



# Welcome to CS 106S!

Introduction to CS for Social Good, our map for the quarter, and JavaScript!

Ben Yan, Spring 2025 🌸

[cs106s.stanford.edu](https://cs106s.stanford.edu)



**Stanford** | ENGINEERING  
Computer Science

**Welcome to the First Day of Class!**

**Hope that you had a wonderful spring break!!** 

# Hi I'm Ben!

- ❑ '23 – '26: **CS MS/Co-Term Student (AI Track)**, Jerry is my advisor
- ❑ '20 – '24: Just finished my undergrad here! Double-Majored in CS & Math, Minor in Creative Writing—also studied abroad at Oxford my senior winter
- ❑ Prev. SWE @ NVIDIA (CUDA Systems), did CS research for 2ish years
- ❑ **Life rn is more teaching-oriented:** CS106AX (🍁 Head TA), CS107 (TA last winter 🧙 + this spring 🌸!), CS106S (have taught it 4x now and **I love teaching it!**)
- ❑ This'll be my last time teaching CS106S, and so so excited that you're here!





# Interests, what brings me joy

- ❑ **Anime & Manga** (my all-time fav *Jujutsu Kaisen*), Spider-Verse, Gravity Falls, been getting into J- and K-dramas very recently
- ❑ **Poetry & novel writing** – once wrote 2 novels (50k words each) in one month for NaNoWriMo 2023 / English 190E lol
- ❑ I haven't written much since :(
- ❑ **Music:** Charli XCX, Olivia Rodrigo, YOASOBI
- ❑ Not my Spotify wrapped though – it's embarrassing
- ❑ **Books:** Anything by Ocean Vuong
- ❑ Always looking for recs!



# Intros!

- ❑ Name & pronouns if you're comfortable sharing!
- ❑ What you're studying / thinking about studying
- ❑ Year
- ❑ Fun fact 🤔😱 or **any one of the following!**
  - ❑ What are you looking forward this quarter? 🌲
  - ❑ Something you did over the spring break 🌸
  - ❑ Music / book / show recommendations? 🎵
  - ❑ Anything else you'd like to share! :)



# The Map For Today

1 syllabus & logistics

2 getting set up for the class

3 HTML/CSS/javascript basics

4 caesar ciphers!



```
const LOCALE = globalThis.navigator.language
const div = document.body.appendChild(document.createElement('div'))
const list = div.appendChild(document.createElement('ol'))
const dayNames = new Map()

for (let i = 0; i < 7; ++i) {
  const d = Temporal.PlainDate.from({
    year: Temporal.Now.plainDateISO().year,
    month: 1,
    day: i + 1,
  })
  dayNames.set(d.dayOfWeek, d.toLocaleString(LOCALE))
}

32 for (const num of [...dayNames.keys()].sort((a, b)
  list.appendChild(Object.assign(
    document.createElement('li'),
    { textContent: dayNames.get(num) },
  ))
)
```



**[cs106s.stanford.edu](https://cs106s.stanford.edu)**



# Course Mechanics

- ❑ 1 unit, S/NC
- ❑ **Attendance (7/9\*)**
  - ❑ Relaxed, workshop-style environment
  - ❑ **Brief check-off forms**
- ❑ Canvas for announcements
- ❑ Questions welcome!

**\*Please do reach out to us if difficult circumstances arise! We understand life can be very stressful and challenging, and will always create a path for you to pass 106S.**



## Course Website!

[cs106s.stanford.edu](https://cs106s.stanford.edu)



## Contact Email

[bbyan@stanford.edu](mailto:bbyan@stanford.edu)



## Place & Time



Lathrop, Room 180

Thursday, 4:30 - 6:20 PM; usually try to keep class to 90 minutes ish



## Office Hours

After class, or email/Slack me!

No assignments in 106S, but happy to chat about material, CS, Stanford, anything!

# Course Schedule

To those fleeing persecution, terror & war, Canadians will welcome you, regardless of your faith. Diversity is our strength #WelcomeToCanada

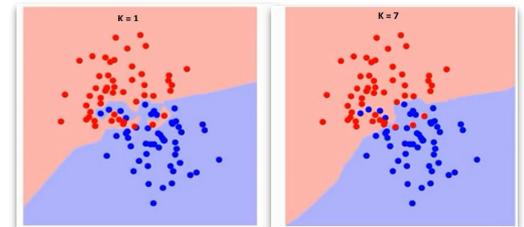
RETWEETS 165,284 LIKES 256,250



12:20 PM - 28 Jan 2017



Week 1	Apr 3	Intro, JavaScript, Ciphers
Week 2	Apr 10	Sentiment Analysis & Refugee Tweets
Week 3	Apr 17	CS for Climate Change
Week 4	Apr 24	Cancer Detection with KNN
Week 5	May 1	Cybersecurity and Ethical Hacking
Week 6	May 8	Open Source & Web Software
Week 7	May 15	Trust & Safety
Week 8	May 22	Mental Health
Week 9	May 29	What's Next – Beyond 106S, End-Term Boba Party 🍹
Week 10	Jun 6	No class; good luck on your finals! 🍀



Subject to change – please let me know if you have any feedback or suggestions at any point! Happy to run this class in the way it'd be most helpful to you

# Overview of Classes!

What **technologies** (machine learning, sentiment analysis, etc.) can be used to **positively impact the world**?

