1) [What is Spring Framework?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-overview)

Ans: - Spring is one of the most widely used Java EE framework. Spring framework core concepts are “Dependency Injection” and “Aspect Oriented Programming”. Also known as framework of framework its open source framework collection of APIs.

2) [What are some of the important features and advantages of Spring Framework?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-advantages)

Ans: - Spring Framework is built on top of two design concepts – Dependency Injection and Aspect Oriented Programming.

Some of the features of spring framework are:

Lightweight and very little overhead of using framework for our development.

Dependency Injection or Inversion of Control to write components that are independent of each other, spring container takes care of wiring them together to achieve our work.

Spring IOC container manages [Spring Bean life cycle](https://www.journaldev.com/2637/spring-bean-life-cycle) and project specific configurations such as JNDI lookup.

Spring MVC framework can be used to create web applications as well as restful web services capable of returning XML as well as JSON response.

Support for transaction management, JDBC operations, File uploading, Exception Handling etc with very little configurations, either by using annotations or by spring bean configuration file.

Some of the advantages of using Spring Framework are:

Reducing direct dependencies between different components of the application, usually Spring IoC container is responsible for initializing resources or beans and inject them as dependencies.

Writing unit test cases are easy in spring framework because our business logic doesn’t have direct dependencies with actual resource implementation classes. We can easily write a test configuration and inject our mock beans for testing purposes.

Reduces the amount of boiler-plate code, such as initializing objects, open/close resources. I like JdbcTemplate class a lot because it helps us in removing all the boiler-plate code that comes with JDBC programming.

Spring framework is divided into several modules, it helps us in keeping our application lightweight. For example, if we don’t need spring transaction management features, we don’t need to add that dependency in our project.

Spring framework support most of the Java EE features and even much more. It’s always on top of the new technologies, for example there is a spring project for Android to help us write better code for native android applications. This makes spring framework a complete package and we don’t need to look after different framework for different requirements.

3) [What do you understand by Dependency Injection?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#dependency-injection)

Ans:- Dependency Injection design pattern allows us to remove the hard-coded dependencies and make our application loosely coupled, extendable and maintainable. We can implement dependency injection pattern to move the dependency resolution from compile-time to runtime.

Some of the benefits of using Dependency Injection are: Separation of Concerns, Boilerplate Code reduction, Configurable components and easy unit testing.

4) [How do we implement DI in Spring Framework?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-dependency-injection)

Ans: - We can use Spring XML based as well as Annotation based configuration to implement DI in spring applications.

5) [What are the benefits of using Spring Tool Suite?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-tool-suite)

Ans: We can install plugins into Eclipse to get all the features of Spring Tool Suite. However STS comes with Eclipse with some other important stuffs such as Maven support, Templates for creating different types of spring projects and Tc server for better performance with spring applications.

I like STS because it highlights the spring components and if you are using AOP pointcuts and advices, then it clearly shows which methods will come under the specific pointcut. So rather than installing everything on our own, I prefer using STS when developing spring based applications.

6) [Name some of the important Spring Modules?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-modules)

Ans:-

Some of the important Spring Framework modules are:

Spring Context – for dependency injection.

Spring AOP – for aspect oriented programming.

Spring DAO – for database operations using DAO pattern

Spring JDBC – for JDBC and DataSource support.

Spring ORM – for ORM tools support such as Hibernate

Spring Web Module – for creating web applications.

Spring MVC – Model-View-Controller implementation for creating web applications, web services etc.

7) [What do you understand by Aspect Oriented Programming?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#aspect-oriented-programming)

Ans:-

Enterprise applications have some common cross-cutting concerns that is applicable for different types of Objects and application modules, such as logging, transaction management, data validation, authentication etc. In Object Oriented Programming, modularity of application is achieved by Classes whereas in AOP application modularity is achieved by Aspects and they are configured to cut across different classes methods.

AOP takes out the direct dependency of cross-cutting tasks from classes that is not possible in normal object oriented programming. For example, we can have a separate class for logging but again the classes will have to call these methods for logging the data.

