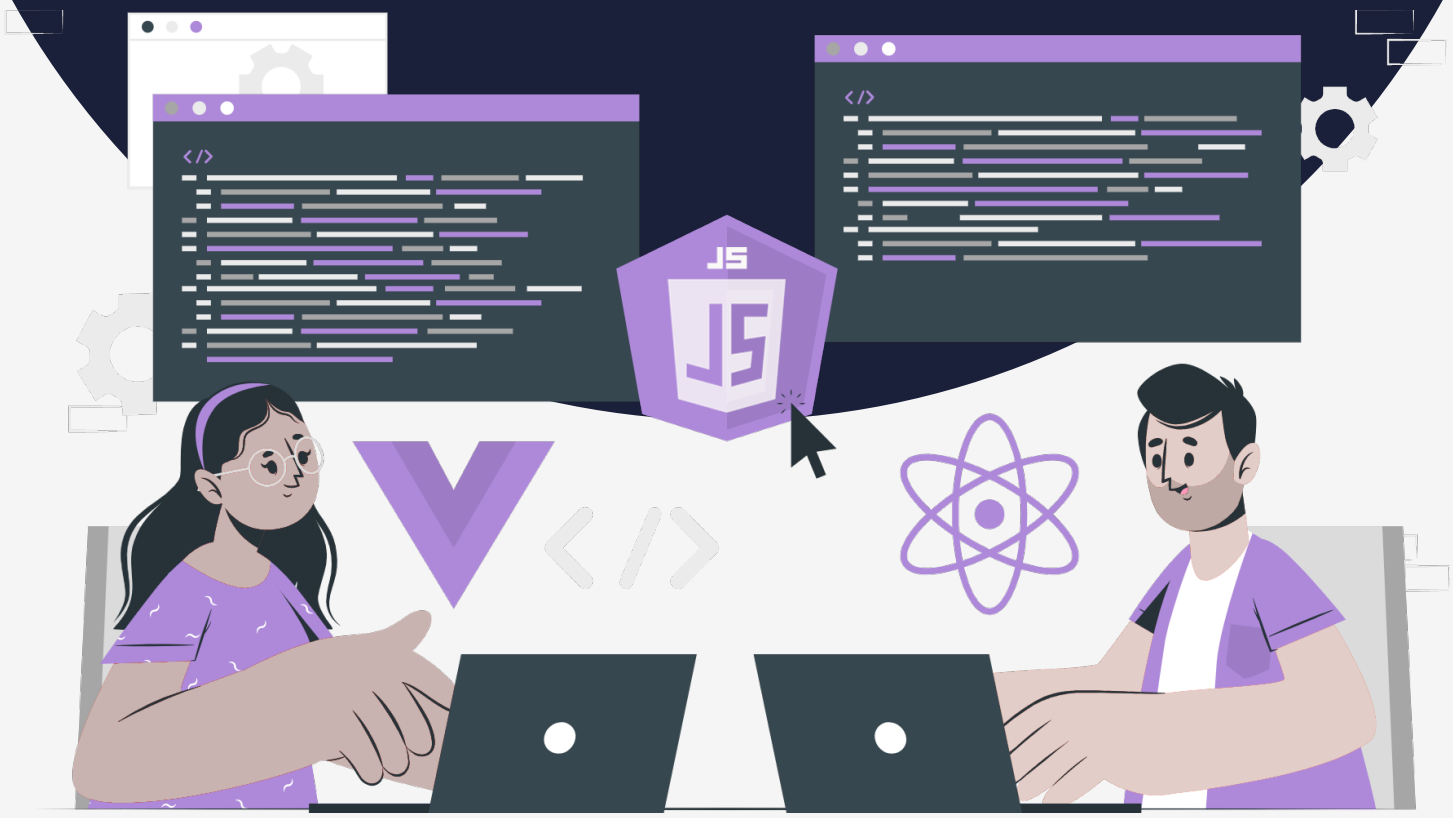
Lesson:

Http Module



PW SKILLS

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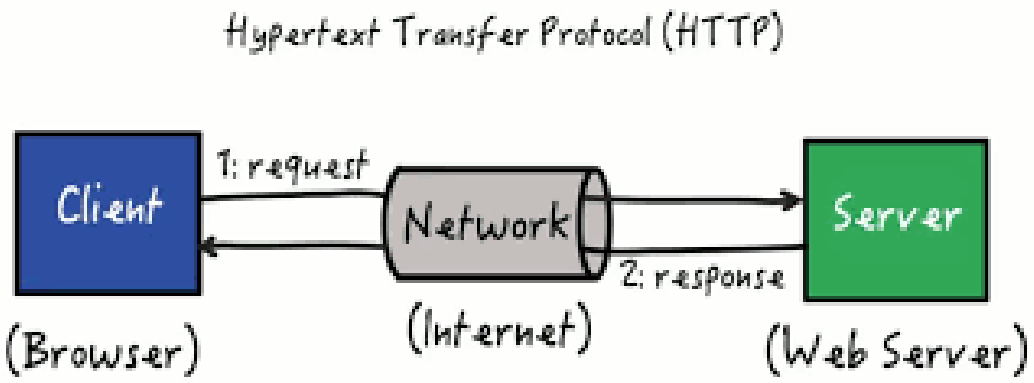
What is http ?

HTTP stands for Hypertext Transfer Protocol. It is a protocol used for transmitting data over the internet. HTTP defines how clients and servers communicate with each other and how requests and responses should be formatted and transmitted. It is the foundation of data communication for the World Wide Web or the internet.



NodeJS http module

Node's http module is an integral component that facilitates various aspects of the HTTP protocol. To use the http module, start by creating a new file named "server.js" and then import the http module using the require() function, as demonstrated in the following example:

```
const http = require('http');
```

Second, create an HTTP server using the createServer() method of the http object.

```
const server = http.createServer((req, res) => {
    if (req.url === '/') {
        res.write('<h1>Hello, Node.js!</h1>');
    }
    res.end();
});
```

When utilizing the createServer() function, a callback function with two parameters - HTTP request (req) and response (res) - is required. If the URL is "/", an HTML string is sent to the browser and the request is terminated within the callback function.

Finally, the incoming HTTP request is monitored on port 5000.

```
server.listen(5000);
console.log(`The HTTP Server is running on port 5000`);
```

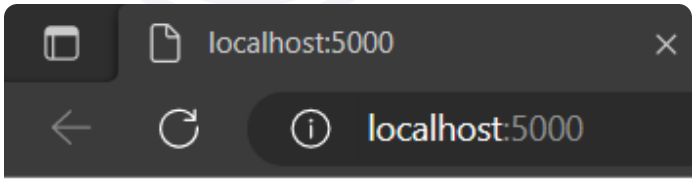
Lets put it all together:

```
const http = require('http');

const server = http.createServer((req, res) => {
    if (req.url === '/') {
        res.write('<h1>Hello, Node.js!</h1>');
    }
    res.end();
});

server.listen(5000);
console.log(`The HTTP Server is running on port 5000`);
Code language: JavaScript (javascript)
The following starts the HTTP server:
```

Output:

```
The HTTP Server is running on port 5000
```

Now, you can launch the web browser and go to the URL http://localhost:5000/. You'll see the following message:



Hello, Node.js!

This simple example illustrates how to use the http module. In practice, you will not use the http module directly. Instead, you will use a popular module called **express** to handle HTTP requests and responses.