In **what areas & industries** can we use technology + CS for positive impact?

**Coding for Social Good**

```
graph TD; A["Coding for Social Good"] --> B["What technologies (machine learning, sentiment analysis, etc.) can be used to positively impact the world?"]; A --> C["How can we use JavaScript to materialize ideas into real-world applications?"]; A --> D["In what areas & industries can we use technology + CS for positive impact?"]; A --> E["For what current problems is programming NOT the answer?"];
```

How can we use **JavaScript** to materialize ideas into **real-world applications**?

For what current problems is programming **NOT the answer**?

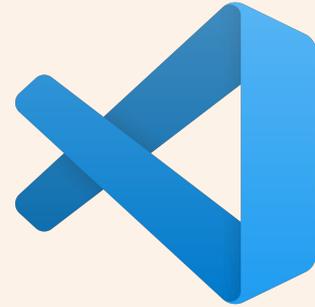
A solid red vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending from the top to the bottom.

**Let's Dive In!**



**install Chrome**

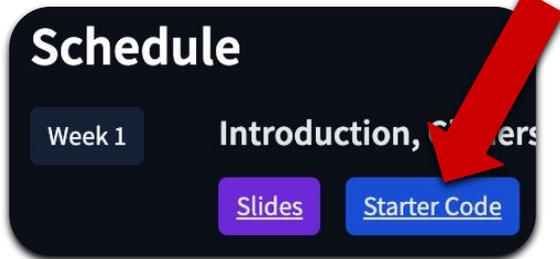
## Getting Set Up



**install VS Code**

(or an editor of your choice,  
Sublime Text is also great)

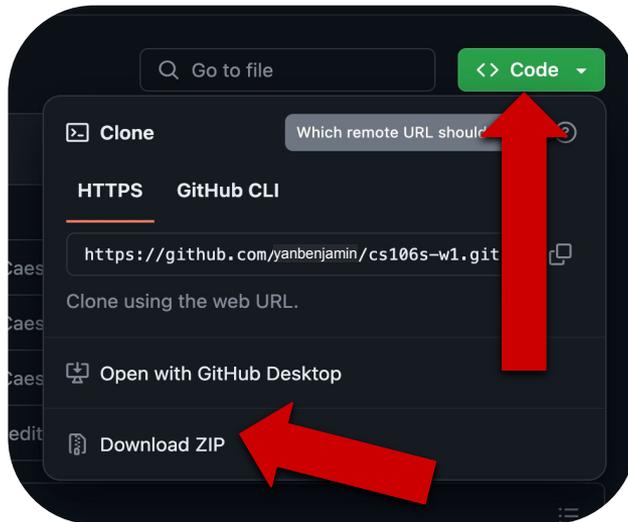
# Opening the Starter Code



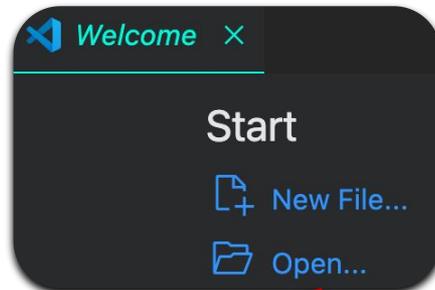
- 1 Navigate to Week 1 of the Schedule section of [cs106s.stanford.edu](https://cs106s.stanford.edu)

Also, at this link:

<https://github.com/yanbenjamin/cs106s-w1>



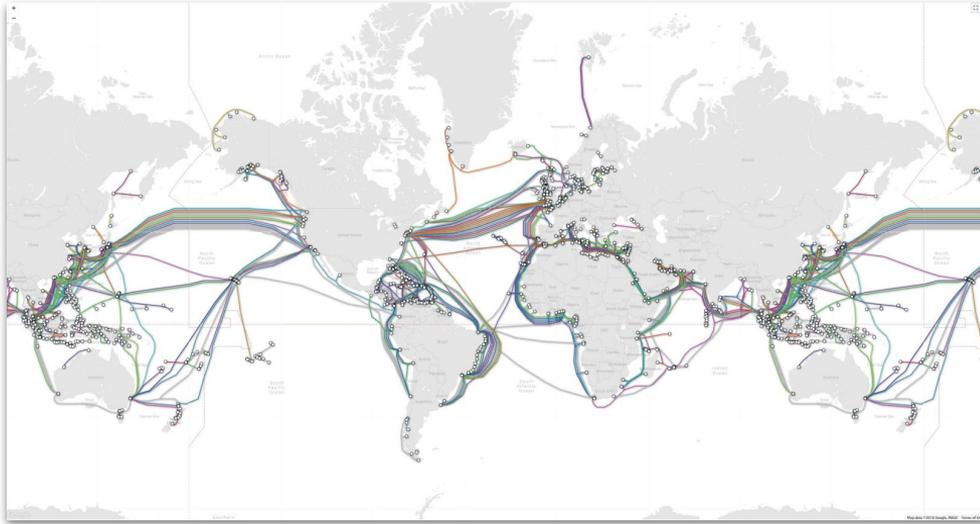
- 2 Click the bright “Code” button, then click “Download ZIP”



