Multiplication assignment & \(x^{*}=\mathrm{y}\) & \(x=x * y\) \\
\hline Division assignment & \(x /=y\) & \(x=x / y\) \\
\hline Remainder assignment & \(x \%=y\) & \(x=x \% y\) \\
\hline Exponentiation assignment \(\triangle\) & \(x^{* *}=\mathrm{y}\) & \(x=x * * y\) \\
\hline Left shift assignment & \(x \ll=y\) & \(x=x \ll y\) \\
\hline Right shift assignment & \(x \ggg=y\) & \(x=x \gg y\) \\
\hline Unsigned right shift assignment & \(x \ggg=y\) & \(x=x \ggg y\) \\
\hline Bitwise AND assignment & \(x \&=y\) & \(x=x \& y\) \\
\hline Bitwise XOR assignment & \(\mathrm{x}^{\wedge}=\mathrm{y}\) & \(x=x^{\wedge} y\) \\
\hline Bitwise OR assignment & \(x \mid=y\) & \(x=x \mid y\) \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{Comparison operators}
\begin{tabular}{|c|c|c|}
\hline Operator & Description & Examples returning true \\
\hline Equal (==) & Returns true if the operands are equal. & \[
\begin{aligned}
& 3==\text { var1 } \\
& " 3 "==\operatorname{var} 1 \\
& 3==' 3 '
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline Not equal (! \(=\) ) & Returns true if the operands are not equal. & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { var1 != } 4 \\
& \text { var2 != "3" }
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline Strict equal (===) & Returns true if the operands are equal and of the same type. See also Object. is and sameness in JS. & 3 === var1 \\
\hline Strict not equal ( \(!==\) ) & Returns true if the operands are of the same type but not equal, or are of different type. & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { var1 !== "3" } \\
& 3!==~ ' 3 '
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline Greater than (>) & Returns true if the left operand is greater than the right operand. & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { var2 > var1 } \\
& " 12 ">2
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline Greater than or equal
\[
(>=)
\] & Returns true if the left operand is greater than or equal to the right operand. & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { var2 >= var1 } \\
& \text { var1 >= }
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline Less than (<) & Returns true if the left operand is less than the right operand. & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { var1 < var2 } \\
& " 2 " ~<~
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline Less than or equal ( \(<=\) ) & Returns true if the left operand is less than or equal to the right operand. & \[
\begin{aligned}
& \text { var1 <= var2 } \\
& \operatorname{var} 2<=5
\end{aligned}
\] \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{Comparing Objects}
- Comparison between objects with == or === compares the references to objects
- True only if they are the same object
- False if they are identical objects
- Comparison with \(<><=>=\) first converts the object (into a Number, or more likely a String), and then compares the values
- It works, but may be unpredictable, depending on the string format
```

> a={x:1}
{x:1 }
>b={x:1}
{ x: 1 }
> a===b
false
> a==b
false

```

\section*{Automatic Type Conversions}
- JS tries to apply type conversions between primitive types, before applying operators
- Some language constructs may be used to "force" the desired conversions
- Using == applies conversions

- Using === prevents conversions

\section*{Logical operators}
\begin{tabular}{|l|l|l|}
\hline Operator & Usage & Description \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l} 
Logical AND \\
(\&\&)
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l} 
expr1 \&\& \\
expr2
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Returns expr1 if it can be converted to fal se; otherwise, returns expr2. Thus, when used with Boolean \\
values, \&\& returns true if both operands are true; otherwise, returns false.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l} 
Logical OR \\
(||)
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l} 
expr1 \\
expr2
\end{tabular} & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Returns expr1 if it can be converted to true; otherwise, returns expr2. Thus, when used with Boolean \\
values, || returns true if either operand is true; if both are false, returns false.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l} 
Logical NOT \\
\((!)\)
\end{tabular} & !expr & Returns false if its single operand that can be converted to true; otherwise, returns true. \\
\hline
\end{tabular}

