

💡 thinkdev #4

Making decisions

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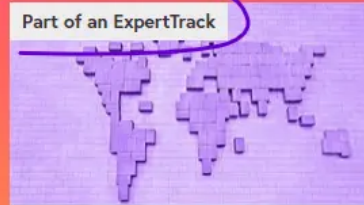
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**First, let's learn how to do
some basic comparison**

The relational operators:

```
3 > 2    // true
8 < 5    // false
9 >= 13  // false
6 <= 6   // true
```

Use the *strict equality operator* to determine if two values are equal:

```
2 === 5 - 3           // true
89.0 === 89           // true
10 === '10'          // false
'hello' === 'Hello'  // false
true === false       // false
```

There's a strict inequality counterpart:

```
2 !== 5 - 3           // false
89.0 !== 89           // false
10 !== '10'          // true
'hello' !== 'Hello'  // true
true !== false       // true
```

No two objects have the same value, even if they look alike:

```
const obj1 = { prop: "value" }  
const obj2 = { prop: "value" }  
console.log(obj1 === obj2) // false 😞
```

But, same object, same value:

```
const obj1 = { prop: "value" }  
const obj2 = obj1  
console.log(obj1 === obj2) // true
```


Let's get to making decisions now.

The `if` statement

```
if (expression) {  
    statement1  
    statement2  
    ...  
}
```

```
if (expression) {  
    statement1  
    statement2  
    ...  
}
```

If `expression` is `true`, execute the statements in the braces.
Otherwise, ignore the statements.

Let's consider the FutureLearn example.

We represented a course like so in the previous lesson:

```
const course = {  
  title: 'The Museum as a Site and ...',  
  rating: 4.6,  
  reviewsCount: 75,  
  isNew: false,  
  isPartOfAnExpertTrack: false,  
}
```

Let's determine if the course has a rating:

```
const course = {  
  rating: 4.6,  
  // ...  
}  
  
course.rating !== 0 // true
```

Now we can act accordingly:

```
const course = {  
  rating: 4.6,  
  // ...  
}  
  
if (course.rating !== 0) {  
  console.log(`Rating: ${course.rating}`)  
}
```


Let's add some logs around the `if` statement for clarity:

```
const course = {  
  rating: 4.6,  
  // ...  
}  
  
console.log('Before decision')  
if (course.rating !== 0) {  
  console.log(`Rating: ${course.rating}`)  
}  
console.log('After decision')
```

Here's the output:

```
Before decision
```

```
Rating: 4.6
```

```
After decision
```

What if the rating is 0?

```
const course = {  
  rating: 0,  
  // ...  
}  
  
console.log('Before decision')  
if (course.rating !== 0) {  
  console.log(`Rating: ${course.rating}`)  
}  
console.log('After decision')
```

Then the output is just this:

```
Before decision
```

```
After decision
```

How do we print a different message?

else

The result:

Before decision

No rating

After decision

Let's consider another example.

Welcome

- 1.Open Account
- 2.Account Balance
- 3.Airtime/Data
- 4.Transfer
- 5.Cable TV
- 6.Internet
- 7.Electricity
- 8.Quick Loan
- 99.Next

CANCEL SEND

A USSD menu with different options to choose from.

How do we express the several alternatives?

else if

You can use a final `else` to handle any other choice:

```
if (choice === 1) {
  console.log('Open Account')
} else if (choice === 2) {
  console.log('Account Balance')
} else if (choice === 3) {
  console.log('Airtime/Data')
} // ...
else {
  console.log('Invalid choice')
}
```