What is PHP?

PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor is open source server-side scripting language that is widely used for web development. PHP scripts are executed on the server. PHP allows writing dynamically generated web pages efficiently and quickly. The syntax is mostly borrowed from C, Java and perl. PHP is free to download and use.

What is PEAR in php?

PEAR(PHP Extension and Application Repository) is a framework and repository for reusable PHP components. PEAR is a code repository containing all kinds of php code snippets and libraries.   
  
PEAR also offers a command-line interface that can be used to automatically install "packages".

Explain how to submit form without a submit button.

We can achieve the above task by using JavaScript code linked to an event trigger of any form field and call the document.form.submit() function in JavaScript code.

Echo vs. print statement.

echo() and print() are language constructs in PHP, both are used to output strings. The speed of both statements is almost the same.  
  
echo() can take multiple expressions whereas print cannot take multiple expressions.  
  
Print return true or false based on success or failure whereas echo doesn't return true or false.

$message vs. $$message in PHP.

$message is a variable with a fixed name. $$message is a variable whose name is stored in $message.   
  
If $message contains "var", $$message is the same as $var.

Explain the different types of errors in PHP.

Notices, Warnings and Fatal errors are the types of errors in PHP  
  
**Notices:**  
  
Notices represents non-critical errors, i.e. accessing a variable that has not yet been defined. By default, such errors are not displayed to the user at all but whenever required, you can change this default behavior.  
  
**Warnings:**   
  
Warnings are more serious errors but they do not result in script termination. i.e calling include() a file which does not exist. By default, these errors are displayed to the user.  
  
**Fatal errors:**  
  
Fatal errors are critical errors i.e. calling a non-existent function or class. These errors cause the immediate termination of the script.

Explain the importance of the function htmlentities.

The htmlentities() function converts characters to HTML entities.

What is MIME?

MIME - Multi-purpose Internet Mail Extensions.   
  
MIME types represents a standard way of classifying file types over Internet.   
  
Web servers and browsers have a list of MIME types, which facilitates files transfer of the same type in the same way, irrespective of operating system they are working in.  
  
A MIME type has two parts: a type and a subtype. They are separated by a slash (/).   
  
MIME type for Microsoft Word files is application and the subtype is msword, i.e. application/msword.

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[**What is PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Defined.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**PHP (Hyper text Pre Processor) is a scripting language commonly used for web applications.............  
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[**What Is a Session in PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Session.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**A PHP session is no different from a normal session. It can be used to store information on the server for future use.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Session.aspx)

[**Explain the difference between $message and $$message?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-message.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**$message is used to store variable data. $$message can be used to store variable of a variable.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-message.aspx)

[**How to set cookies in PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-cookies.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Cookies are often used to track user information.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-cookies.aspx)

[**What is the difference between include and require?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-require-include.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Require () and include () are the same with respect to handling failures.............  
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-require-include.aspx)

[**What is urlencode and urldecode?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-urlencode-urldecode.aspx)

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[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-urlencode-urldecode.aspx)

[**What are the different types of errors in PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-types-errors.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Different types of errors are............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-types-errors.aspx)

[**Explain how to submit form without a submit button.**](http://careerride.com/PHP-submit-form.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**A form data can be posted or submitted without the button in the following ways:............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-submit-form.aspx)

[**What are the functions for IMAP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-IMAP.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**IMAP is used for communicate with mail servers. It has a number of functions.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-IMAP.aspx)

[**How can we increase the execution time of a php script?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-script.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Default time allowed for the PHP scripts to execute is 30s defined in the php.ini file.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-script.aspx)

[**What is Type juggle in php?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Type-Juggle.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Type Juggling means dealing with a variable type. In PHP a variables type............  
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Type-Juggle.aspx)

[**What is the difference between mysql\_fetch\_object and mysql\_fetch\_array?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-mysql-fetch.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Mysql\_fetch\_object returns the result from the database as objects while............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-mysql-fetch.aspx)

[**What is the difference between the functions unlink and unset?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-unlink-unset.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Unlink is a function for file system handling which deletes a file.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-unlink-unset.aspx)

[**What is Joomla in PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Joomla.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Joomla is an open source content management system.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Joomla.aspx)

[**What is zend engine?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-zend-engine.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Zend Engine is used internally by PHP as a complier and runtime engine.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-zend-engine.aspx)

[**What is the difference between Split and Explode?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Split-Explode.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Both the functions are used to Split a string. However, Split is used to split............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Split-Explode.aspx)

[**What is the difference between echo and print statement?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Echo-Print.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Echo can accept multiple expressions while print cannot.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Echo-Print.aspx)

[**What is CAPTCHA?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-CAPTCHA.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**CAPTCHA is a test to determine if the user using the system............   
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[**What is difference between developing website using Java and PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Java.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**In order to make interactive pages, java uses JSP (Java Server   
pages).............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Java.aspx)

[**How do you create sub domains using PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-sub-domains.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Wild card domains can be used. Sub domains can be created by first creating............   
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[**How to upload files using PHP?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-upload-files.aspx)

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[**What is the difference between Notify URL and Return URL?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Notify-Return-URL.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Notify URL and Return URL is used in Paypal Payment Gateway integration.............   
[**Read answer**](http://careerride.com/PHP-Notify-Return-URL.aspx)

[**Describe functions STRSTR() and STRISTR.**](http://careerride.com/PHP-STRSTR-STRISTR.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Both the functions are used to find the first occurrence of a string.............   
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[**What are the various methods to pass data from one web page to another web page?**](http://careerride.com/PHP-pass-data.aspx)

**Latest Answer -**Different methods to pass data from one web page to another:............   
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[Explain the purpose of output buffering in PHP.](http://careerride.com/PHP-Interview-Questions.aspx#buffering)  
[Describe session in PHP.](http://careerride.com/PHP-Interview-Questions.aspx#session1)  
[How can we know the number of days between two given dates using PHP?](http://careerride.com/PHP-Interview-Questions.aspx#dates)

***PHP Interview - Jan 22, 2009 at 18:00 pm by Rajmeet Ghai***

Explain how to execute a PHP script using command line.

PHP script using command line can be executed using SAPI (Server Application programming Interface). Using SAPI Command Line Interface the PHP code can be passed to execute directly

Example:  
Php –r ‘print\_r(get\_defined\_constanrs());’

From a shell, php –v will display whether the SAPI is CLI or CGI

How can we increase the execution time of a PHP script?

By default the PHP script takes 30secs to execute. This time is set in the php.ini file. This time can be increased by modifying the max\_execution\_time in seconds. The time must be changed keeping the environment of the server. This is because modifying the execution time will affect all the sites hosted by the server.

Explain the purpose of output buffering in PHP.

Output buffering in PHP buffers a scripts output. This buffer can be edited before returning it to the client. Without output buffering, PHP sends data to the web server as soon as it is ready. Output buffering "send" cookies at any point in the script. Cookies do not have to be necessarily sent near the start of page. Output buffers are stackable and hence sending to output is by choice.

Describe session in PHP.

When a user logs in an application, his details are usually stored in a session variable. This information is available to all pages in one application. Sessions in PHP work using a unique id for each visitor.

How can we know the number of days between two given dates using PHP?

The start date and end date can be first found as shown below:

$date1= strotime($start\_date);  
$date2= strotime($end\_date);  
$date\_diff = (($date1)- ($date2)) / (60\*60\*24)