Session 25

Mohamed Emary

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1 Spread Operator

Spread operator is a new feature in ES6 that allows you to expand an iterable like an array or an object into individual elements. It is denoted by three dots ... and can be used in a variety of ways.

1.1 Spread in Arrays

The spread operator can be used to expand an array into individual elements. This is useful when you want to pass the elements of an array as arguments to a function.

```
1 function sum (a, b, c) {
2    return a + b + c;
3 }
4 const numbers = [1, 2, 3];
5 console.log(sum(...numbers)); // 6

In this example if you didn't use the spread operator and passed the array directly to the sum
function, the values of a, b, c would be a =
[1, 2, 3], b = undefined, c = undefined.
```

You can also use the spread operator to combine arrays.

```
1 const numbers1 = [1, 2, 3];
2 const numbers2 = [4, 5, 6];
3 const combined = [...numbers1, ...numbers2];
4 console.log(combined); // [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
```

1.2 Spread in Objects

The spread operator can also be used to copy the properties of an object into a new object.

```
1 const obj1 = {
2    name: 'Mohamed',
3    age: 30
4 };
5    const obj2 = {
6        city: 'Cairo',
```

1.3 Rest Parameter

The spread operator can also be used to collect multiple arguments into an array. This is called the rest parameter.

```
function sum (...numbers) {
1
     let total = 0;
\mathbf{2}
     for (let number of numbers) {
3
        total += number;
4
     }
\mathbf{5}
     return total;
6
   }
7
8
   let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
9
   console.log(sum(...numbers)); // 15
10
```

2 Shallow Copy vs Deep Copy

To understand the difference between shallow copy and deep copy, let's first understand how JavaScript stores values in memory.

JavaScript uses two data structures to store values: the **stack** and the **heap**.

- The stack is used to store primitive values like numbers, strings, and booleans.
- The heap is used to store non-primitive values like objects, arrays, and functions.

When you assign a **primitive** value to a variable, the variable **stores the actual value**. When you assign a **non-primitive** value to a variable, the variable **stores a reference** to the value.

This image shows the difference between the stack and the heap:

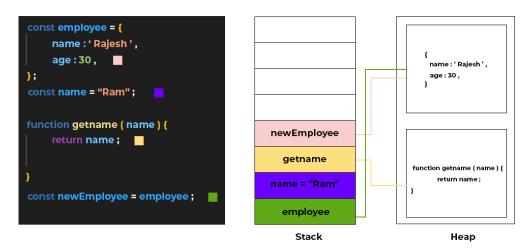


Figure 1: Stack & Heap

Notice that the primitive value name is stored directly in the stack, while other non-primitive values like employee, newEmployee objects, and getName function are stored in the heap and the stack stores a reference to them.

Also notice that since the statement const newEmployee = employee; is a shallow copy, both employee and newEmployee point to the same memory location in the heap.

2.1 Shallow Copy

A shallow copy creates a new object that has just a reference to the values of the original object. This means that both objects point to the same memory location and share the same values in memory. So if you change something in the new object, the original object will also change and vice versa.

We mean by object here both arrays and objects.

```
1 let original = { name: "Mohamed", age: 30 };
2 let copied = original;
4 copied.age = 31;
5 console.log(original); // { name: "Mohamed", age: 31}
6 console.log(copied); // { name: "Mohamed", age: 31}
```

2.2 Deep Copy

A deep copy creates a new object that has a new memory location for each value of the original object. This means that both objects are completely independent of each other. So if you change something in the new object, the original object will not change.

2.2.1 Rest Parameter in Deep Copy

You can use the rest parameter to create a deep copy of an object. This will create a new object with a copy of all **primitive** values.

Consider the following example:

Deep copy:

Shallow copy:

```
1 const numbers = [1, 2, 3];
                                              1 const numbers = [1, 2, 3];
  const copy = [...numbers];
                                                const copy = numbers;
2
                                              2
  numbers[0] = 100;
                                                numbers[0] = 100;
3
                                              3
                                                console.log(copy); // [100, 2, 3]
  console.log(copy); // [1, 2, 3]
4
                                              4
  console.log(numbers); // [100, 2,
                                                console.log(numbers); // [100, 2,
                                              \mathbf{5}
5
       31
                                                     31
   \hookrightarrow
                                                 \hookrightarrow
```

2.2.2 Non-Primitive Values Inside Non-Primitive Values

If we have a non-primitive value inside another non-primitive value (like another object or an array), the spread operator will only create a shallow copy of the non-primitive value.

```
1 const obj1 = { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Cairo" } };
2 const obj2 = { ...obj1 };
3 4 // Changing a primitive value
```

```
obj1.name = "Ali";
console.log(obj1); // { name: "Ali", address: { city: "Cairo" } }
console.log(obj2); // { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Cairo" } }
// Changing a non-primitive value
obj1.address.city = "Alex";
console.log(obj1); // { name: "Ali", address: { city: "Alex" } }
console.log(obj2); // { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Alex" } }
```

Notice that the primitive value name was a deep copy, while the non-primitive value address was a shallow copy.

