Web API: provides not only html but also pure raw data (JSON, XML). Advantage is if it sends back your data it means that a whole range of clients can use the data, for instance it could be an AJAX front end application, an android/IOS app (they don’t use html, they have their own interface so html would be useless in this case), third party website, or desktop application.

Web API queries database,

Gets the data,

Then supply the data to its client as raw data.

Raw data is easy to parse as it just contains the data and nothing else, Raw Data types:

XML: eXtensible Markup Language

JSON: JavaScript Object Notation

JSON Format:

{

“name”: “Ismail Kefokeris”,

“username”: “ismailkefokeris50”,

“course”: “Software Engineering”

}

“{“curly brackets represent a single entity (a person, song, or film).

“[“square brackets will represent a collection of entities (array of people, films, songs)

[

{

“name”: “Ismail Kefokeris”,

“username”: “ismailkefokeris50”,

“course”: “Software Engineering”

},

{

“name”: “Ulfa Kefokeris”,

“username”: “UlfaHassa345”,

“course”: “English”

}

]