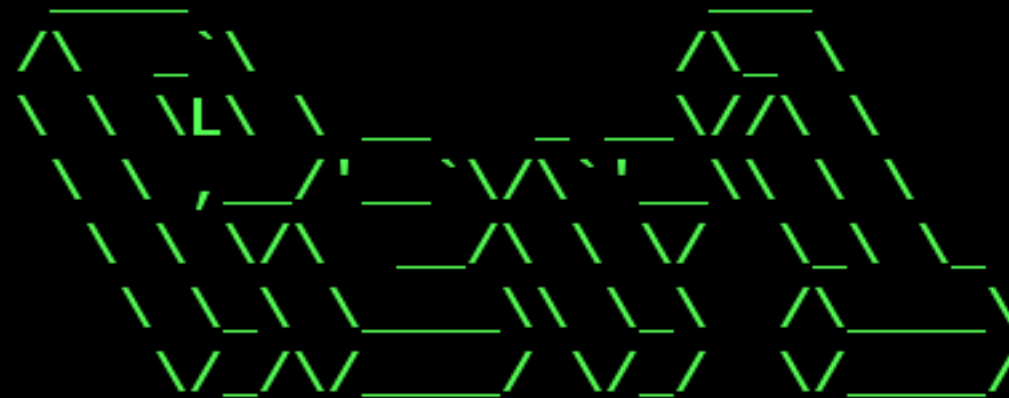


Perl

http://modernperlbooks.com/books/modern_perl_2014/

- * The Perl Philosophy
- * The Perl REPL
- * Perldoc
- * Default Variables
- * Context



Perl is a general-purpose programming language originally developed for text manipulation and now used for a wide range of tasks including system administration, web development, network programming, GUI development, and more.

THE MONSTER

There Is More Than One Way To Do It

DO IT MEAN

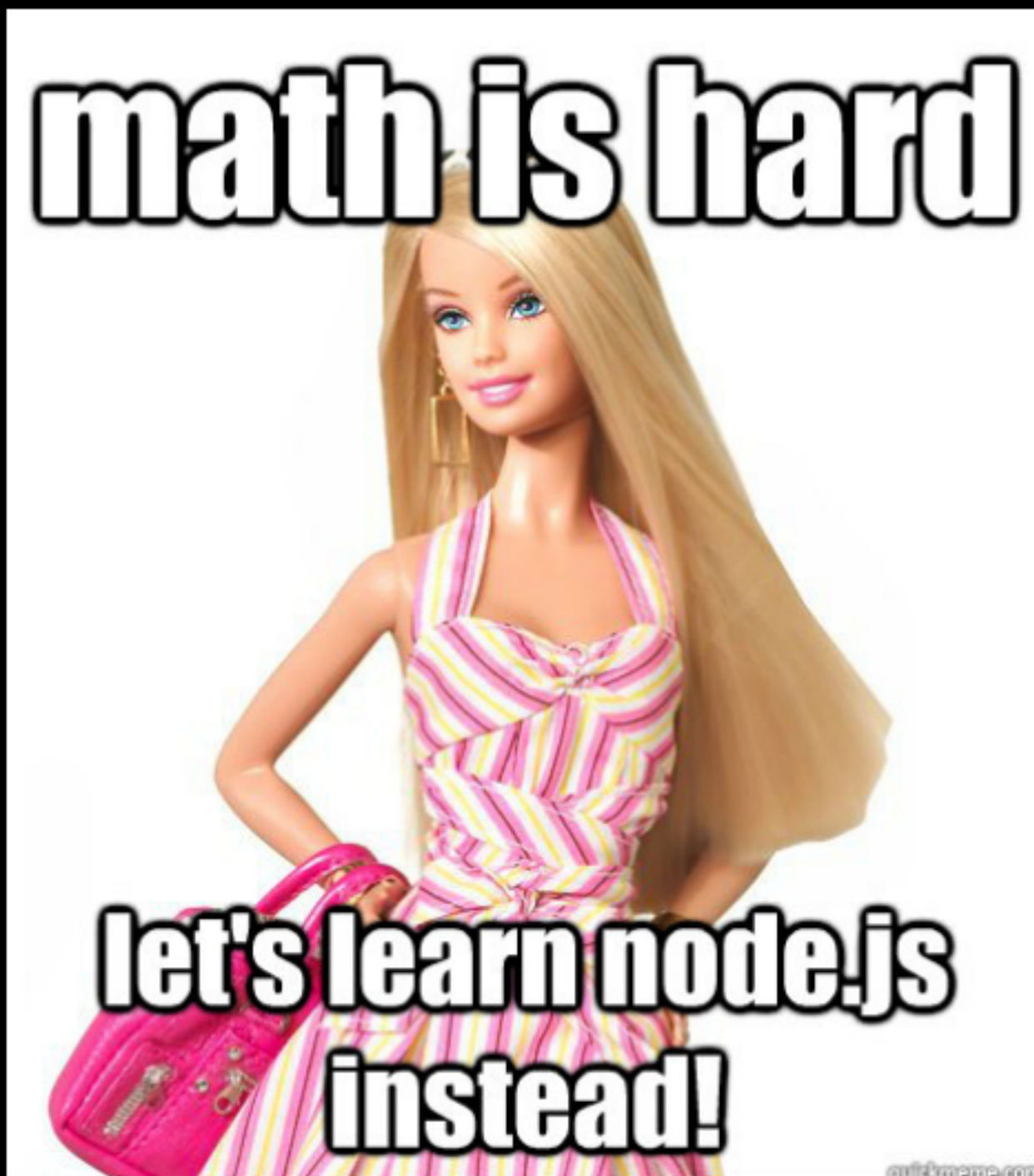
Do What I Mean

Perl

These two principles are often at odds with each other,
but keep in mind that Perl was designed by a linguist

Human languages are messy systems, after all!

But it could be worse!



perldoc

Fortunately, Perl includes really good documentation.

You should be able to access this from within your Perl environment, or
you can use the web interface

perldoc.perl.org

perldoc

The `perldoc` command is the canonical way to find the documentation for all installed Perl code

(including non-standard stuff installed from the CPAN)

- * **Linux:** it just works out of the box
- * **AIX:** if it doesn't just work out of the box,
`ln -s /localstds/app/utilities/bin/perldoc /usr/local/bin/perldoc`
- * **Windows:** screw you!
Actually, Strawberry Perl probably sets this up for you

perldoc

- * `perldoc Time::HiRes`
- * `perldoc perlrun`
- * `perldoc -f sort`
- * `perldoc -v '$_'`
- * `perldoc -l File::Copy`


```
Documentation
```

This documentation is actually embedded within the source code of most modules, so that the comments for the code can also be the documentation for the code!

Default Variables

One of the ways that Perl tries to simplify your job is through its default variables:

```
$_  
@_  
%_  
and  
%_
```

`$_` `chomp` `$_` `print` `$_`

Drawing a parallel to natural languages, they fill the role of pronouns

```
$_ means "it"  
chomp $var;  
or  
chomp;  
  
print $message;  
or  
print;
```


Perl is a
Very

`@_` means "they" or "them"

`shift @_;`

or

`shift;`

`pop @_;`

or

`pop;`

Default Variables

Certain operations will use a default variable if you don't tell it what to do

But you should strive to be specific so as to make your intentions clear

The most unique context to Perl concerns *itself* with the number of items a construct refers to or is assumed to operate upon.

Three kinds:

- * void
- * scalar
- * list

Variable Scope

The most unique context to Perl concerns *itself* with the number of items a construct refers to or is assumed to operate upon.

Again, there are three kinds:

- * numeric
- * string
- * boolean

