Ch 2 – Discussion Questions – ASP.NET

1. What is a controller? What does it do?

Answer: A controller is responsible for responding to user input. It provides data going out to the relevant view. (A controller sits the model and the view and is concerned with the flow of the application)

2. Explain the relationship between URLs and controller methods.

Answer: The URL tells the routing mechanism which controller class to instantiate and which action method to call. The controller’s method then decides which view to use.

3. What does it mean to say that, “The web is stateless?”

Answer: When the browser submits a request to the server. On the server side, in response to the request, ASP.NET has to rebuild the entire control hierarchy and then interpret that request, using the contents of that request to restore the current state of the application for the current user. (The state of the app for the user essentially vanishes and then is restored with every click).

4. Where in the directory structure of an ASP.NET MVC application do controllers live?

Answer: In the controller’s folder

5. What programming constructs do controllers contain?

Answer: Controllers contain action methods.

6. Where are action methods? What do they do?

Answer: They are in the class. They are invoked by URLs. They return something.

7. What are query parameters?

Answer: Parameters are in the HTTP request. They are in the parameter URL.

8. How do action methods receive HTTP query parameters?

Answer: They are in the URL and are passed in the HTTP header.