

General info

We use ES6 (EcmaScript standard version 6)

Runs natively on browsers AND on a computer (using Node.js).

Execution environments: Server & CLI Node.js, Browser, learning aids ([Python Tutor](#)).

JS engines (interpreters): V8, SpiderMonkey, JavaScriptCore.

Compatibility:

- Backwards: <https://babeljs.io/>, Polyfilling
- Strict mode disables dangerous old semantics

First line of file is

```
"use strict " ;
```

- Can't define properties/parameters with same name;

Control Structures

If conditions: `if - else if - else, switch (expr)`

Loops: `for (initial_expr; cond; increment;), do - while, while`

Special for statements:

`for (var in object) {}`: iterates over all the enumerable

properties of an object. Do **not** use to traverse an array.

`for (var of iterable) {}`: iterates the variable over all values of an **iterable object** (array, map, etc.) and returns **the values**.

Exception handling:

```
try-catch-finally.
```

Ready to use throwables.

The condition of the ifs causes an implicit conversion of whatever is written to a boolean.

The expression in the switch may also be a string.

In loops, we may use `break`; or `continue`;

Expressions

Declare + initialize:

```
let variable = expression ;
```

Reassign:

```
variable = expression ;
```

Comparison:

convert and compare: `a == b`

same type **and** value: `a === b`

Conversions:

any to boolean:

```
truthy - falsy rule, Boolean(a), !!a
```

String to Number:

```
Number(s), parseInt(s), parseFloat(s)
```

Number to String:

```
n.toString(), String(n), n + ""
```

String concatenation:

```
string1 + string2
```

Default value assignment (if a then a else b):

```
a || b
```

Strings

Immutable sequence of unicode characters. All **operations** always return **new strings**.

Length = # of characters (not bytes).

Empty string has length 0 and is a **falsy**.

Operations:

→ indexing `s[3]`

→ concatenation `s1 + s2`

→ # of characters `s.length`

Template literals ("dynamic string concatenation")

```
let name = "Bill";
```

```
let greeting = `Hello ${name}.`;
```

Some Unicode characters are represented by **two** code units, so some string methods above FFFF might misbehave.

Language Structure

One file = one JS program

((loaded independently but communicate w/ global state and modules))

File is entirely **parsed** and **then** executed top to bottom.

Written in **Unicode**, case sensitive.

Types and Variables

Values have types:

"type" is a property of a value. `{type}`

Variables DON'T have types:

variables can contain any type, and \neq types in \neq moments.

Boolean type:

'true' or 'false' literal values

Conversion:

Truthies: 0, -0, NaN, undefined, null, ' '

Falsies: 3, 'false', [], {}, ...

Numbers:

→ No distinction integers and reals

→ **Automatic conversion** according to operation

Nullish values:

→ **undefined:** variable declared but not initialized. Returned by void functions.

→ **null:** empty value

Variables:

→ They're pure references: refer to a **value**

→ Declare: **let**, **const**, **var**.

→ **let:** **yes** reassign, no redeclare, block scope, no hoisting

→ **const:** **no** reassign, no redeclare, block scope, no hoisting

→ **var:** yes reassign and redeclare, function/global scope, hoisting.

`{let}` `{const}` Block scope: variable exists only in defined and inner scopes. `{var}` **Hoisting:** declaration of var inside code is moved to top of scope.

Arrays

Elements do **not** need to be of the same **type**.

Have property `length` (automatic).

Create arrays using parameters:

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

Add elements:

```
let v = []; v[0] = "a"; v[1] = 8;
```

`.push()` adds to end of array

`.unshift()` adds to beginning of array.

`.length` adjusts **automatically**.

Removal: `.unshift()` and `.pop()`.

Copy of the reference: `let v = []; let alias = v;` we establish `alias` as an alias of `v`, so if we modify `alias` we're actually modifying `v`.

Shallow copy of arrays:

```
let copy = Array.from(v);
```

Destructuring assignment :

Value of the right are extracted and stored in the variables on the left.

```
[x, y] = [y, x]; easy swap.
```

Spread operator :

→ "all the rest": `let [x, ...y] = [1, 2, 3, 4];` we obtain `y` `== [2, 3, 4]`

→ "everything inside vector `x`".

Can be used to **copy arrays by value**: `const b = Array.of(...a), const b = [...a]`

Automatic expansion of array: `let v = []; v[3] = "a".`

Arrays are not values, they're **references**.



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