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ITS 4243 - Microservices and Cloud Computing

Assignment 01

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Index No: ICT/21/922

Part 01:

1. What is Spring Boot and why is it used?

- Spring Boot: It is an open-source java-based framework built on top of the **Spring Framework** that simplifies Java application development. It provides pre-configured settings, embedded servers (like Tomcat, Jetty or Undertow), and production-ready features to help developers build and run applications quickly without complex XML configurations.
- Why it's used:
 1. **Fast Development:** Quickly build production ready apps with minimal configuration.
 2. **Auto-Configuration:** Reduces boilerplate code, you can focus on business logic.
 3. **Microservices Friendly:** Perfect for building and managing distributed systems.
 4. **Seamless Integrations:** Works easily with databases, security, messaging and cloud platforms.
 5. **Wide Adoption:** Backed by Spring ecosystem and used in real world enterprise applications.

2. Explain the difference between Spring Framework and Spring Boot.

Spring Framework	Spring Boot
Core framework providing comprehensive infrastructure support	Framework built on top of Spring Framework
Requires explicit configuration (XML, Java config)	Auto-configuration reduces manual setup
No embedded server by default	Includes embedded servers (Tomcat and Jetty etc.)
To create a Spring application, the developers write lots of code.	It reduces the lines of code.
Doesn't provide support for the in-memory	Provides support for the in-memory database

database.	such as H2.
Developers must define dependencies manually in the pom.xml file.	pom.xml file internally handles the required dependencies.

3. What is Inversion of Control (IoC) and Dependency Injection (DI)?

- Inversion of Control (IOC): It is a design principle where the control of object creation and lifecycle is managed by a framework or container rather than by the developer. Spring IOC Container is responsible for creating, configuring, and managing the lifecycle of objects called beans.
Spring IoC is achieved through Dependency Injection.
- Dependency Injection: It is a design pattern and a part of IOC container. It allows objects to be injected with their dependencies rather than creating those dependencies themselves.

4. What is the purpose of application.properties / application.yml?

- These files are used to configure application settings in Spring Boot.

Define parameters like:

- Server port (server.port=8081)
- Database credentials (spring.datasource.url=...)
- Logging levels, file paths, etc.

5. Explain what a REST API is and list HTTP methods used.

- REST (Representational State Transfer) APIs enable you to develop all kinds of web applications having all possible CRUD (create, retrieve, update, delete) operations.

Core Principles:

- Uses standard HTTP methods.
 - Resources identified by URIs.
 - Stateless, cacheable, uniform interface.
- HTTP Methods:

Method	Purpose
GET	Retrieve data from the server
POST	Create new data/resource
PUT	Update existing data completely
PATCH	Update partially
DELETE	Remove data/resource

6. What is Spring Data JPA? What is an Entity and a Repository?

- Spring Data JPA: Spring Data JPA, part of the larger Spring Data family, makes it easy to easily implement JPA-based (Java Persistence API) repositories. It makes it easier to build Spring-powered applications that use data access technologies.
Spring Data JPA aims to significantly improve the implementation of data access layers by reducing the effort to the amount that's actually needed (Reduce boilerplate codes).
- Entity: A class that represents a database table. Each instance corresponds to a row.
Annotated with @Entity.

- Repository: An interface that handles data access operations (CRUD) for entities.
Extends JpaRepository or CrudRepository.

Ex:

```
@Entity
```

```
class Student {
```

```
    @Id
```

```
    private Long id;
```

```
    private String name;
```

```
    private String email;
```

```
    private String course;
```

```
}
```

```
@Repository
```

```
interface StudentRepository extends JpaRepository<Student, Long> {
```

```
}
```