2.2.3 Deep Copy Using JSON.parse and JSON.stringify

To create a deep copy of an object that contains non-primitive values, you can use JSON.parse and JSON.stringify. This will create a new object with a copy of all values (both primitive and non-primitive).

This method works by converting the object to a string and then back to an object.

```
1 const obj1 = { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Cairo" } };
2 const obj2 = JSON.parse(JSON.stringify(obj1));
3 
4 obj1.address.city = "Alex";
5 
6 console.log(obj1); // { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Alex" } }
7 console.log(obj2); // { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Cairo" } }
```

2.2.4 Deep Copy Using structuredClone

Another way to create a deep copy of an object is to use the structuredClone method.

```
1 const obj1 = { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Cairo" } };
2 const obj2 = structuredClone(obj1);
3 
4 obj1.address.city = "Alex";
5 
6 console.log(obj1); // { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Alex" } }
7 console.log(obj2); // { name: "Mohamed", address: { city: "Cairo" } }
```

3 Higher-Order Functions

A higher-order function is a function that takes one or more functions as arguments or returns a function as its result.

Higher-order functions take anonymous functions or arrow functions as arguments and use them to perform some operation.

Examples of higher-order functions in JavaScript include:

- forEach
- map
- filter

- reduce
- find

3.1 forEach

The forEach method is used to iterate over an array and execute a function for each element.

```
1 const numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2
3 // Using anonymous function
4 numbers.forEach(function (number) {
5 console.log(number);
6 });
7
8 // Using arrow function
9 numbers.forEach(number => console.log(number));
```

The code above is equivalent to the following:

```
1 for (let number of numbers) {
2 console.log(number);
3 }
```

Example of getting the sum of an array using forEach:

```
1 const numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2 let sum = 0;
4 numbers.forEach(number => sum += number);
5 6 console.log(sum); // 15
```

Example using it with getElementsByTagName:

Suppose you have the following HTML:

```
1 
2 Item 1
3 Item 2
4 Item 3
5
```

You can use querySelectorAll to select all the list items and then use forEach with addEventListener to add a click event to each item.

```
1 const items = document.getElementsByTagName('li');
2
3 items.forEach(item => item.addEventListener('click', () => {
4 console.log(item.textContent);
5 }));
```

If we use another parameter with item in the arrow function, it will be the index of the item in the array (item, index) => \dots

Note:

The forEach works with NodeLists but not with HTMLCollections. If you want to use forEach with getElementsByTagName, you need to convert the HTMLCollection to an array first or just use querySelectorAll instead.

3.2 map

The map method is used to create a new array by applying a function to each element of an existing array. The new array will have the same length as the original array.

```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2 let doubled = numbers.map(number => number * 2);
3 console.log(doubled); // [2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
```

Notice that the original array numbers has not been modified.

Another Example with objects:

```
let products = [
1
     { name: 'iPhone', price: 1000 },
2
     { name: 'iPad', price: 500 },
3
     { name: 'MacBook', price: 2000 }
4
  ];
\mathbf{5}
6
  let prices = products.map(product => {
7
     return `${product.name} Price is $${product.price}`;
8
  });
9
10
  console.log(prices); // ["iPhone Price is $1000", ....]
11
```

3.3 filter

The filter method is used to create a new array with all elements that pass the test implemented by the provided function.

```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2 let even = numbers.filter(number => number % 2 === 0);
3 console.log(even); // [2, 4]
```

3.4 reduce

The **reduce** method is used to reduce an array **to a single value**. It executes a reducer function on each element of the array, resulting in a single output value.

The reducer function takes four arguments:

- 1. Accumulator
- 2. Current Value
- 3. Current Index
- 4. Source Array

```
1 let numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
2 let sum = numbers.reduce((acc, curr) => acc + curr, 0);
3 console.log(sum); // 15
```

Notice that the **reduce** method takes an initial value as the second argument. In this case, the initial value is 0, if you don't provide an initial value, the first element of the array will be used as the initial value.

The reducer function which is (acc, curr) => acc + curr takes two arguments: acc which is the accumulator and curr which is the current value.

3.5 find

The find method is used to return the first element in an array that satisfies a provided function. It returns undefined if no element satisfies the function.

It's similar to the filter method, but the difference is that filter returns an array of all elements that satisfy the function, while find returns only the first element that satisfies the function.

```
1 let words = ['apple', 'banana', 'cherry'];
2 let found = words.find(word => word.length > 5);
3 console.log(found); // 'banana'
```

4 Prototype

When you log an object in JavaScript, you may have noticed a property you didn't create called [[Prototype]]. This property is related to JavaScript's prototype-based inheritance system.

