

Servlet Context

Regarding javax.servlet.ServletContext (i/f)

1. Defined in javax.servlet package.

2. Who creates its instance -- WC

3. When -- @ Web application (=context) deployment time

NOTE : The ServletContext object is contained within the ServletConfig object, which the WC provides the servlet when the servlet is initialized.

4. How many instances ? --one per web application

5. Usages

5.1 Server side logging

API public void log(String msg)

5.2 To create context(application) scoped attributes

API public void setAttribute(String nm, Object val)

NOTE : Access them always in thread safe manner (using synchronized blocks)

5.3 To access global(scope=entire web application) parameters

How to add context scoped parameters ?

In web.xml

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>name</param-name>
  <param-value>value</param-value>
</context-param>
```

How to access these params in a Servlet ?

(can be accessed from init method onwards)

1. Get ServletContext

API of GenericServlet

ServletContext getServletContext() --method inherited from GenericServlet

2. ServletContext API

String getInitparameter(String paramName) : returns the param value.

eg : ctx param name : user_name value : abc

In the Servlet : getServletContext().getInitparameter("user_name") ---abc

What is a Servlet Listener(or web application listener)?

During the lifetime of a typical web application, a number of events take place.

eg : requests are created or destroyed.

sessions are created & destroyed

Contexts(web apps) are created & destroyed.

request or session or context attributes are added, removed, or modified etc.

The Servlet API provides a number of listener interfaces that one can implement in order to react to these events.

eg : Event Listener i/f

1. ServletRequestListener

2. HttpSessionListener

3. ServletContextListener

Event Handling Steps

1. Create a class, implementing from Listener i/f.

2. Register it with WC

2.1 @WebListener annotation(class level)

OR

2.2 XML tags in web.xml

```
<listener>
  <listener-class>F.Q cls name of listener</listener-class>
</listener>
```