\section*{Common operators}


\section*{Mathematical functions (Math building object)}
- Constants: Math.E, Math.LN10, Math.LN2, Math.LOG10E, Math.LOG2E, Math.PI, Math.SQRT1_2, Math.SQRT2
- Functions: Math.abs(), Math.acos(), Math.acosh(), Math.asin(), Math.asinh(), Math.atan(), Math.atan2(), Math.atanh(), Math.cbrt(), Math.ceil(), Math.clz32(), Math.cos(), Math.cosh(), Math.exp(), Math.expm1(), Math.floor(), Math.fround(), Math.hypot(), Math.imul(), Math.log(), Math.log10(), Math.log1p(), Math.log2(), Math.max(), Math.min(), Math.pow(), Math.random(), Math.round(), Math.sign(), Math.sin(), Math.sinh(), Math.sqrt(), Math.tan(), Math.tanh(), Math.trunc()

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JavaScript Guide » Control Flow and Error Handling JavaScript Guide » Loops and Iteration

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\section*{CONTROL STRUCTURES}

\section*{Conditional statements}
```

if (condition) {
statement_1; if truthy (beware!)
} else {
statement_2;
}

```
```

switch (expression) {
case label_1:
statements_1
[break;]
case label_2:
statements_2
[break;]

```
if (condition_1) \{
    statement_1;
\} else if (condition_2) \{
    statement_2;
\} else if (condition_n) \{
    statement_n;
\} else \{
    statement_last;
\}

\section*{Loop statements}
```

for ([initialExpression]; [condition]; [incrementExpression]) {
statement ;
}

```

Usually declares loop variable
```

do {
statement ;
} while (condition);

```
Vay use break; or
continue;
```

while (condition) {
statement ;
}

```

\section*{Special 'for' statements}
```

for (variable in object) {
statement ;
}

```
- Iterates the variable over all the enumerable properties of an object
- Do not use to traverse an array (use numerical indexes, or for-of)
```

for (variable of iterable) {
statement ;
}

```
- Iterates the variable over all values of an iterable object (including Array, Map, Set, string, arguments ...)
- Returns the values, not the keys
```

for( let a in {x: 0, y:3}) {
console.log(a) ;
}

```
x
y
```

```
for( let a of [4,7]) {
```

```
for( let a of [4,7]) {
    console.log(a) ;
    console.log(a) ;
}
```

```
}
```

```

4
7
```

```
for( let a of "hi" ) {
```

```
for( let a of "hi" ) {
    console.log(a) ;
    console.log(a) ;
}
```

```
}
```

```
h
i

\section*{Other iteration methods}
- Functional programming (strongly supported by JS) allows other methods to iterate over a collection (or any iterable object)
- a.forEach()
- a.map()
- They will be analyzed later

\section*{Exception handling}


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JavaScript Guide » Indexed Collections

JavaScript - The language of the Web

\section*{ARRAYS}

\section*{Arrays}
- Rich of functionalities
- Elements do not need to be of the same type
- Simplest syntax: [ ]
- Property .length
- Distinguish between methods that:
- Modify the array (in-place)
- Return a new array

Creating an array
let \(\mathrm{V}=[\);
Elements are indexed at positions 0...length-1

Do not access elements outside range
```

let v = [1, 2, 3];

```
```

let v = Array.of(1, 2, 3);

```

Frames
Objects

```

```
let v = Array.of(1, "hi",
```

```
let v = Array.of(1, "hi",
3.1, true);
```

```
3.1, true);
```

```
```

let v = [1, "hi", 3.1, true];

```

Frames Objects


\section*{Adding elements}

\section*{. lenght adjusts}
automatically
```

let v = [] ;
v[0] = "a" ;
v[1] = 8 ;
v.length // 2

```

```

let v = [] ;
v.push("a");
v.push(8) ;
v.length // 2

```
```

    .push() adds at the
    end of the array

```
    . unshift() adds at
    the beginning of the
    array

\section*{Adding and Removing from arrays (in-place)}


\section*{Copying arrays}
```

let v = [] ;
v[0] = "a" ;
v[1] = 8 ;
let alias = v ;
alias[1] = 5 ;

```
> console.log(v);
[ 'a', 5 ]
undefined
> console.log(alias);
[ 'a', 5 ]
undefined

\section*{Copying arrays}
```

let v = [] ;
v[0] = "a" ;
v[1] = 8;
let alias = v ;
let copy = Array.from(v);

```


Array.from creates a shallow copy

Creates an array from any iterable object

\section*{Iterating over Arrays}
- Iterators: for ... of, for (..;..;..)
- Iterators: forEach (f)
- \(f\) is a function that processes the element
- Iterators: every (f) , some (f)
- \(f\) is a function that returns true or false
- Iterators that return a new array: map (f), filter (f)
- f works on the element of the array passed as parameter
- Reduce: exec a callback function on all items to progressively compute a result

