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Introduction to JavaScript

In 1995, along with Brendan Eich, Marc Andreessen started the idea of Mocha, a scripting language, in order to make it easy for non-developers to create webpages. Later, Javascript became standardized. HTML, CSS, and Javascript work together: HTML provides the basic structure, CSS styles the structure, and Javascript changes the behavior of elements.

Javascript is a multi-paradigm language: it contains elements of both imperative and declarative programming. On one hand, Javascript, like Java, uses the object-oriented paradigm, although unlike Java in Javascript it is possible to create objects without classes.. On the other, Javascript employs several functional programming concepts such as lambdas (which can also be found in the latest version of Java) and first class functions. First-class functions can be stored in an array, variable, or an object, passed as arguments to another function or be returned. Lambdas provide a way to declare a function omitting the keywords function and return, thus making the code more concise. While some sources say that Javascript is interpreted, others point out that nowadays it is actually just-in-time compiled.

JavaScript is a front-end web development language, primarily used in conjunction with HTML and CSS to make web pages. JavaScript gives web pages the ability to respond to users' actions in real time without needing to wait for the page to reload. It also enables web pages to have extensions and special effects that they wouldn't be able to have with the use of HTML and CSS alone - some examples include animations, drop-down menus, and interactive maps. JavaScript frameworks are also used to build web and mobile apps - one popular JavaScript

runtime environment is Node.js, which has been used by many companies including Paypal, LinkedIn, Netflix, and Uber. JavaScript is also used to build web browser games.

Although it is one of the most popular programming languages in the world, JavaScript was developed in only ten days! Moreover, JavaScript is one of the most misinterpreted programming languages. This has to do with its very name: JavaScript. Some tend to believe that it either has an affiliation with Java while others believe that it is solely a scripting language. While JavaScript was initially being developed under the name Mocha, its first beta version was named LiveScript. It was finally named JavaScript, which few believe had to do with the fact that Netscape (the company who invented it) started supporting Java technology.

Sources:

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