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Action Selectors

Action selector is the attribute that can be applied to the action methods. It helps routing engine to select the correct action method to handle a particular request. MVC 5 includes the following action selector attributes:

1. ActionName
2. NonAction
3. ActionVerbs

ActionName

ActionName attribute allows us to specify a different action name than the method name. Consider the following example.

Example: ActionName

```
public class StudentController : Controller
{
    public StudentController()
    {
```

```
        }

        [ActionName("find")]
        public ActionResult GetById(int id)
        {
            // get student from the database
            return View();
        }
    }
```

In the above example, we have applied `ActioName("find")` attribute to GetById action method. So now, action name is "find" instead of "GetById". This action method will be invoked on *http://localhost/student/find/1* request instead of *http://localhost/student/getbyid/1* request.

NonAction

NonAction selector attribute indicates that a public method of a Controller is not an action method. Use NonAction attribute when you want public method in a controller but do not want to treat it as an action method.

For example, the `GetStudent()` public method cannot be invoked in the same way as action method in the following example.

Example: NonAction

```
public class StudentController : Controller
{
    public StudentController()
    {
```

```
    }

    [NonAction]
    public Student GetStudent(int id)
    {
        return studentList.Where(s => s.StudentId == id).FirstOrDefault();
    }
}
```

Points to Remember :

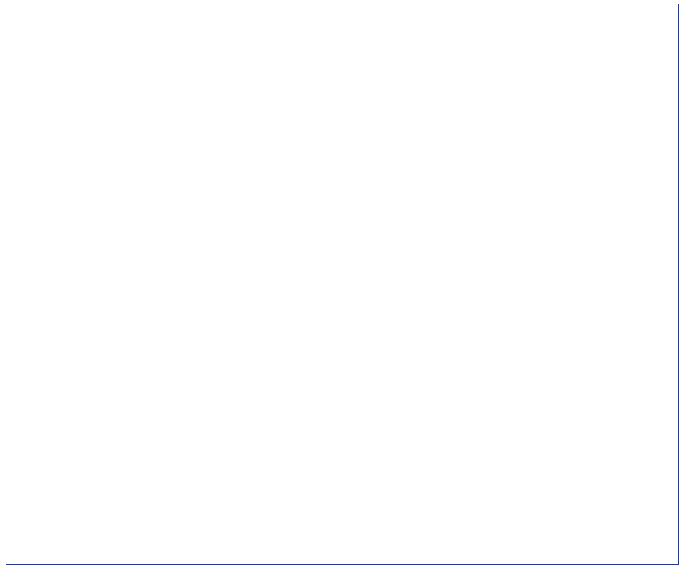
1) MVC framework routing engine uses Action Selectors attributes to determine which action method to invoke.

2) Three action selectors attributes are available in MVC 5

- ActionName
- NonAction
- ActionVerbs

3) ActionName attribute is used to specify different name of action than method name.

4) NonAction attribute marks the public method of controller class as non-action method. It cannot be invoked.



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