

Below is a **rewritten, simplified, internally deep, exam-ready version** of the **Geolocation API**, written **exactly in the same structured style** as your Fetch API notes.

I've:

- Simplified language
- Added **internal working explanations**
- Kept **notes and code clearly separated** (perfect for NoteLM)
- Made it **exam + interview friendly**
- Avoided unnecessary repetition

JavaScript Geolocation API

1 What is the Geolocation API?

The **Geolocation API** is a **Browser Web API** that allows JavaScript to **access the geographical location** of a user.

It provides information such as:

- Latitude
- Longitude
- Accuracy
- Altitude (optional)
- Speed & direction (optional)

 This API works **only after user permission**.

2 Why is Geolocation API Needed?

Modern web applications often require **real-world location data**.

Real-World Use Cases

- Ride booking apps (Uber, Ola)
- Food delivery tracking
- Showing nearby places (restaurants, petrol pumps)
- Location tagging in photos
- Maps & navigation
- Emergency services

3 Privacy & Permission (VERY IMPORTANT)

- Location data is **sensitive**
- Browser **asks user permission**
- If user clicks:

- **Allow** → location accessible
- **Block** → error thrown

📌 Without permission → API will not work

4 Where Does Geolocation API Live?

Geolocation API is a property of the **navigator object**.

js

```
navigator.geolocation
```

Since `navigator` is global, we usually write:

js

```
navigator.geolocation
```

5 Checking Browser Support

📌 Always check before using

html

```
<script>
if (navigator.geolocation) {
  console.log("Geolocation supported");
} else {
  console.log("Geolocation not supported");
}
</script>
```

6 Internal Working of Geolocation API

🧠 How it works internally

css

JS Code

↓

`navigator.geolocation`

↓

Browser asks permission

↓

Device sensors (GPS / Wi-Fi / Cell towers)

↓

Location calculated

↓

Callback executed

📍 Accuracy depends on:

- GPS availability
- Network quality
- Device hardware

7 Main Methods of Geolocation API

Method	Purpose
getCurrentPosition()	Get current location once
watchPosition()	Track live location
clearWatch()	Stop live tracking

8 Location Object (Returned Data)

When location is fetched, browser returns a **Position object**.

Important Properties

Property	Meaning
latitude	North–South position
longitude	East–West position
accuracy	Accuracy in meters
altitude	Height above sea level
speed	Movement speed
heading	Direction of movement
timestamp	Time of capture

Access pattern:

js

```
position.coords.latitude  
position.coords.longitude
```

9 **getCurrentPosition()** – Get Location Once

Syntax

```
js  
  
navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition(  
  successCallback,  
  errorCallback,  
  options  
);
```

✓ Example: Get User Location

```
html  
  
<button onclick="findLocation()">Find Location</button>  
<p id="output"></p>  
  
<script>  
const output = document.getElementById("output");  
  
function findLocation() {  
  if (navigator.geolocation) {  
    navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition(showLocation);  
  } else {  
    output.innerHTML = "Geolocation not supported";  
  }  
}  
  
function showLocation(position) {  
  output.innerHTML =  
    "Latitude: " + position.coords.latitude + "<br>" +  
    "Longitude: " + position.coords.longitude + "<br>" +  
    "Accuracy: " + position.coords.accuracy + " meters";  
}  
</script>
```

10 Error Handling in Geolocation API

Why errors occur?

- User denied permission
- GPS not available
- Request timeout
- Unknown error

Error Object Properties

Code	Meaning
1	Permission denied
2	Position unavailable
3	Timeout
0	Unknown error

✓ Example: Error Handling

html

```
<script>
function errorHandler(error) {
  switch (error.code) {
    case 1:
      alert("Permission denied");
      break;
    case 2:
      alert("Location unavailable");
      break;
    case 3:
      alert("Request timed out");
      break;
    default:
      alert("Unknown error");
  }
}
</script>
```

Used as:

js

```
navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition(success, errorHandler);
```

1 | 1 Geolocation Options (Accuracy Control)

Options improve accuracy and performance.

Option	Purpose
enableHighAccuracy	Better GPS accuracy
timeout	Max wait time
maximumAge	Use cached location

✓ Example with Options

js

```
const options = {
  enableHighAccuracy: true,
  timeout: 5000,
  maximumAge: 0
};

navigator.geolocation.getCurrentPosition(success, error, options);
```

1 | 2 watchPosition() – Live Location Tracking

Used for:

- Navigation
- Fitness tracking
- Ride tracking

Syntax

js

```
const id = navigator.geolocation.watchPosition(success);
```

✓ Example: Track Location for 30 Seconds

html

```
<button onclick="startTracking()">Start Tracking</button>
<div id="output"></div>

<script>
let output = document.getElementById("output");
```

```

function startTracking() {
  if (navigator.geolocation) {
    const id = navigator.geolocation.watchPosition(showCoords);

    setTimeout(() => {
      navigator.geolocation.clearWatch(id);
      output.innerHTML += "<br>Tracking stopped";
    }, 30000);
  }
}

function showCoords(pos) {
  output.innerHTML +=
    `<br>Lat: ${pos.coords.latitude},  

     Long: ${pos.coords.longitude}`;
}
</script>

```

1 | 3 clearWatch() - Stop Tracking

js

```
navigator.geolocation.clearWatch(id);
```

Used to:

- Save battery
- Stop unnecessary tracking

1 | 4 Limitations of Geolocation API

- ✖ Needs user permission
- ✖ Not supported in insecure HTTP (needs HTTPS)
- ✖ Accuracy may vary
- ✖ Cannot work offline properly

1 | 5 Exam-Ready One-Line Answers

Q: What is Geolocation API?

A browser API that provides access to the user's geographical location.

Q: Where is it available?

As `navigator.geolocation`.

Q: Is permission required?

| Yes, browser asks user consent.

Q: Difference between getCurrentPosition & watchPosition?

| One-time location vs continuous tracking.

1 | 6 Key Takeaways (FINAL)

- ✓ Browser Web API
- ✓ Requires permission
- ✓ Uses GPS / network
- ✓ Supports live tracking
- ✓ Privacy-sensitive
- ✓ Works asynchronously

▶ What's Next?

Perfect continuation topics in same style:

- 1 Media Devices API (Camera & Mic)**
- 2 Notification API**
- 3 Intersection Observer API**
- 4 Service Workers (Intro)**

 Just type “next” and we’ll continue.