**Lynda php course**

**01. What is php**

1. What is php?

* php: server-side scripting language.

2. How scripting language is different than programming language?

* Script:
  + Runs in response to an event
  + Performs instructions from top to bottom
  + Little or no user interaction

So php script is not run unless a web page is requested. Then it launches, follows the instruction from top to bottom. And then quits until another action launches the script again

* Programs:
  + Runs even when not responding to an event
  + Jumps around instructions
  + Lots of user interaction

Photoshop is a good example of an application. After we launch it, it keeps running, waiting for more instruction.

[Also python is a scripting, general purpose, high level and interpreted programming language]

3. What is a server-side language?

Server-side languages are used to create dynamic web pages and web applications that can interact with databases and other resources on the server. Examples: php, python, ruby, java, node.js

These languages are typically used with web servers like Apache, Nginx, or Microsoft IIS to generate dynamic content and deliver it to the client-side browser.

* JavaScript is an example another popular scripting language. But it is client side scripting language. JS send to the user’s browser, and then it does it works there. So what’s on user’s browser/pc is client side language

Features of Php:

* As php runs on an web server, it can’t run on it’s own. We need to have a **running web server** in order to use php.
  + Php is not a compiled language. Compile exactly as it is written. Other language like c++ or java require the code to compile to translated into another form before it can be used. We’ll be just able to write our php, put it where the web server can find it, then we can load up the web page, and see the result.
  + Php is designed to use with html. In the end php is going to return html to the browser, php code is going to be our input, and web pages are going to be our output.
  + Provides more flexibility then html alone. Html are static by nature. Php creates dynamic pages, page contents can be changed based on condition.
  + Syntax is similar to C, Java, Perl

[Difference between scripting language and programming language]

[server-side language defination]