**Why are web frameworks important?**

Web frameworks handle much of the heavy coding and boilerplate for your application. This means you don’t need to write as much code as it provides a mechanism for code reuse. However, if you do use a framework, you have to follow the guidelines of the framework. Lighter weight frameworks, like express, allow for a great amount of flexibility, but this can also lead to more bugs and errors later on as it could very easily allow you to make mistakes (Hahn, 2016).

**What role do web frameworks fill?**

Frameworks fill the role of an organizer and basic structure for web apps. Without a framework, the developer will have to create his or her own structure and write the code for implementing that structure. This takes up a lot of time that could otherwise be spent on building the core of the application, instead of the framework around the core.

**How does Express differ from the selected frameworks, in terms of features and functionality?**

Express is different from many other frameworks as it is extremely light weight and exists for mostly one purpose: simplifying Nodes’ APIs. Unlike other frameworks, Express is not an opinionated framework. Much like jQuery, Express can be used however the programmer sees fit and is easily extensible. It is fully expected that the web application you build with Express will make use of many other libraries (Hahn, 2016).

Hahn, E. (2016). *Express in Action: Writing, Building, and Testing Node.js Applications*. Manning Publications.