8) [What is Aspect, Advice, Pointcut, JointPoint and Advice Arguments in AOP?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#aspect-advice-pointcut-joinpoint)

Ans:-

**Aspect**: Aspect is a class that implements cross-cutting concerns, such as transaction management. Aspects can be a normal class configured and then configured in Spring Bean configuration file or we can use Spring AspectJ support to declare a class as Aspect using @Aspect annotation.

**Advice**: Advice is the action taken for a particular join point. In terms of programming, they are methods that gets executed when a specific join point with matching pointcut is reached in the application.

**Pointcut**: Pointcut are regular expressions that is matched with join points to determine whether advice needs to be executed or not. Pointcut uses different kinds of expressions that are matched with the join points. Spring framework uses the AspectJ pointcut expression language for determining the join points where advice methods will be applied.

**Join Point**: A join point is the specific point in the application such as method execution, exception handling, changing object variable values etc. In Spring AOP a join points is always the execution of a method.

**Advice Arguments**: We can pass arguments in the advice methods. We can use args() expression in the pointcut to be applied to any method that matches the argument pattern. If we use this, then we need to use the same name in the advice method from where argument type is determined.

9) [What is the difference between Spring AOP and AspectJ AOP?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-vs-aspectj)

Ans:-

AspectJ is the industry-standard implementation for Aspect Oriented Programming whereas Spring implements AOP for some cases. Main differences between Spring AOP and AspectJ are:

Spring AOP is simpler to use than AspectJ because we don’t need to worry about the weaving process.

Spring AOP supports AspectJ annotations, so if you are familiar with AspectJ then working with Spring AOP is easier.

Spring AOP supports only proxy-based AOP, so it can be applied only to method execution join points. AspectJ support all kinds of pointcuts.

One of the shortcoming of Spring AOP is that it can be applied only to the beans created through Spring Context.

10) [What is Spring IOC Container?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-ioc-container)

Ans:-

Inversion of Control (IoC) is the mechanism to achieve loose-coupling between Objects dependencies. To achieve loose coupling and dynamic binding of the objects at runtime, the objects define their dependencies that are being injected by other assembler objects. Spring IoC container is the program that injects dependencies into an object and make it ready for our use.

Spring Framework IoC container classes are part of org.springframework.beans and org.springframework.context packages and provides us different ways to decouple the object dependencies.

Some of the useful ApplicationContext implementations that we use are;

AnnotationConfigApplicationContext: For standalone java applications using annotations based configuration.

ClassPathXmlApplicationContext: For standalone java applications using XML based configuration.

FileSystemXmlApplicationContext: Similar to ClassPathXmlApplicationContext except that the xml configuration file can be loaded from anywhere in the file system.

AnnotationConfigWebApplicationContext and XmlWebApplicationContext for web applications.

11) [What is a Spring Bean?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-bean)

Ans:-

Any normal java class that is initialized by Spring IoC container is called Spring Bean. We use Spring ApplicationContext to get the Spring Bean instance.

Spring IOC container manages the life cycle of Spring Bean, bean scopes and injecting any required dependencies in the bean.

12) [What is the importance of spring bean configuration file?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-bean-configuration-file)

Ans:-

We use Spring Bean configuration file to define all the beans that will be initialized by Spring Context. When we create the instance of Spring ApplicationContext, it reads the spring bean xml file and initialize all of them. Once the context is initialized, we can use it to get different bean instances.

Apart from Spring Bean configuration, this file also contains spring MVC interceptors, view resolvers and other elements to support annotations based configurations.