**7. What is the difference between `@Component`, `@Service`, `@Repository`,
`@Controller`, `@RestController`?**

<code>@Component</code> Annotation	<code>@Service</code> Annotation	<code>@Repository</code> Annotation	<code>@Controller</code> Annotation	<code>@RestController</code> Annotation
<code>@Component</code> is a general-purpose Spring annotation used to make any class a Spring-managed bean.	<code>@Service</code> is used with classes that contain business logic or main service functions.	<code>@Repository</code> is used with classes that handle database operations like save, update, delete, or find.	<code>@Controller</code> is used with classes that handle web page requests and return HTML views.	<code>@RestController</code> is used with classes that handle REST API requests and return JSON or XML responses.
It is the base (parent) stereotype annotation.	It is a special type of <code>@Component</code> .	It is a special type of <code>@Component</code> .	It is a special type of <code>@Component</code> .	It is a special type of <code>@Component</code> .
Used to mark a generic Spring bean that doesn't fit into service, repository, or controller categories.	Used to mark a class as a service provider.	Used to mark a class as a DAO (Data Access Object) provider.	Used to mark a class as a web request handler (for web apps).	Used to mark a class as a REST web request handler (for APIs).
It is a stereotype for general beans.	It is a stereotype for the service layer.	It is a stereotype for the data access layer.	It is a stereotype for the presentation (MVC) layer.	It is a stereotype for the REST API layer.

Can be used anywhere as a common bean, no restrictions.	Can be replaced by <code>@Component</code> (not recommended).	Can be replaced by <code>@Component</code> (not recommended).	Cannot be switched with <code>@Service</code> or <code>@Repository</code> .	Cannot be switched with other annotations.
It is a Stereotype Annotation.	It is a Stereotype Annotation.	It is a Stereotype Annotation.	It is a Stereotype Annotation.	It is a Stereotype Annotation.

- *Stereotype annotations are special annotations in Spring used to auto-detect and register beans in the application context.*
- *A bean: Is a Java object that is instantiated, configured, and managed by the Spring IoC (Inversion of Control) container. Essentially, beans are the fundamental building blocks of a Spring application.*

8. What is `@Autowired`? When should we avoid it?

- `@Autowired` is used by Spring to automatically inject dependencies into beans (IoC/DI concept).
- Avoid it when:
 - Using field injection (harder to test and maintain). Prefer constructor injection.
 - In configuration classes where explicit bean wiring is clearer.
 - When there are multiple bean candidates (use `@Qualifier` instead).

9. Explain how Exception Handling works in Spring Boot (`@ControllerAdvice`).

- `@ControllerAdvice` is a global exception handler that catches exceptions across multiple controllers. It handle exceptions from multiple controllers in a centralized way.
- Don't have to write the same try–catch code repeatedly.

EX:

- Imagine you are building a Student Management System. You have a controller that searches for a student by ID.

```
@RestController  
public class StudentController {  
  
    @GetMapping("/students/{id}")  
    public String getStudent(@PathVariable int id) {  
        if (id != 1) { // Only student with ID=1 exists  
            throw new ResourceNotFoundException("Student not found!");  
        }  
        return "Student found!";  
    }  
}
```

- If you try to open: `http://localhost:8080/students/2`, You will get an error (because student ID 2 doesn't exist).
- Without `@ControllerAdvice`
 - You would need to add try-catch in every controller.
- With `@ControllerAdvice`
 - Write one global class to handle all such errors.

```
@ControllerAdvice  
public class GlobalExceptionHandler {  
  
    @ExceptionHandler(ResourceNotFoundException.class)  
    public ResponseEntity<String> handleNotFound(ResourceNotFoundException ex) {  
        return new ResponseEntity<>(ex.getMessage(), HttpStatus.NOT_FOUND);  
    }  
}
```

- Now, whenever any controller throws a `ResourceNotFoundException`, this handler will automatically catch it and return a proper message.

- *@ControllerAdvice - Tells Spring this class will handle exceptions globally.*
- *@ExceptionHandler - Tells which type of exception to catch.*
- *ResponseEntity - Lets send a custom error message and HTTP status code.*

10. What is the role of Maven/Gradle in a Spring Boot project?

- Both Maven and Gradle are build automation tools used to manage dependencies, build, and package Spring Boot projects.
 - Manage project dependencies via pom.xml (Maven) or build.gradle (Gradle).
 - Compile source code, run tests, and package the app (.jar or .war).
 - Simplify project builds with a single command (mvn clean install, gradle build).