- 1. Every object in JavaScript has an internal property called [[Prototype]].
- 2. This property is a reference to another object, which is the prototype of the current object.
- 3. The prototype object is used in the prototype chain, which is a mechanism for implementing inheritance in JavaScript.
- 4. When you try to access a property or method on an object, JavaScript first looks for it on the object itself. If it's not found, it looks up the prototype chain until it finds the property or reaches the end of the chain (usually Object.prototype).
 - 1. So if there is a property with the same name in the object and its prototype, the object's property will be used.

For example:

```
1 let obj = {};
```

2 console.log(obj);

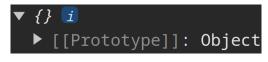


Figure 2: Prototype Object

The [[Prototype]] you see here is actually pointing to Object.prototype, which is the base prototype for all JavaScript objects.

4.1 Prototypal Inheritance

Suppose you have the following objects:

```
1 let person = {
2     name: 'Mohamed',
3     age: 30
4 };
5
6 let employee = {
7     salary: 1000
8 };
```

If you want to make employee inherit the properties of person, you can set the prototype of employee to person using the Object.setPrototypeOf method.

Syntax of Object.setPrototypeOf: Object.setPrototypeOf(object, prototype)

```
1 Object.setPrototypeOf(employee, person);
```

Now, employee will have access to the properties of person.

```
1 console.log(employee.name); // 'Mohamed'
2 console.log(employee.age); // 30
3 console.log(employee.salary); // 1000
4 5 console.log(employee);
```

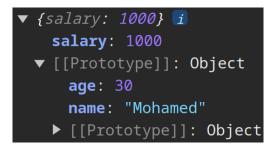


Figure 3: Inheritance Example

Important Notes:

When using Object.setPrototypeOf, you can only set one prototype for an object, and if you set another prototype, it will override the previous one.

You can make a **chain of prototypes** by setting the prototype of an object to another object that has a prototype. The resulting object will have the properties of all the prototypes in the chain.

```
1 let person = { name: "Mohamed" };
2 let employee = { salary: 1000 };
3 let manager = { department: "IT" };
4
5 Object.setPrototypeOf(employee, person);
6 Object.setPrototypeOf(manager, employee);
```

console.log(manager.name); // Mohamed 7 console.log(manager.salary); // 1000 8 console.log(manager.department); // IT 9 Another important thing to note is that you can't set two objects as prototypes for each other because it will create a circular reference. let person = { name: 'Mohamed' }; 1 let employee = { salary: 1000 }; 2 3 Object.setPrototypeOf(employee, person); 4 Object.setPrototypeOf(person, employee); 5 ▶ Uncaught <u>main.js:145</u> TypeError: Cyclic __proto__ value at Function.setPrototypeOf (<anonymous>) <u>main.js:145:8</u> Figure 4: Circular Refference Error

4.2 Object

When you create an array in JavaScript, it inherits from [[Prototype]] by default.

The [[Prototype]] gives the array access to all the methods and properties of the Array object.

You can override the prototype of an array object making functions like **push**, **pop**, etc. unavailable.

Figure 5: Array Prototype

The same happens with strings, numbers, and booleans. They all have a prototype that gives them access to methods and properties.

5 Summary

- The spread operator . . . is used to expand an iterable like an array or an object into individual elements.
- The spread operator can be used to pass the elements of an array as arguments to a function or to combine arrays.
- The spread operator can also be used to copy the properties of an object into a new object.
- The rest parameter is used to collect multiple arguments into an array.
- A shallow copy creates a new object that has just a reference to the values of the original object, while a deep copy creates a new object with a new memory location for each value of the original object.
- You can use JSON.parse and JSON.stringify to create a deep copy of an object that contains non-primitive values.
- You can use the **structuredClone** method to create a deep copy of an object.
- Higher-order functions are functions that take one or more functions as arguments or return a function as their result.
- Examples of higher-order functions in JavaScript include forEach, map, filter, reduce, and find.
 - $\circ~$ The <code>forEach</code> method is used to iterate over an array and execute a function for each element.
 - The map method is used to create a new array by applying a function to each element of an existing array.
 - The filter method is used to create a new array with all elements that pass the test implemented by the provided function.
 - The **reduce** method is used to reduce an array to a single value.
 - $\circ\,$ The find method is used to return the first element in an array that satisfies a provided function.
- Every object in JavaScript has an internal property called [[Prototype]], which is a reference to another object that is the prototype of the current object.
- The prototype object is used in the prototype chain, which is a mechanism for implementing inheritance in JavaScript.
- You can use Object.setPrototypeOf to set the prototype of an object to another object.
- You can create a chain of prototypes by setting the prototype of an object to another object that has a prototype.
- You can't set two objects as prototypes for each other because it will create a circular reference.
- When you create an array in JavaScript, it inherits from [[Prototype]] by default, giving it access to all the methods and properties of the Array object.