

1. What is PHP?

PHP stand for Hypertext Preprocessor.

PHP is a Server Side Scripting Language.

PHP is a Open Source Software.

PHP free to download and use.

PHP scripts are executed on server.

PHP supports many databases such as MySQL, Informix, Oracle, Sybase, Solid, PostgreSQL, Generic ODBC, etc.,

PHP development began in 1994 when the **Danish/Greenlandic** programmer **Rasmus Lerdorf** initially created a set of Perl scripts he called "Personal Home Page Tools" to maintain his personal homepage. Marco Tabini is the funder and publisher of PHP|architech.

DISCUSS

2. What are the methods available in form submitting?

GET and POST.

DISCUSS

3. What are the differences between GET and POST methods in form submitting?

On the server side, the main difference between **GET** and **POST** is where the submitted data is stored. The **\$_GET** array stores data submitted by the **GET** method. The **\$_POST** array stores data submitted by the **POST** method.

On the browser side, the difference is that data submitted by the **GET** method will be displayed in the browser's address field. Data submitted by the **POST** method will not be displayed anywhere on the browser.

GET method is mostly used for submitting a small amount and less sensitive data.

POST method is mostly used for submitting a large amount or sensitive data.

DISCUSS

4. How can we submit from without a submit button?

We can use a simple JavaScript code linked to an event trigger of any form field. In the JavaScript code, we can call the **document.form.submit();** function to submit the form.

DISCUSS

5. How can we get the browser properties using php?

```
<?php
echo $_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'] . "\n\n";
$browser = get_browser(null, true);
print_r($browser);
?>
```

6. What is a Session?

A session is a logical object created by the PHP engine to allow you to preserve data across subsequent HTTP requests. Sessions are commonly used to store temporary data to allow multiple PHP pages to offer a complete functional transaction for the same visitor.

DISCUSS

7. How can we register the variables into a session?

```
<?php
session_register($_SESSION_VAR);
?>
```

DISCUSS

8. How do you destroy a particular or all Sessions?

```
<?php
session_start();
// store session data
$_SESSION['views']=1;
unset($_SESSION['views']); // If you wish to delete some
session data, you can use the unset()
session_destroy(); // You can also completely destroy the
session by calling the session_destroy() function.
session_destroy() will reset your session and you will lose all your
stored session data.
?>
```

DISCUSS

9. How many ways we can pass the variable through the navigation between the pages?

Register the variable into the session

Pass the variable as a cookie

Pass the variable as part of the URL

DISCUSS

10. What are the different functions in sorting an array?

asort()
arsort()
ksort()
krsort()
uksort()
sort()
natsort()
rsort()

11. How can we know the total number of elements of Array?

sizeof(\$array_var)
count(\$array_var)

If we just pass a simple var instead of a an array it will **return 1**.

DISCUSS

12. What type of headers that PHP supports?

\$_SERVER['HTTP_ACCEPT']

DISCUSS

13. How can we extract string 'abc.com' from a string 'http://info@abc.com' using regular _expression of php?

We can use the preg_match() function with "/.*@(.*)\$/" as the regular expression pattern.

For example:

<?php

preg_match("/.*@(.*)\$/","http://info@abc.com",\$data);
echo \$data[1];

?>

DISCUSS

14. How can we create a database using php?

mysql_create_db();

DISCUSS

15. Explain include(), include_once, require() and require_once.

include()

The **include()** function takes all the content in a specified file and includes it in the current file. If an error occurs, the **include()**function generates a warning, but the script will continue execution.

include_once()

File will not be included more than once. If we want to include a file once only and further calling of the file will be ignored then we have to use the PHP function include_once().

require()

The **require()** function is identical to **include()**, except that it handles errors differently. The **require()** generates a fatal error, and the script will stop.

require_once()

The required file is called only once when a page is open and further calling of the file will be ignored.

16. What are the different types of errors in php?

Notices: These are trivial, non-critical errors that PHP encounters while executing a script - for example, accessing a variable that has not yet been defined. By default, such errors are not displayed to the user at all - although, as you will see, you can change this default behaviour.

Warnings: These are more serious errors - for example, attempting to **include()** a file which does not exist. By default, these errors are displayed to the user, but they do not result in script termination.

Fatal errors: These are critical errors - for example, instantiating an object of a non-existent class, or calling a non-existent function. These errors cause the immediate termination of the script, and PHP's default behaviour is to display them to the user when they take place.

If we just pass a simple var instead of a an array it will **return 1**.

DISCUSS

17. What are the Formatting and Printing Strings available in PHP?

Function	Description
printf()	Displays a formatted string
sprintf()	Saves a formatted string in a variable
fprintf()	Prints a formatted string to a file
number_format()	Formats numbers as strings

DISCUSS

18. How to find a length of a string?

strlen()

DISCUSS

19. What is the functionality of the function strstr and stristr?

strstr() returns part of a given string from the first occurrence of a given substring to the end of the string.

For example:

strstr("user@example.com", "@") will return "@example.com".

stristr() is identical to strstr() except that it is case insensitive.

DISCUSS

20. How can we get second of the current time using date function?

<?php

```
$second = date("s");
```

?>

21. What is the difference between the functions unlink and unset?

unlink() deletes the given file from the file system.

unset() makes a variable undefined.

DISCUSS

22. What is the difference between ereg_replace() and eregi_replace()?

eregi_replace() function is identical to **ereg_replace()** except that it ignores case distinction when matching alphabetic characters.

DISCUSS

23. What is the difference between characters \023 and \x23?

The first one is octal 23, the second is hex 23.

DISCUSS

24. What is the difference between PHP4 and PHP5?

PHP4 cannot support oops concepts and Zend engine 1 is used.