13) [What are different ways to configure a class as Spring Bean?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-bean-configuration)

Ans:-

**XML Configuration**: This is the most popular configuration and we can use bean element in context file to configure a Spring Bean

**Java Based Configuration**: If you are using only annotations, you can configure a Spring bean using @Bean annotation. This annotation is used with @Configuration classes to configure a spring bean

**Annotation Based Configuration**: We can also use @Component, @Service, @Repository and @Controller annotations with classes to configure them to be as spring bean. For these, we would need to provide base package location to scan for these classes

14) [What are different scopes of Spring Bean?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-bean-scopes)

Ans:-

singleton: Only one instance of the bean will be created for each container. This is the default scope for the spring beans. While using this scope, make sure spring bean doesn’t have shared instance variables otherwise it might lead to data inconsistency issues because it’s not thread-safe.

prototype: A new instance will be created every time the bean is requested.

request: This is same as prototype scope, however it’s meant to be used for web applications. A new instance of the bean will be created for each HTTP request.

session: A new bean will be created for each HTTP session by the container.

global-session: This is used to create global session beans for Portlet applications.

Spring Framework is extendable and we can create our own scopes too, however most of the times we are good with the scopes provided by the framework.

To set spring bean scopes we can use “scope” attribute in bean element or @Scope annotation for annotation based configurations.

15) [What is Spring Bean life cycle?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-bean-life-cycle)

Ans:-

Spring Beans are initialized by Spring Container and all the dependencies are also injected. When context is destroyed, it also destroys all the initialized beans. This works well in most of the cases but sometimes we want to initialize other resources or do some validation before making our beans ready to use. Spring framework provides support for post-initialization and pre-destroy methods in spring beans.

We can do this by two ways – by implementing InitializingBean and DisposableBean interfaces or using **init-method** and **destroy-method** attribute in spring bean configurations

16) [How to get ServletContext and ServletConfig object in a Spring Bean?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#servlet-context-config-spring-bean)

Ans:-

There are two ways to get Container specific objects in the spring bean.

Implementing Spring \*Aware interfaces, for these ServletContextAware and ServletConfigAware interfaces

Using @Autowired annotation with bean variable of type ServletContext and ServletConfig. They will work only in servlet container specific environment only though.

17) [What is Bean wiring and @Autowired annotation?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#bean-wiring-autowiring)

Ans:-

The process of injection spring bean dependencies while initializing it called Spring Bean Wiring.

Usually it’s best practice to do the explicit wiring of all the bean dependencies, but spring framework also supports autowiring. We can use @Autowired annotation with fields or methods for **autowiring byType**. For this annotation to work, we also need to enable annotation based configuration in spring bean configuration file. This can be done by **context:annotation-config** element.

18) [What are different types of Spring Bean autowiring?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#bean-autowire-types)

Ans:-

autowire byName

autowire byType

autowire by constructor

autowiring by @Autowired and @Qualifier annotations

19) [Does Spring Bean provide thread safety?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-bean-thread-safety)

Ans:-

The default scope of Spring bean is singleton, so there will be only one instance per context. That means that all the having a class level variable that any thread can update will lead to inconsistent data. Hence in default mode spring beans are not thread-safe.

However we can change spring bean scope to request, prototype or session to achieve thread-safety at the cost of performance. It’s a design decision and based on the project requirements.

20) [What is a Controller in Spring MVC?](https://www.journaldev.com/2696/spring-interview-questions-and-answers#spring-controller-bean)

Just like MVC design pattern, Controller is the class that takes care of all the client requests and send them to the configured resources to handle it. In Spring MVC, org.springframework.web.servlet.DispatcherServlet is the front controller class that initializes the context based on the spring beans configurations.

21) What’s the difference between @Component, @Controller, @Repository & @Service annotations in Spring?

Ans:

@Component is used to indicate that a class is a component. These classes are used for auto detection and configured as bean, when annotation based configurations are used.

@Controller is a specific type of component, used in MVC applications and mostly used with RequestMapping annotation.

@Repository annotation is used to indicate that a component is used as repository and a mechanism to store/retrieve/search data. We can apply this annotation with DAO pattern implementation classes.

@Service is used to indicate that a class is a Service. Usually the business facade classes that provide some services are annotated with this

We can use any of the above annotations for a class for auto-detection but different types are provided so that you can easily distinguish the purpose of the annotated classes.

22) What is DispatcherServlet and ContextLoaderListener?