Part 02:

Add Student

The screenshot shows the Postman interface with a collection named "Student_Management_APIs". A POST request is selected for the endpoint "localhost:8080/api/students". The request body contains the following JSON:

```
1 {
2   "name": "Kasun",
3   "email": "kasun@gmail.com",
4   "course": "CS",
5   "age": 24
6 }
```

The response status is 201 Created, and the response body is:

```
1 {
2   "id": null,
3   "name": "Kasun",
4   "email": "kasun@gmail.com",
5   "course": "CS",
6   "age": 24
7 }
```

Get All Students

The screenshot shows the Postman interface with the same collection. A GET request is selected for the endpoint "localhost:8080/api/students". The request has a query parameter "q" set to "name:Kasun". The response status is 200 OK, and the response body is:

```
1 [
2   {
3     "id": 1,
4     "name": "Harshana",
5     "email": "harshana@gmail.com",
6     "course": "ICT",
7     "age": 25
8   },
9   {
10     "id": 2,
11     "name": "Kasun",
12     "email": "kasun@gmail.com",
13     "course": "CS",
14     "age": 24
15   }
16 ]
```

Get a student by Id

The screenshot shows the Postman API Testing Workspace interface. A collection named "Student_Management APIs" is selected. Inside, a GET request titled "get student by id" is configured to "localhost:8080/api/students/2". The "Body" tab shows a JSON response with the following data:

```
1 {
2   "id": 2,
3   "name": "Kasun",
4   "email": "kasun@gmail.com",
5   "course": "CS",
6   "age": 24
7 }
```

Update a student by id

The screenshot shows the Postman API Testing Workspace interface. A collection named "Student_Management APIs" is selected. Inside, a PUT request titled "update student by id" is configured to "localhost:8080/api/students/2". The "Body" tab shows a JSON payload with the following data:

```
1 {
2   "name": "Kasun",
3   "email": "kasun@gmail.com",
4   "course": "ICT",
5   "age": 28
6 }
```

Search by name or course

By course:

The screenshot shows the Postman application interface. A GET request is made to `localhost:8080/api/students/search?keyword=cs`. The 'Params' tab is selected, showing two parameters: 'Key' (with value 'cs') and 'keyword' (with value 'cs'). The response body is displayed as JSON, showing a single student record with ID 3, name 'Harshana', email 'harshana@gmail.com', course 'CS', and age 23.

```
[{"id": 3, "name": "Harshana", "email": "harshana@gmail.com", "course": "CS", "age": 23}]
```

By name:

The screenshot shows the Postman application interface. A GET request is made to `localhost:8080/api/students/search?keyword=harshana`. The 'Params' tab is selected, showing two parameters: 'Key' (with value 'harshana') and 'keyword' (with value 'harshana'). The response body is displayed as JSON, showing a single student record with ID 3, name 'Harshana', email 'harshana@gmail.com', course 'ICT', and age 29.

```
[{"id": 3, "name": "Harshana", "email": "harshana@gmail.com", "course": "ICT", "age": 29}]
```

Delete a student by id

The screenshot shows the Postman API Testing Workspace. A collection named "Student_Management_APIs" is selected. Inside, a "DELETE" request is configured to "localhost:8080/api/students/3". The "Body" tab shows the response: "1 Student deleted successfully".

Swagger UI

The screenshot shows the Swagger UI interface for the "student-controller". It lists various API endpoints with their methods and URLs:

- GET /api/students/{id}
- PUT /api/students/{id}
- DELETE /api/students/{id}
- GET /api/students
- POST /api/students
- GET /api/students/search
- GET /api/students/all

Below the endpoints, there is a "Schemas" section showing definitions for "StudentDTO", "PageStudentDTO", "PageableObject", and "SortObject".

Running on Docker