In VSCode

- 3 Unzip the download (clicking .zip file should do the trick) and open the folder / files in your editor

# HTML, CSS, JS Overview



# HTML, CSS, JS Overview

**.html**

Hypertext Markup Language

**.css**

Cascading Style Sheets

**.js**

JavaScript

- ❑ HTML for defining the **webpage content and basic structure**
- ❑ CSS for **regulating style and formatting**
- ❑ JavaScript for **enabling the HTML/CSS components on the webpage to be interactive**
  - ❑  “Language of the Web”
  - ❑  99% of websites use JavaScript on the client side, making it essential for building browser applications

# HTML Layout

index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>CS 106S Week 1: JavaScript and Cryptography</h2>
    <img src = "hello_cat.jpg" width = 400>
    <p>Open the JavaScript console to continue onward!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

**Note:** CS 106S isn't a dedicated web development course — but I think it's helpful to at least cover the basics!

hello\_cat2.jpg



hello\_cat3.jpg



hello\_cat4.jpg



hello\_cat.jpg



hello\_cat5.jpg



hello\_cat6.jpg



hello\_cat7.jpg



## index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>CS 106S Week 1: JavaScript and Cryptography</h2>
    <img src = "hello_cat.jpg" width = 400>
    <p>Open the JavaScript console to continue onward!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```



The `<html>` and `</html>` tags enclose all the content.

## index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>CS 106S Week 1: JavaScript and Cryptography</h2>
    <img src = "hello_cat.jpg" width = 400>
    <p>Open the JavaScript console to continue onward!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

 **HEAD** contains info not displayed on webpage (e.g., browser title, browser icon, any JavaScript or CSS style files to load)

## index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>CS 106S Week 1: JavaScript and Cryptography</h2>
    <img src = "hello_cat.jpg" width = 400>
    <p>Open the JavaScript console to continue onward!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

 **BODY** contains everything displayed on the webpage  
(e.g., text, section headings, images, GIFs, etc)

## index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>CS 106S Week 1: JavaScript and Cryptography</h2>
    <img src = "hello_cat.jpg" width = 400>
    <p>Open the JavaScript console to continue onward!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```



Tags such as `<h2>` enclose each of the HTML elements. Typically have end tag (`</h2>`), but not always (`<img>`, `<br>` – line break)

## index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>CS 106S Week 1: JavaScript and Cryptography</h2>
    <img src = "hello_cat.jpg" width = 400>
    <p>Open the JavaScript console to continue onward!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```



**Question: How can we stylize each of these webpage elements embedded in tags? (e.g., use different colors, fonts, spacing)**

## index.html

```
<!doctype html>
<html>
  <head>
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
  </head>
  <body>
    <h2>CS 106S Week 1: JavaScript and Cryptography</h2>
    <img src = "hello_cat.jpg" width = 400>
    <p>Open the JavaScript console to continue onward!</p>
  </body>
</html>
```

 **Strategy: We use a separate CSS file to specify stylization, layout, font, colors, etc. (HTML → content, CSS → style)**

## style.css

```
img{
  border-style: dashed;
  border-width: 5px;
} /* adds dashed border with 5 pixel width to images */
h2{
  color: darkblue;
} /* sets section heading (<h2>) to a dark blue color */
```



In a CSS file, style rules are written in the form below:

Which HTML element(s)  
the styles should apply to,  
e.g., all `<img>` tags, the id  
of a specific element

```
selector{
  property-name: property-value
  ... more pairs of CSS properties & values
}
```

One of several CSS keywords specifying a style  
detail, e.g., *font-family*, *font-size*, *color*,  
*background-color*, *border-width*, etc.

Possible **values** depend on property name,  
e.g., *color* (**red**, **green**), *font-family* (**serif**,  
**sans-serif**, **cursive**, **fantasy**), etc.

