






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
<code>getCurrentPosition()</code>	Get current location once
<code>watchPosition()</code>	Track live location
<code>clearWatch()</code>	Stop live tracking

## 8 Location Object (Returned Data)

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

### Important Properties

Property	Meaning
<code>latitude</code>	North–South position
<code>longitude</code>	East–West position
<code>accuracy</code>	Accuracy in meters
<code>altitude</code>	Height above sea level
<code>speed</code>	Movement speed
<code>heading</code>	Direction of movement
<code>timestamp</code>	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.