Ans:

DispatcherServlet is the front controller in the Spring MVC application and it loads the spring bean configuration file and initialize all the beans that are configured. If annotations are enabled, it also scans the packages and configure any bean annotated with @Component, @Controller, @Repository or @Service annotations.

ContextLoaderListener is the listener to start up and shut down Spring’s root WebApplicationContext. It’s important functions are to tie up the lifecycle of ApplicationContext to the lifecycle of the ServletContext and to automate the creation of ApplicationContext. We can use it to define shared beans that can be used across different spring contexts.

23) What is ViewResolver in spring?

Ans:

ViewResolver implementations are used to resolve the view pages by name. Usually we configure it in the spring bean configuration file. For example:

<!-- Resolves views selected for rendering by @Controllers to .jsp resources in the /WEB-INF/views directory -->

<beans: bean class="org.springframework.web.servlet.view.InternalResourceViewResolver">

<beans: property name="prefix" value="/WEB-INF/views/" />

<beans: property name="suffix" value=".jsp" />

</beans: bean>

InternalResourceViewResolver is one of the implementation of ViewResolver interface and we are providing the view pages directory and suffix location through the bean properties. So if a controller handler method returns “home”, view resolver will use view page located at /WEB-INF/views/home.jsp.

24) What is a MultipartResolver and when its used?

Ans:

MultipartResolver interface is used for uploading files – CommonsMultipartResolver and StandardServletMultipartResolver are two implementations provided by spring framework for file uploading. By default there are no multipart resolvers configured but to use them for uploading files, all we need to define a bean named “multipartResolver” with type as MultipartResolver in spring bean configurations.

Once configured, any multipart request will be resolved by the configured MultipartResolver and pass on a wrapped HttpServletRequest. Then it’s used in the controller class to get the file and process it. For a complete example, please read Spring MVC File Upload Example.

25) How to handle exceptions in Spring MVC Framework?

Ans:

Spring MVC Framework provides following ways to help us achieving robust exception handling.

Controller Based – We can define exception handler methods in our controller classes. All we need is to annotate these methods with @ExceptionHandler annotation.

Global Exception Handler – Exception Handling is a cross-cutting concern and Spring provides @ControllerAdvice annotation that we can use with any class to define our global exception handler.

HandlerExceptionResolver implementation – For generic exceptions, most of the times we serve static pages. Spring Framework provides HandlerExceptionResolver interface that we can implement to create global exception handler. The reason behind this additional way to define global exception handler is that spring framework also provides default implementation classes that we can define in our spring bean configuration file to get spring framework exception handling benefits.

26) How to create ApplicationContext in a Java Program?

Ans:

There are following ways to create spring context in a standalone java program.

AnnotationConfigApplicationContext: If we are using spring in standalone java applications and using annotations for Configuration, then we can use this to initialize the container and get the bean objects.

ClassPathXmlApplicationContext: If we have spring bean configuration xml file in standalone application, then we can use this class to load the file and get the container object.

FileSystemXmlApplicationContext: This is similar to ClassPathXmlApplicationContext except that the xml configuration file can be loaded from anywhere in the file system.

27) Can we have multiple spring configuration files?

Ans:

For Spring MVC applications, we can define multiple spring context configuration files through contextConfigLocation. This location string can consist of multiple locations separated by any number of commas and spaces. For example;

<servlet>

<servlet-name>appServlet</servlet-name>

<servlet-class>org.springframework.web.servlet.DispatcherServlet</servlet-class>

<init-param>

<param-name>contextConfigLocation</param-name>

<param-value>/WEB-INF/spring/appServlet/servlet-context.xml,/WEB-INF/spring/appServlet/servlet-jdbc.xml</param-value>

</init-param>

<load-on-startup>1</load-on-startup>

</servlet>

We can also define multiple root level spring configurations and load it through context-param. For example;

<context-param>

<param-name>contextConfigLocation</param-name>

<param-value>/WEB-INF/spring/root-context.xml /WEB-INF/spring/root-security.xml</param-value>

</context-param>

Another option is to use import element in the context configuration file to import other configurations, for example:

<beans:import resource="spring-jdbc.xml"/>

28) What is ContextLoaderListener?