# HTML/CSS – Browser Rendering

Resulting webpage from `index.html` and `style.css`



Heading `<h2>` tag, with dark blue color from CSS

`<img>` tag, loading in image `hello_cat.jpg`, stylized with dotted 5-pixel-wide frame

Text in paragraph tag `<p>`

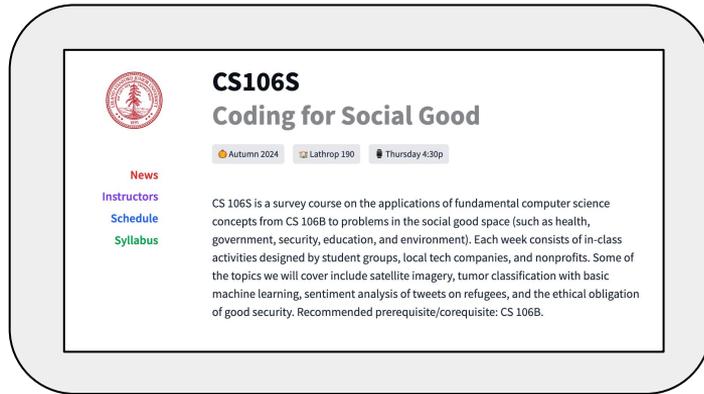
# What JavaScript does

- ❑ JavaScript is a **powerful ‘interface’ with an HTML webpage**, enabling HTML elements to be programmatically accessed and modified.
  - ❑ Empowers **dynamic web apps** that respond to user interactions.
- ❑ To get a high-level sense of what JavaScript can do (before we dive into a starter tutorial on its features & syntax), it can:
  - ❑ Append, remove, or modify any HTML nodes i.e. tags/elements
    - Open pop-up window
    - Load new images
    - Toggle display to night mode
  - ❑ React to user events/actions with parts of the webpage, e.g., buttons
    - Button clicks
    - Hovering mouse over image
    - Keyboard key is pressed
- ❑ JS is now quite **general-purpose!** Has evolved beyond its web roots.

**Any questions so far?**

# What is index.html?

- In the starter code, you'll find a file named **index.html**; using Finder or your OS equivalent, **open it in Google Chrome**
- This is the **homepage** of a website.

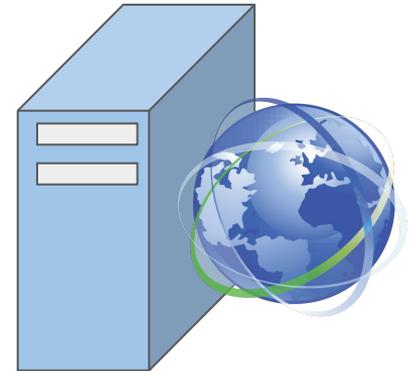


Client Browser

HTTPS Request for  
<https://cs106s.stanford.edu/>

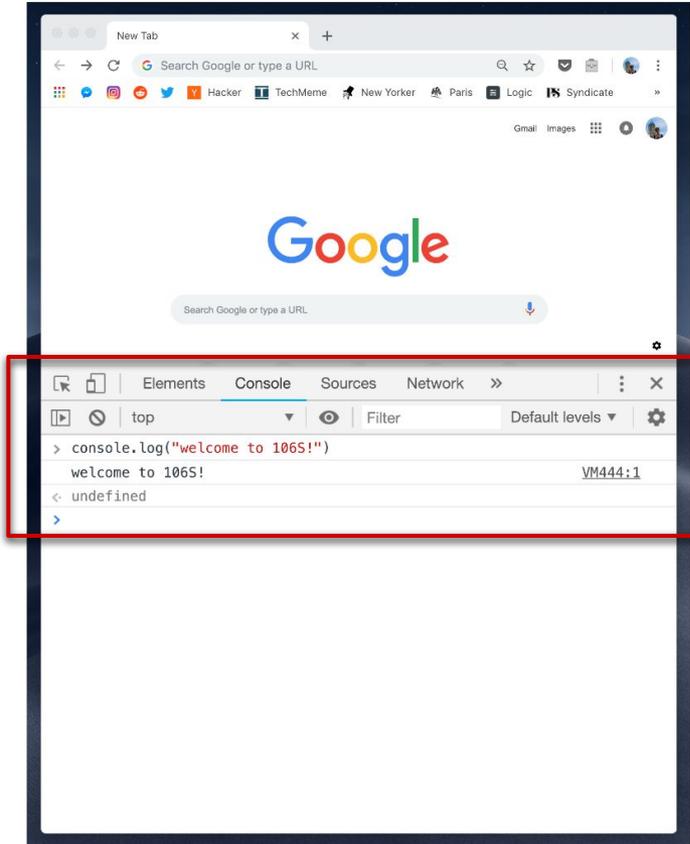


HTTPS Response of  
**index.html**



Web Server

# JavaScript in Chrome



1. Open **index.html** in Chrome

2. On Mac: Press **cmd** — **option** — **j**

On Windows: Press **ctrl** — **shift** — **j**

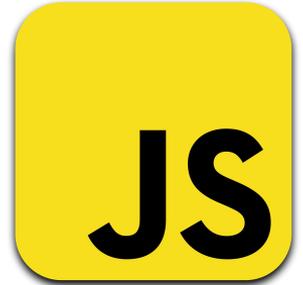
Don't let go of the previous key while pressing the next!

