

Announcements

- ❖ Instructor: Nelson Padua-Perez (nelson@cs.umd.edu)
- ❖ No posting of code in the forum
- ❖ Check class announcements daily
- ❖ You must implement programming projects by yourself

JavaScript Reference

- ❖ https://developer.mozilla.org/en/Core_JavaScript_1.5_Reference

JavaScript (If Statement)

- ❖ What is the difference between `===` and `==` ?
- ❖ Let's compare
 - ❖ `20 === "20"` vs. `20 == "20"`

JavaScript (Logical Operators)

- ❖ Used with comparison operators to create more complex expressions
- ❖ Operators
 - ❖ Logical and (&&) → `expr1 && expr2`
 - ❖ Expression is true if and only if both expressions are true otherwise is false
 - ❖ You can have more than two expressions
 - ❖ **Example:** LogicalOp1.html
 - ❖ Logical or (||) → `expr1 || expr2`
 - ❖ Expression is false if and only if both expressions are false otherwise is true
 - ❖ You can have more than two expressions
 - ❖ **Example:** LogicalOp2.html
 - ❖ Logical Not (!) → `!expr`
 - ❖ Inverts the boolean value of the expression

Precedence/Associativity

- ❖ Remember you can use parenthesis to impose a particular order for the evaluation of an expression

Cascaded If Statement Idiom

- ❖ You can combine if statements to handle different cases
- ❖ This approach to organize if statements to handle different cases is called the **Cascaded If** Statement
- ❖ Cascaded If statement general form:

```
If (expr1) {  
    // Statements executed if expr1 is true  
} else if (expr2) {  
    // Statements executed if expr2 is true  
} else if (expr3) {  
    // Statements executed if expr3 is true  
} else {  
    // If none of the above expressions is true  
}
```

- ❖ Notice it is not a JavaScript statement
- ❖ Once one of the cases is executed no other case will be executed
- ❖ You don't need to use { } if you only have one statement
- ❖ More efficient than having multiple if statements
- ❖ **Example:** See CascadedIf.html

while Statement

- ❖ **while statement** – Control statement which allows JavaScript to repeat a set of statements
- ❖ **Basic Form**
while (expression) {
 statement(s) // executed as long as expression is true
}
- ❖ {} not needed if you only have one statement
- ❖ You can have other types of statements (including whiles) in a while
- ❖ Common mistake: to add a semicolon after closing parenthesis
- ❖ **Example:** Numbers.html
- ❖ **Example:** EvenNumbers.html
- ❖ **Example:** NumbersTable.html
- ❖ **Example:** SqrtTable.html

Trace Tables

- ❖ Mechanism to keep track of values in a program
- ❖ Allows you to understand the program behavior
- ❖ We could create a trace table for EvenNumbers.html

Combination of Statements

- ❖ Keep in mind that you can have any combination of conditionals, and iteration (while) statements
- ❖ For example:
 - ❖ Conditionals inside of loops
 - ❖ Conditionals inside conditionals
 - ❖ Loops inside conditionals
 - ❖ Loops inside of loops

Infinite Loops

- ❖ An infinite loop occurs when the expression controlling the loop never becomes false

- ❖ **Example1**

```
int x = 30;  
while(x > 0) {  
    document.writeln("<li>Element</li>");  
}
```

- ❖ **Example2**

```
int x = 7; // how about x = 8  
while (x != 0) {  
    document.writeln("<li>Element</li>");  
    x=x - 2;  
}
```

- ❖ How can we detect infinite loops?

Programming Errors

- ❖ **Syntax Error:** (Compile-time error) The program violates the language's grammar
- ❖ **Semantic Error:** The program fails to accomplish what we want
- ❖ **Debugging:** The process of finding and fixing errors. Extremely hard for large software systems. Tools for debugging:
 - ❖ Trace tables
 - ❖ Output statements
 - ❖ Debuggers
- ❖ **Analogy:**
 - ❖ Taco tom ate. → Syntactically therefore semantically incorrect.
 - ❖ A taco ate tom. → Syntactically correct however semantically incorrect.
 - ❖ Tom ate a taco → Syntactically and semantically correct (what we want!)

How to find problems in your code

- ❖ Computer programming is not about writing code and letting someone else find the problems (bugs) it may have
- ❖ You have to learn how to find problems in your code
- ❖ Approach
 - ❖ Use Error Console to see possible error
 - ❖ Use JavaScript Lint
 - ❖ http://www.javascriptlint.com/online_lint.php
- ❖ How about logical errors?

Introduction to Debugging

- ❖ How to debug your code?
- ❖ Introducing the `alert()` function

Suggestions for Solving Problems Using a Programming Language

- ❖ **Design** → Make sure you first come up with a plan/design for your code (e.g., using pseudocode)
- ❖ **Do not wait until the last minute** → Code implementation can be unpredictable
- ❖ **Incremental code development** → Fundamental principle in computer programming. Write a little bit of code, and make sure it works before you move forward
- ❖ **Don't make assumptions** → If you are not clear about a language construct write a little program to familiarize yourself with the construct
- ❖ **Good Indentation** → From the get-go use good indentation as it will allow you to understand your code better

Suggestions for Solving Problems Using a Programming Language

- ❖ **Good variable names** → Use good variable names from the beginning (do not use x and y and then change them to meaningful names before submitting the project)
- ❖ **Testing**
 - ❖ Test your code with simple cases first
 - ❖ Test as you develop your code
- ❖ **Keep backups** → As you make significant progress in your development, make the appropriate backups
- ❖ **Trace your code**
- ❖ **Use a debugger**
- ❖ **Take breaks** → If you cannot find a bug take a break and come back later