### Exercise 2.6: User Authentication in Django

1. In your own words, write down the importance of incorporating authentication into an application. You can take an example application to explain your answer.

By incorporating authentication into your application, not only you can limit access to the content, maintaining the security and accountability of the application, it would allow you to display customized content to each users.

1. In your own words, explain the steps you should take to create a login for your Django web application.

First step is to define the login view that takes care of user authentication process and redirects to the main content of the application in the project’s views.py file. Next, create a new templates folder at the root level of the project and create subfolder ‘auth’ and inside which you create the template login.html containing the login form. And you need to update settings.py since it’s a new location for templates. Finally register the URL and the view to the project’s urls.py.

1. Look up the following three Django functions on Django’s official documentation and/or other trusted sources and write a brief description of each.

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| **Function** | **Description** |
| authenticate() | It takes user credentials as parameter and checks if the user is valid against the database. Returns a user object if the user is valid, otherwise returns ‘None’. |
| redirect() | It takes the URL of the page that you want to redirect to as parameter and returns the correct view which displays the corresponding template. |
| include() | It is used to register the URL and the view from the app. In another word, it links the app/urls.py to the project’s url.py |