Here, **in the console that pops up**, we can input and run JavaScript code!

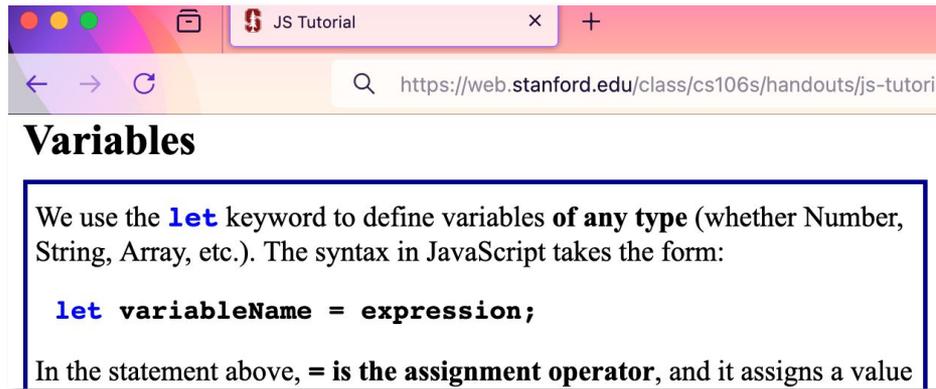
# Onto the JavaScript Tutorial!

Inspect the file `tutorial.js` in your code editor.

To experiment around, copy & paste, and tinker with / run the JavaScript commands in the Chrome console!



More fleshed-out / lecture-notes-style version at the **link below!**

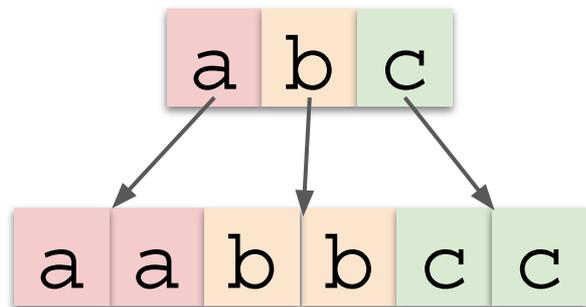


**<https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs106s/handouts/js-tutorial.html>**

# Overview: General JavaScript Syntax

**Example:** Consider a function **twins** which takes an input string and returns a copy of that string with each character repeated once, e.g.,

- "abc" → "aabbcc"
- "minnesota" → "mmiinnnneesssootta".



```
def twins(str): #Python
    result = ""
    for char in str:
        result += char + char
    return result
```

```
function twins(str){ //JavaScript
    let result = "";
    for (let char of str){
        result += char + char;
    }
    return result;
}
```

# Overview: General JavaScript Syntax

```
function twins(str){  
  let result = "";  
  for (let char of str){  
    result += char + char;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

# Overview: General JavaScript Syntax

```
function twins(str){  
  let result = "";  
  for (let char of str){  
    result += char + char;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

```
function twins(str){  
  let result = "";  
  for (let char of str){  
    result += char + char;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

Unlike Python (blocks of code are defined by indentation), JavaScript uses **curly braces** – similar to C++ / Java.

In Python, having **parentheses** around statements / conditions in **for**, **while**, **if** loops is optional.

In JavaScript, it's mandatory. Here's a **for/of** loop that iterates directly over the characters of a string.

# Overview: General JavaScript Syntax

```
function twins(str){  
  let result = "";  
  for (let char of str){  
    result += char + char;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

```
function twins(str){  
  let result = "";  
  for (let char of str){  
    result += char + char;  
  }  
  return result;  
}
```

In JavaScript, to declare variables, we use the **let** keyword (or **const**).

