**What is HTTP?**

HTTP means ***H****yper****T****ext****T****ransfer****P****rotocol.*HTTP is the underlying protocol used by the World Wide Web and this protocol defines how messages are formatted and transmitted.

**What is REST?**

REST (REpresentational State Transfer) is an architectural style for developing web services.

REST-based interactions happen using **HTTP** protocol.

**What is RESTful API?**

A RESTful API is an application program interface (API) that uses HTTP requests to GET, PUT, POST and DELETE data.

A RESTful API explicitly takes advantage of HTTP methodologies - GET, POST, PUT, DELETE.

**GET** - Retrieves the data/resource

**PUT** - Update the data/resource

**POST** - Create a resource

**DELETE** - Remove a resource

The full form of REST API is Representational State Transfer  
Consider any domain application like Library  
We have Book, Issuer, Librarian, Admin, Book Categories  
Now REST is only specification and not an implementation. Specific to language like ASP. Net or Java or Nodejs the implementation will vary  
So this specification says treat every entity in an application as a RESOURCE which have following operations permitted on it  
GET, PUT , POST, DELETE  
So here we can create a Book, Issuer, Librarian, Admin, Book Category, Read (GET) them over network using URL , Update the RESOURCE using URL and data and can DELETE already existing resource with URL over network or internet request.  
So every part of data in the application is RESOURCE that can be created, updated, read or deleted