ASP.NET MVC Discussion Questions

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1. Why do we want to validate user input on the client? Why do we want to validate user input on the server?

The client validation logic gives the user instant feedback on the information they entered into a form and allows them to correct that information before it is submitted. While Validation on the server is necessary to test and try all information on the network.

2. In ASP.NET MVC, what data items are the focus of validation?

Attributes called “data annotations” that are part of model values.

3. Where do data annotations live in the .NET framework?

Data annotations live in the System.ComponentModel.DataAnnotations namespace

4. Can you stack multiple validation attributes with regard to actions? If so, how many can you stack?

You can stack multiple validation attributes. You can stack as many as you want.

5. Explain the syntax of [remote]. What does it do?

This is a validation attribute that lives in the System.Web.Mvc namespace. This attribute enables you to perform client-side validation from a server callback.

6. What is a server callback?

A server callback sends a value to a server and compares it to the values in the database, the return value is a true or false wrapped in JavaScript Object Notation.

7. What is a model builder? When does it run?

A model binder is used by the runtime in MVC to build the parameter any time you have an action with a parameter. There are multiple model binders registered to the MVC runtime. The default is the DefaultModelBinder. The model binder uses components called “value providers” to search for values in different areas of a request. It can look at route data, the query string, and the form collection can you can add custom value providers if you desire.

8. What is the model state? When is it created? How is it created? What does it contain?

Model state is the byproduct of Model Binding and is created during the validation. Model State is used by HTML Helpers to change the display of the view. Model State contains all the values a user attempted to put into model properties, errors associated with each property or the model object itself.

9. What does the controller action method generally do if the model stat is not valid?

If the controller action checks to see if the model state is valid or invalid and it is invalid, it re-renders the view to the user and displays the appropriate validation error messages.

10. What are the two options for custom validation? Explain your answer.

Two options for custom validation are

1. Packaging validation logic into a custom data annotation:

Meaning you can easily reuse the logic across multiple models.

2. Packaging validation logic into a model object itself:

Meaning the logic itself is easier to write, you only need to worry about the logic working with the single type of object, you can more easily make assumptions about the state or shape of the object. However, reusing the logic is more difficult.