In Python, we could have simply written  
`result = ""`

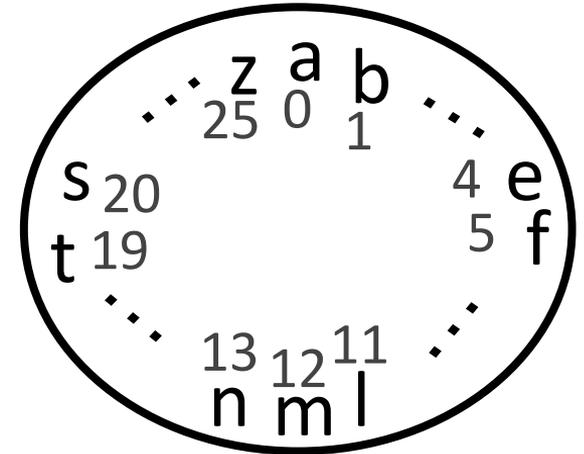
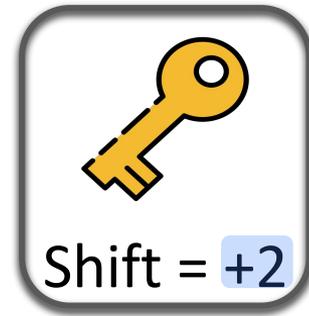
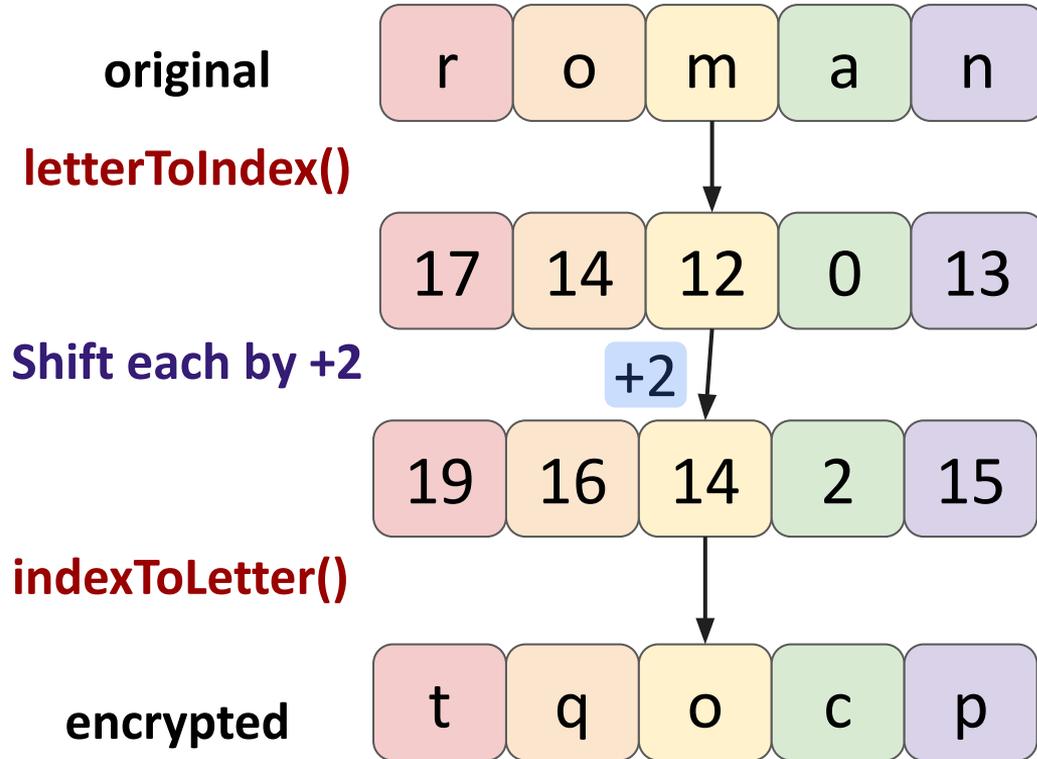
Unlike C++ or Java, **semi-colons (;)** are **optional** at the end of statements.

But you can include them if you'd like! :)  
It's a style decision.

**JavaScript is a “vibes”-based language,**  
sort of ✨ ✨ 🎨

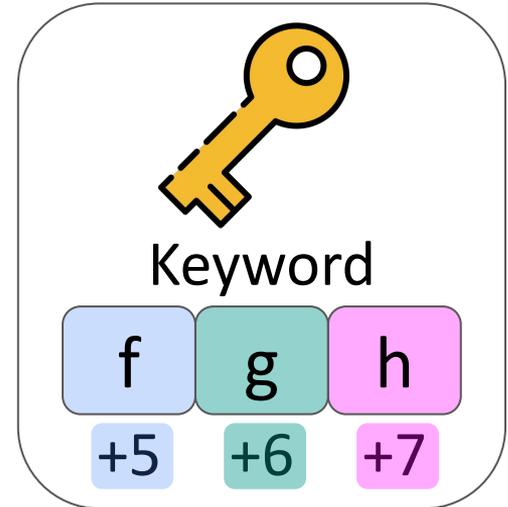
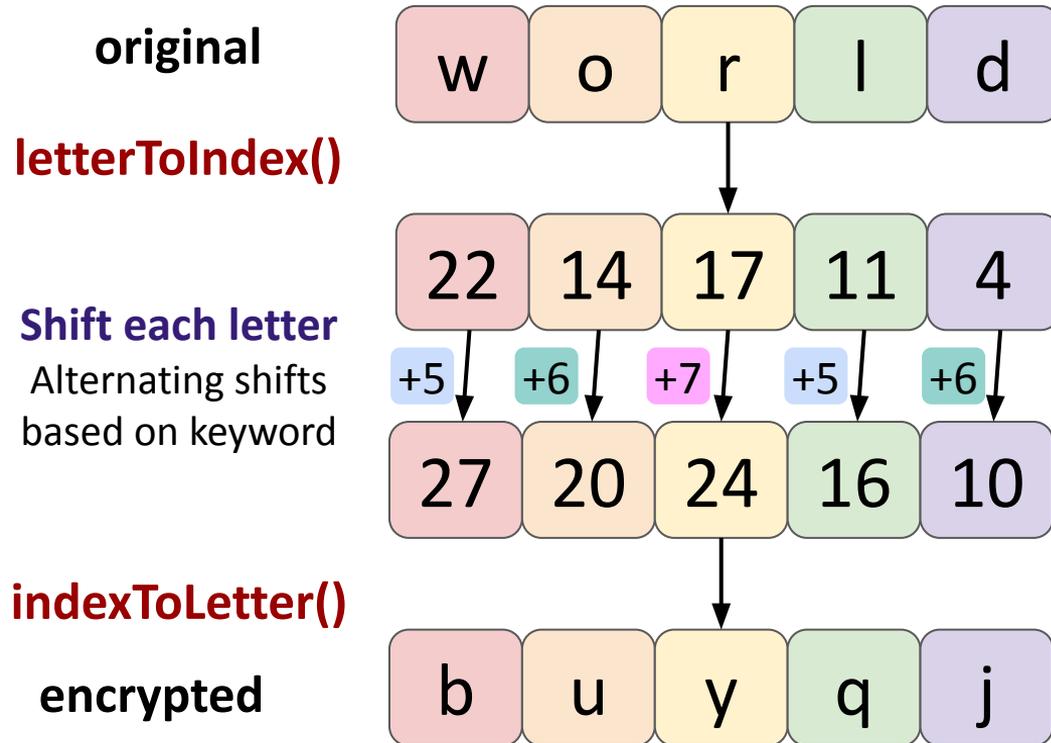


