Spring Boot and React Project Configuration Guide

1. Spring Boot Project Setup

Q1: How to set up a Spring Boot project?

- **Step 1:** Install Java Development Kit (JDK) 11 or later.
 - Download and install from <u>Oracle JDK</u>.
 - o Set Java home and path environment variables.
- Step 2: Create a Spring Boot project using Spring Initializer or Spring Tools.
 - o Open Spring Initializr: https://start.spring.io/
 - o Select:
 - Project: Maven Project
 - Language: Java
 - Spring Boot Version: Latest stable version
 - Group: com.example
 - Artifact: studentapp
 - Dependencies: Spring Web, Spring Data JPA, MySQL Driver, Spring Boot DevTools, Lombok
 - Click "Generate" to download the project and unzip it.
- **Step 3:** Open the project in your IDE (e.g., VS Code, IntelliJ IDEA).

Q2: How to configure MySQL database in Spring Boot?

- Step 1: Install MySQL and create a new database (studentdb).
- Step 2: Add MySQL configuration in application.properties:
 - Set spring.datasource.url, spring.datasource.username, and spring.datasource.password to connect to your MySQL database.
- Step 3: Install necessary dependencies like spring-boot-starter-data-jpa and mysql-connector-java in your pom.xml (if not already added by Spring Initializr).

2. Frontend (React) Project Setup

Q3: How to set up a React project for the frontend?

- **Step 1:** Install Node.js and npm (Node Package Manager) from https://nodejs.org/.
 - Verify installation by running the following commands:

```
bash
Copy code
node -v
npm -v
```

• **Step 2:** Create a new React app using create-react-app:

```
bash
Copy code
npx create-react-app student-frontend
```

• **Step 3:** Install Axios to make HTTP requests to the Spring Boot backend:

```
bash
Copy code
npm install axios
```

• **Step 4:** Navigate to the project folder:

```
bash
Copy code
cd student-frontend
```

3. Spring Boot Backend API Development

Q4: How to implement API endpoints in Spring Boot for student management?

- Step 1: Create a Student model class with required fields like id, name, email, and age.
- **Step 2:** Create a repository interface extending JpaRepository for CRUD operations.
- Step 3: Create a StudentController to handle HTTP requests for GET, POST, PUT, and DELETE operations.
- **Step 4:** Configure CORS in the backend to allow requests from the React frontend running on http://localhost:3000.

4. React Frontend Development

Q5: How to interact with the Spring Boot API from the React frontend?

- **Step 1:** Create a StudentApp component in React for listing, adding, and deleting student records.
- Step 2: Use Axios to make API calls to the backend for the following actions:
 - Fetch all students (GET request)
 - Add a new student (POST request)
 - Delete a student (DELETE request)
- Step 3: Display student records in a list and provide form inputs to add a new student.

5. CORS Configuration

Q6: How to handle CORS in Spring Boot for a React frontend?

- Step 1: Add CORS mapping in Spring Boot to allow http://localhost:3000 (React frontend) to make requests to http://localhost:8080 (Spring Boot backend).
- Step 2: Ensure that the backend sends appropriate headers like Access-Control-Allow-Origin, Access-Control-Allow-Methods, and Access-Control-Allow-Headers.
- Step 3: Test the application in the browser to ensure CORS is properly handled.

6. Running the Application

Q7: How to run the Spring Boot backend?

• **Step 1:** Navigate to the backend directory and run the Spring Boot application using the following command:

```
bash
Copy code
mvn spring-boot:run
```

- **Step 2:** The Spring Boot application will start on http://localhost:8080.
- **Step 3:** Open Postman or the browser to test API endpoints.

Q8: How to run the React frontend?

• Step 1: Navigate to the frontend directory (student-frontend) and run:

```
bash
Copy code
npm start
```

• **Step 2:** The React app will be served at http://localhost:3000.

7. Common Errors and Troubleshooting

Q9: How to fix CORS issues between Spring Boot and React?

- **Fix 1:** Ensure that allowedOrigins in the CorsRegistry of the backend is correctly set to http://localhost:3000.
- Fix 2: Allow the necessary HTTP methods like GET, POST, PUT, and DELETE in the CORS configuration.
- **Fix 3:** If the error persists, ensure the Spring Boot backend is running, and the React app is correctly making HTTP requests to http://localhost:8080.

Q10: How to resolve Axios errors?

- **Fix 1:** Ensure that the correct API endpoint is being called with the correct HTTP method.
- **Fix 2:** Check if the backend is running and accessible by testing the endpoints with Postman.

8. Build and Deployment

Q11: How to build the React app for production?

• **Step 1:** Run the following command to create a production build:

```
bash
Copy code
npm run build
```

• **Step 2:** Deploy the build/ folder to your preferred hosting service, such as Netlify, Vercel, or a custom server.

Q12: How to package the Spring Boot app for production?

• **Step 1:** Run the following command to create a production-ready JAR file:

```
bash
Copy code
mvn clean package
```

• Step 2: Deploy the JAR file to your server, ensuring MySQL is properly configured.