Ans:

ContextLoaderListener is the listener class used to load root context and define spring bean configurations that will be visible to all other contexts. It’s configured in web.xml file as:

<context-param>

<param-name>contextConfigLocation</param-name>

<param-value>/WEB-INF/spring/root-context.xml</param-value>

</context-param>

<listener>

<listener-class>org.springframework.web.context.ContextLoaderListener</listener-class>

</listener>

29) What are the minimum configurations needed to create Spring MVC application?

Ans:

For creating a simple Spring MVC application, we would need to do following tasks.

Add spring-context and spring-webmvc dependencies in the project.

Configure DispatcherServlet in the web.xml file to handle requests through spring container.

Spring bean configuration file to define beans, if using annotations then it has to be configured here. Also we need to configure view resolver for view pages.

Controller class with request mappings defined to handle the client requests.

Above steps should be enough to create a simple Spring MVC Hello World application.

30) How would you relate Spring MVC Framework to MVC architecture?

Ans:

As the name suggests Spring MVC is built on top of Model-View-Controller architecture. DispatcherServlet is the Front Controller in the Spring MVC application that takes care of all the incoming requests and delegate it to different controller handler methods.

Model can be any Java Bean in the Spring Framework, just like any other MVC framework Spring provides automatic binding of form data to java beans. We can set model beans as attributes to be used in the view pages.

View Pages can be JSP, static HTMLs etc. and view resolvers are responsible for finding the correct view page. Once the view page is identified, control is given back to the DispatcherServlet controller. DispatcherServlet is responsible for rendering the view and returning the final response to the client.

31) How to achieve localization in Spring MVC applications?

Ans:

Spring provides excellent support for localization or i18n through resource bundles. Basis steps needed to make our application localized are:

Creating message resource bundles for different locales, such as messages\_en.properties, messages\_fr.properties etc.

Defining messageSource bean in the spring bean configuration file of type ResourceBundleMessageSource or ReloadableResourceBundleMessageSource.

For change of locale support, define localeResolver bean of type CookieLocaleResolver and configure LocaleChangeInterceptor interceptor. Example configuration can be like below:

<beans: bean id="messageSource"

Class="org.springframework.context.support.ReloadableResourceBundleMessageSource">

<beans: property name="basename" value="classpath: messages" />

<beans: property name="defaultEncoding" value="UTF-8" />

</beans: bean>

<beans:bean id="localeResolver"

Class="org.springframework.web.servlet.i18n.CookieLocaleResolver">

<beans: property name="defaultLocale" value="en" />

<beans: property name="cookieName" value="myAppLocaleCookie"></beans: property>

<beans: property name="cookieMaxAge" value="3600"></beans: property>

</beans: bean>

<interceptors>

<beans:bean class="org.springframework.web.servlet.i18n.LocaleChangeInterceptor">

<beans:property name="paramName" value="locale" />

</beans:bean>

</interceptors>

Use spring: message element in the view pages with key names, DispatcherServlet picks the corresponding value and renders the page in corresponding locale and return as response

32) How can we use Spring to create Restful Web Service returning JSON response?

Ans:

We can use Spring Framework to create Restful web services that returns JSON data. Spring provides integration with Jackson JSON API that we can use to send JSON response in restful web serviceWe would need to do following steps to configure our Spring MVC application to send JSON response:Adding Jackson JSON dependencies, if you are using Maven it can be done with following code:

<!-- Jackson -->

<dependency>

<groupId>com.fasterxml.jackson.core</groupId>

<artifactId>jackson-databind</artifactId>

<version>${jackson.databind-version}</version>

</dependency>

Configure RequestMappingHandlerAdapter bean in the spring bean configuration file and set the messageConverters property to MappingJackson2HttpMessageConverter bean. Sample configuration will be:

<!-- Configure to plugin JSON as request and response in method handler -->

<beans:bean class="org.springframework.web.servlet.mvc.method.annotation.RequestMappingHandlerAdapter">

