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 (initi al_ expr; cond; increm ent;)`, `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-ca tch -fi nally`.

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, Boolea n(a), !!a
```

String to Number:

```
Number(s), parseI nt(s), parseF loat(s)
```

Number to String:

```
n.toSt ring(), 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 = " Bil l";
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. {{nl}}
Variables DON'T have types:
variables can contain any type, and ≠ types in ≠ 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. {{ln}} {{ln}} Block scope: variable exists only in defined and inner scopes. {{ln}} **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.o f(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.f ro m(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.o f(.. .a), const b = [...a]`

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

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