PHP5 supports oops concepts and Zend engine 2 is used. Error supporting is increased in PHP5. XML and SQLite will be increased in PHP5.

DISCUSS

25. What are the differences between mysql_fetch_array(), mysql_fetch_object(), mysql_fetch_row()?

mysql_fetch_array:

Fetch a result row as an associative array and a numeric array.

mysql_fetch_object:

Returns an object with properties that correspond to the fetched row and moves the internal data pointer ahead. Returns an object with properties that correspond to the fetched row, or FALSE if there are no more rows.

mysql_fetch_row():

Fetches one row of data from the result associated with the specified result identifier. The row is returned as an array. Each result column is stored in an array offset, starting at offset 0.

26. In how many ways we can retrieve data in the result set of MYSQL using PHP?

mysql_fetch_array: - Fetch a result row as an associative array, a numeric array, or both.

mysql_fetch_assoc: - Fetch a result row as an associative array.

mysql_fetch_object: - Fetch a result row as an object.

mysql_fetch_row: - Get a result row as an enumerated array.

DISCUSS

27. What are encryption functions in PHP?

CRYPT(), MD5()

DISCUSS

28. What is the functionality of the function htmlentities?

htmlentities(): - Convert all applicable characters to HTML entities This function is identical to **htmlspecialchars()** in all ways, except with **htmlentities()**, all characters which have HTML character entity equivalents are translated into these entities.

DISCUSS

29. How can we increase the execution time of a php script?

By the use of void **set_time_limit(int seconds)** Set the number of seconds a script is allowed to run. If this is reached, the script returns a fatal error. The default limit is 30 seconds or, if it exists, the **max_execution_time** value defined in the **php.ini**. If seconds is set to zero, no time limit is imposed. When called, **set_time_limit()** restarts the timeout counter from zero. In other words, if the timeout is the default 30 seconds, and 25 seconds into script execution a call such as **set_time_limit(20)** is made, the script will run for a total

of 45 seconds before timing out.

DISCUSS

30. How to set cookies?

setcookie('variable','value','time');
variable - name of the cookie variable
value - value of the cookie variable
time - expiry time

Example:

```
<?php  
setcookie('Test',$i,time()+3600);  
?>
```

Test - cookie variable name

\$i - value of the variable 'Test'

time()+3600 - denotes that the cookie will expire after an one hour

PHP Interview Question and Answers

31. How to store the uploaded file to the final location?

move_uploaded_file(string filename, string destination)

DISCUSS

32. What type of headers have to be added in the mail function to attach a file?

```
<?php  
$boundary = '--' . md5( uniqid ( rand() ) );  
$headers = "From: \"Me\"\\n";  
$headers .= "MIME-Version: 1.0\\n";  
$headers .= "Content-Type: multipart/mixed;  
boundary=\"$boundary\"";  
?>
```

DISCUSS

33. How can we find the number of rows in a result set using php?

```
<?php  
$result = mysql_query($any_valid_sql, $database_link);  
$num_rows = mysql_num_rows($result);  
echo "$num_rows rows found";  
?>
```

DISCUSS

34. How can we know the number of days between two given dates using php?

<?php

```
$tomorrow = mktime(0, 0, 0, date("m") , date("d")+1, date("Y"));  
$lastmonth = mktime(0, 0, 0, date("m")-1, date("d"), date("Y"));  
echo ($tomorrow-$lastmonth)/86400;
```

?>

DISCUSS

35. How to open a file?

<?php

```
$file = fopen("file.txt","r");
```

?>

36. How many open modes available when a file open in PHP?

r , r+ , w , w+ , a , a+ , x , x+

DISCUSS

37. Explain the types of string comparison function in PHP.

Function	Descriptions
1. strcmp()	Compares two strings (case sensitive)
2. strcasecmp()	Compares two strings (not case sensitive)
3. strnatcmp(str1, str2);	Compares two strings in ASCII order, but any numbers are compared numerically
4. strnatcasecmp(str1, str2);	Compares two strings in ASCII order, case insensitive, numbers as numbers
5. strncasecomp()	Compares two strings (not case sensitive) and allows you to specify how many characters to compare
6. strstrp()	Compares a string against characters represented by a mask
7. strcspn()	Compares a string that contains characters not in the mask

DISCUSS

38. Explain soundex() and metaphone().

soundex()

The soundex() function calculates the soundex key of a string. A

soundex key is a four character long alphanumeric string that represent English pronunciation of a word. the soundex() function can be used for spelling applications.

```
<?php
$str = "hello";
echo soundex($str);
?>
```

metaphone()

The metaphone() function calculates the metaphone key of a string. A metaphone key represents how a string sounds if said by an English speaking person. The metaphone() function can be used for spelling applications.

```
<?php
echo metaphone("world");
?>
```

DISCUSS

39. Explain the types of functions for Splitting String?

Function	Descriptions
1. split()	Splits a string into an array by using a regular expression as the delimiter.
2. spliti()	Splits a string into an array by a regular expression and is case insensitive.
3. str_split()	Converts a string into an array where the size of the elements can be specified
4. preg_split()	Splits up a string by a Perl compatible regular expression and returns an array of substrings
5. explode()	Splits up a string by another string (not a regular expression) and returns an array
6. implode()	Joins array elements together by a string and returns a string

DISCUSS

40. Explain Whitespace Characters.

Whitespace Character	ASCII Value(Decimal/Hex)	Descriptions
" "	32 (0x20)	An ordinary space
"\t"	9(0x0)	A tab.
"\n"	10(0x0A)	A newline (line feed).
"\r"	13(0x0D)	A carriage return.

"\0"
"\x0B"

0(0x00))
11(0x0B))

The NULL-byte.
A vertical tab.