# Today's Coding – Caesar Ciphers



# (Optional) Vigenère Ciphers

Feel free to try out this extension if you have time!



**Remark:** It's like having multiple Caesar ciphers in one encryption!  
A rotating set of keys.

●●● Checkpoint #1

assignment.js

Implement the function `letterToIndex()`

Input: A lowercase letter (a-z)

Output: Index in alphabet (a=0,b=1,c=2,...,z=25)

Tip - You may find the key-value object `mapping` in the file useful.

**Note:** After editing the JS file, make sure to click **File -> Save in VSCode**, and **refresh the Chrome page**, for the edits to manifest in the console!

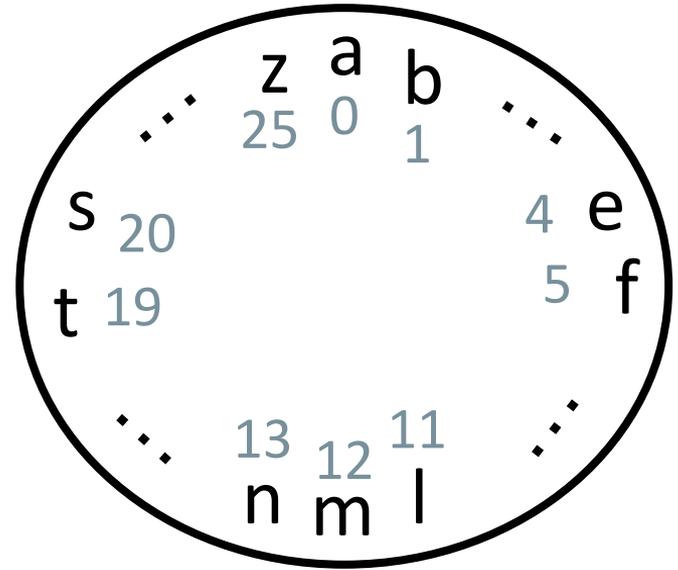
Checkpoint #2 assignment.js

Implement the function `indexToLetter()`

Input: Non-negative index of a letter, can be 26 and greater

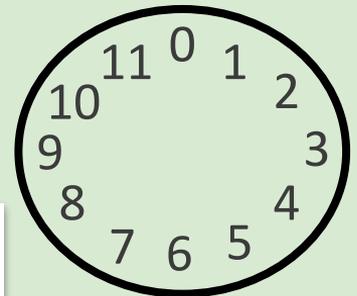
Output: Corresponding lowercase letter; numbers above 25 wrap around i.e. 0=a, 1=b, ..., 25=z, 26=a, 27=b, ...

Tip - The array `alphabet= ['a','b',...,'z']` may come in handy.



For handling the wrap-around, consider the remainder operator (%) and this clock example. If it's 8:00 right now, then 7 hours later, it'll be 3:00, as times *wrap around* the 12-hour clock. This can be computed with the following JavaScript:

```
(8 + 7) % 12 // 8+7 => 15 o'clock 🤔  
// clock only has 12 hours (0-11), so 15%12 => 3:00
```



## ●●● Checkpoint #3

Implement the function  
`shiftLetter()`

Inputs: `original` (letter to shift), `shift` (length to transpose letters by)

Output: shifted letter

Tip - Use `letterToIndex()`  
and `indexToLetter()`!

