

Perfect. Continuing in the SAME PDF-style format, depth, and simplicity.

JavaScript JSON — Internal & Practical View

(Data Exchange • `stringify` / `parse` • Memory • Traps)

♦ 1. What is JSON?

Definition

JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) is a **text-based data format** used to **store and exchange data**.

👉 JSON is **not JavaScript code**

👉 JSON is **just a string format**

Simple Meaning

- JavaScript Object → **in-memory**
- JSON → **string representation**

Internal Behavior

- JSON lives as **plain text**
- Used to send data:
 - Client ↔ Server
 - File storage
 - APIs
- JS must **convert** JSON ↔ Object to use it

✅ Key Takeaway


JSON is data format, not a JS object.

⚠ Interview Trap

JSON ≠ JavaScript object.

♦ 2. JSON vs JavaScript Object (VERY IMPORTANT)

Feature	JS Object	JSON
Type	Object	String
Functions	Allowed	❌ Not allowed
Quotes	Optional	Mandatory (<code>" "</code>)
Trailing commas	Allowed	❌ Not allowed

Feature	JS Object	JSON
Comments	Allowed	 Not allowed

js

```
// JavaScript Object  
const obj = { name: "Anoop" };
```

json

```
{  
  "name": "Anoop"  
}
```

Internal Behavior

- JSON parser is **strict**
- Any invalid syntax → parse error

Key Takeaway

JSON follows stricter rules than JS.

Interview Trap

Single quotes are invalid in JSON.

◆ 3. `JSON.stringify()` — Object → JSON

Syntax

js

```
JSON.stringify(value);
```

Example

js

```
const user = {  
  name: "Anoop",  
  age: 22  
};  
  
const json = JSON.stringify(user);
```

Output

js

```
json // '{"name":"Anoop","age":22}'
```

Internal Behavior

- Traverses object
- Converts values to text
- Removes:
 - functions
 - `undefined`
 - symbols

js

```
JSON.stringify({  
  a: 1,  
  b: undefined,  
  c: function () {}  
});  
// '{"a":1}'
```

Key Takeaway

Only **serializable data** survives stringify.

Interview Trap

Functions silently disappear.

◆ 4. `JSON.parse()` — JSON → Object

Syntax

js

```
JSON.parse(jsonString);
```

Example

js

```
const str = '{"name":"Anoop","age":22}';  
const obj = JSON.parse(str);
```

Internal Behavior

- Parses string character by character
- Creates new object in **heap**
- Throws error if JSON is invalid

js

```
JSON.parse("{name: 'Anoop'}"); // ❌ SyntaxError
```

Key Takeaway

`JSON.parse()` always creates a **new object**.

Interview Trap

Invalid JSON crashes parsing.

◆ 5. Deep Copy using JSON (Common Trick)

js

```
const obj1 = { a: 1, b: { c: 2 } };

const copy = JSON.parse(JSON.stringify(obj1));
```

Internal Behavior

- Object → JSON string
- JSON string → new object
- References are broken

LIMITATIONS (VERY IMPORTANT)

Lost during copy:

- Functions
- `undefined`
- `Date`
- `Map` , `Set`
- Circular references ❌

js

```
const obj = {};  
obj.self = obj;
```

```
JSON.stringify(obj); // ❌ TypeError
```

✅ Key Takeaway

JSON deep copy is **limited and unsafe**.

⚠️ Interview Trap

Circular objects crash stringify.

◆ 6. JSON in APIs (Real World)

Sending Data

```
js

fetch("/api", {
  method: "POST",
  headers: {
    "Content-Type": "application/json"
  },
  body: JSON.stringify({ name: "Anoop" })
});
```

Receiving Data

```
js

const data = await response.json();
```

🔍 Internal Behavior

- Network sends **text**
- Browser parses JSON into object
- Data becomes usable in JS

✅ Key Takeaway

APIs always exchange **strings**, not objects.

◆ 7. Common JSON Errors

❌ Trailing comma

```
json

{
  "a": 1,
```

```
}
```

✗ Comments

```
json

{
  // comment
  "a": 1
}
```

🔍 Internal Behavior

- JSON parser fails immediately
- No recovery

⚠ Interview Trap

JSON is stricter than JS object literals.

💡 8. `reviver` and `replacer` (Advanced but Useful)

Replacer (during stringify)

```
js

JSON.stringify(obj, ["name"]);
```

Reviver (during parse)

```
js

JSON.parse(str, (key, value) => {
  if (key === "age") return value + 1;
  return value;
});
```

🔍 Internal Behavior

- Hook into serialization / parsing
- Modify data during conversion

✅ Key Takeaway

Reviver & replacer allow controlled transformation.

🧠 FINAL SUMMARY (EXAM + INTERVIEW)

- JSON is a string format
- Used for data exchange

- `stringify` → object to string
- `parse` → string to object
- JSON is strict
- Deep copy via JSON has limitations
- APIs always send JSON as text

▶▶ NEXT (Same Format)

Reply with **one word**:

- `map-set`
- `spread-rest`
- `array-vs-object`
- `object-methods`
- `storage`

I'll continue in **exact same simplified PDF-style**.