\section*{Main array methods}
- . concat()
- joins two or more arrays and returns a new array.
- .join(delimiter = ',')
- joins all elements of an array into a (new) string.
- .slice(start_index, upto_index)
- extracts a section of an array and returns a new array.
- . splice(index, count_to_remove, addElement1, addElemēnt \(\overline{2}, \ldots\).
- removes elements from an array and (optionally) replaces them, in place
- . reverse()
- transposes the elements of an array, in place
-. .sort()
- sorts the elements of an array in place
- .indexOf(searchElement[,
fromIndex])
- searches the array for searchElement and returns the index of the first match
- . lastIndexOf(searchElement[, fromIndex])
- like indexOf, but starts at the end
- .includes(valueToFind[, fromIndex])
- search for a certain value among its entries, returning true or false

\section*{Destructuring assignment}
- Value of the right-hand side of equal signal are extracted and stored in the variables on the left
```

let [x,y] = [1,2];
[x,y] = [y,x]; // swap
var foo = ['one', 'two', 'three'];
var [one, two, three] = foo;

```
- Useful especially with passing and returning values from functions let \([x, y]=\) toCartesian( \(r\),theta);

\section*{Spread operator (3 dots:...)}
- Expands an interable object in its parts, when the syntax requires a comma-separated list of elements
```

let [x, ...y] = [1,2,3,4]; // we obtain y == [2,3,4]
const parts = ['shoulders', 'knees'];
const lyrics = ['head', ...parts, 'and', 'toes']; // ["head", "shoulders",
"knees", "and", "toes"]

```
- Works on the left- and right-hand side of the assignment

\section*{Curiosity}
- Copy by value:
- const b = Array.from(a)
- Can be emulated by
- const \(b=\) Array.of(...a)
- const \(b=[. . . a]\)

\section*{Mozilla Developer Network}

JavaScript Guide » Text Formatting

\section*{JavaScript - The language of the Web}

\section*{STRINGS}

\section*{Strings in JS}
- A string is an immutable ordered sequence of Unicode characters
- The length of a string is the number of characters it contains (not bytes)
- JavaScript's strings use zero-based indexing
- The empty string is the string of length 0
- JavaScript does not have a special type that represents a single character (use length-1 strings).
- String literals may be defined with 'abc' or "abc"
- Note: when dealing with JSON parsing, only " " can be correctly parsed

\section*{String operations}
- All operations always return new strings
- Consequence of immutability
- \(s[3]\) : indexing
- s1 + s2: concatenation
- s.length: number of characters
- Note: . length, not . length()

\section*{String methods}
\begin{tabular}{l|l}
\hline Method & Description \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l} 
charAt, charCodeAt, \\
codePointAt
\end{tabular} & Return the character or character code at the specified position in string. \\
indexOf, lastIndexOf & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Return the position of specified substring in the string or last position of specified substring, \\
respectively.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline \begin{tabular}{l} 
startsWith, endsWith, \\
includes
\end{tabular} & Returns whether or not the string starts, ends or contains a specified string. \\
\hline concat & Combines the text of two strings and returns a new string. \\
\hline fromCharCode, fromCodePoint & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Constructs a string from the specified sequence of Unicode values. This is a method of the String class, \\
not a instance.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline split & Splits a String object into an array of strings by separating the string into substrings. \\
\hline slice & \begin{tabular}{l} 
Return the specified subset of the string, either by specifying the start and end indexes or the start \\
index and a length.
\end{tabular} \\
\hline substring, substr & Work with regular expressions. \\
\hline match, matchAll, replace, & Return the string in all lowercase or all uppercase, respectively. \\
\hline search & Returns the Unicode Normalization Form of the calling string value. \\
\hline toLowerCase, toUpperCase & Returns a string consisting of the elements of the object repeated the given times. \\
\hline normalize & Trims whitespace from the beginning and end of the string. \\
\hline repeat & trim
\end{tabular}

\section*{Template literals}
- Strings included in `backticks` can embed expressions delimited by \(\$\}\)
- The value of the expression is interpolated into the string
let name = "Bill";
let greeting = `Hello \$\{ name \}.`;
// greeting == "Hello Bill."
- Very useful and quick for string formatting
- Template literals may also span multiple lines

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