## Example Functionality

### ●●● JS Console

 `shiftLetter('a',1)`  
`'b'`

 `shiftLetter('a',4)`  
`'e'`

 `shiftLetter('z',3)`  
`'c'`



# Full Encryption Pipeline

## Final Checkpoint

Implement `encryptCaesar()`

Inputs: `original` (string to encrypt), `shift` (how many places to move each letter down the alphabet)

Output: The encrypted string

Tip - Loops! And take advantage of functions you've already written!

## Example Functionality

### JS Console

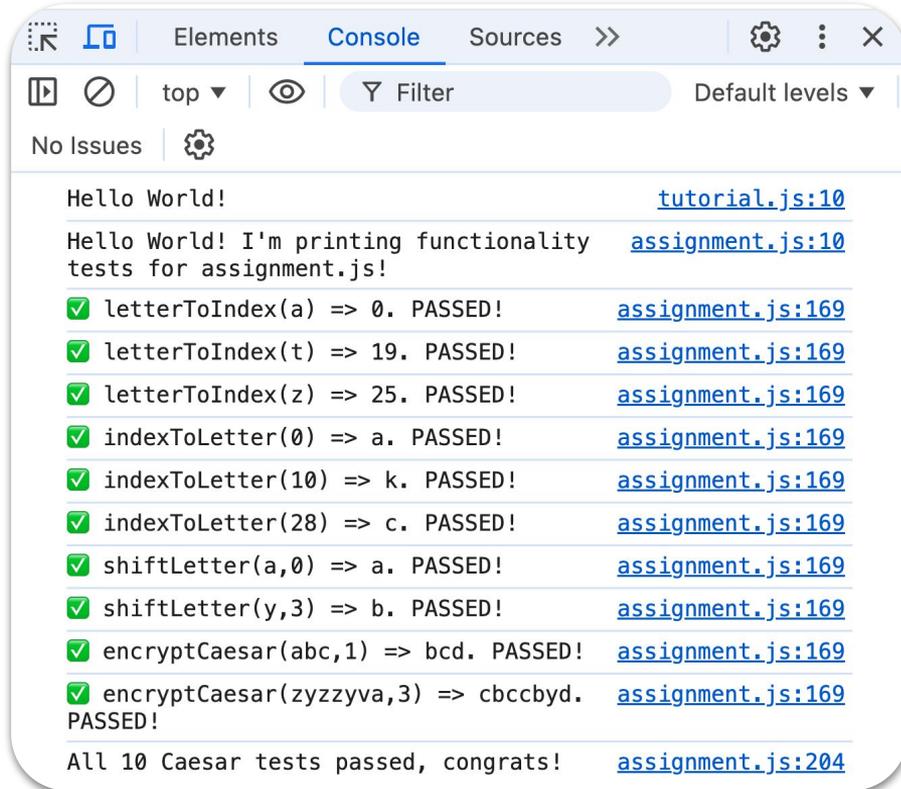
```
🎲 encryptCaesar(  
  'abc', 1)
```

```
'bcd'
```

```
🎲 encryptCaesar(  
  'zyzzyva', 3)
```

```
'cbccbyd'
```

# Sanity Testing



The screenshot shows a browser's developer console with the following output:

```
Hello World! tutorial.js:10  
Hello World! I'm printing functionality tests for assignment.js! assignment.js:10  
✔ letterToIndex(a) => 0. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ letterToIndex(t) => 19. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ letterToIndex(z) => 25. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ indexToLetter(0) => a. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ indexToLetter(10) => k. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ indexToLetter(28) => c. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ shiftLetter(a,0) => a. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ shiftLetter(y,3) => b. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ encryptCaesar(abc,1) => bcd. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
✔ encryptCaesar(zyzyyva,3) => cbccbyd. PASSED! assignment.js:169  
All 10 Caesar tests passed, congrats! assignment.js:204
```

All tests should pass after **encryptCaesar()** is successfully implemented!

Solution code available on website right after class :)

To test Vigenère (optional!), go to the bottom of the **assignment.js** file, and uncomment the line that reads as:

```
// testVigenere() // uncomment to  
test Vigenere cipher (optional)
```

# Check-Off Form!

To get attendance credit each class, you'll fill out a **brief check-off form** (~2 – 5 min to complete).

For today, click the “Check-Off Form” link in the Week 1 section of [cs106s.stanford.edu](https://cs106s.stanford.edu)!



<https://tinyurl.com/cs106s-spr25-w1-checkoff> (case sensitive!)

# Looking Forward to this Spring 🌸

Teaching this 1-unit wonder has been a truly wonderful joy and privilege for me, ~~because of all the free boba over the years~~; thank you for being here to learn with us, and I 🙌 hope 🙌 this 🙌 will 🙌 be 🙌 fun 🙌 for you!!



**Have an awesome first week of classes! :)**