<beans:property name="messageConverters">

<beans: list>

<beans: ref bean="jsonMessageConverter"/>

</beans: list>

</beans: property>

</beans: bean>

<! -- Configure bean to convert JSON to POJO and vice versa -->

<beans: bean id="jsonMessageConverter" class="org.springframework.http.converter.json.MappingJackson2HttpMessageConverter">

</beans: bean>

In the controller handler methods, return the Object as response using @ResponseBody annotation. Sample code:

@RequestMapping (value = EmpRestURIConstants.GET\_EMP, method = RequestMethod.GET)

public @ResponseBody Employee getEmployee (@PathVariable("id") int empId) {

logger.info ("Start getEmployee. ID="+empId);

return empData.get (empId);

}

You can invoke the rest service through any API, but if you want to use spring then we can easily do it using RestTemplate class.

33) What are some of the important spring annotations you have used?

Ans:

Some of the spring annotations that I have used in my project are:

@Controller – for controller classes in Spring MVC project.

@RequestMapping – for configuring URI mapping in controller handler methods. This is a very important annotation, so you should go through Spring MVC RequestMapping Annotation Examples

@ResponseBody – for sending Object as response, usually for sending XML or JSON data as response.

@PathVariable – for mapping dynamic values from the URI to handler method arguments.

@Autowired – for autowiring dependencies in spring beans.

@Qualifier – with @Autowired annotation to avoid confusion when multiple instances of bean type is present.

@Service – for service classes.

@Scope – for configuring scope of the spring bean.

@Configuration, @ComponentScan and @Bean – for java based configurations.

AspectJ annotations for configuring aspects and advices, @Aspect, @Before, @After, @Around, @Pointcut etc.

34) Can we send an Object as the response of Controller handler method?

Ans:

Yes we can, using @ResponseBody annotation. This is how we send JSON or XML based response in restful web services.

35) How to upload file in Spring MVC Application?

Spring provides built-in support for uploading files through MultipartResolver interface implementations. It’s very easy to use and requires only configuration changes to get it working. Obviously we would need to write controller handler method to handle the incoming file and process it. For a complete example, please refer Spring File Upload Example.

36) How to validate form data in Spring Web MVC Framework?

Ans:

Spring supports JSR-303 annotation based validations as well as provide Validator interface that we can implement to create our own custom validator. For using JSR-303 based validation, we need to annotate bean variables with the required validations.

For custom validator implementation, we need to configure it in the controller class. For a complete example, please read Spring MVC Form Validation Example.

37) What is Spring MVC Interceptor and how to use it?

Ans:

Spring MVC Interceptors are like Servlet Filters and allow us to intercept client request and process it. We can intercept client request at three places – preHandle, postHandle and afterCompletion.

We can create spring interceptor by implementing HandlerInterceptor interface or by extending abstract class HandlerInterceptorAdapter.

We need to configure interceptors in the spring bean configuration file. We can define an interceptor to intercept all the client requests or we can configure it for specific URI mapping too.

38) What is Spring JdbcTemplate class and how to use it?

Ans:

Spring Framework provides excellent integration with JDBC API and provides JdbcTemplate utility class that we can use to avoid bolier-plate code from our database operations logic such as Opening/Closing Connection, ResultSet, and PreparedStatement etc.

39) How to use Tomcat JNDI DataSource in Spring Web Application?

Ans:

For using servlet container configured JNDI DataSource, we need to configure it in the spring bean configuration file and then inject it to spring beans as dependencies. Then we can use it with JdbcTemplate to perform database operations.

Sample configuration would be:

<beans:bean id="dbDataSource" class="org.springframework.jndi.JndiObjectFactoryBean">

<beans: property name="jndiName" value="java: comp/env/jdbc/MyLocalDB"/>

</beans: bean>

For complete example, please refer Spring Tomcat JNDI Example.

40) How would you achieve Transaction Management in Spring?

Ans:

Spring framework provides transaction management support through Declarative Transaction Management as well as programmatic transaction management. Declarative transaction management is most widely used because it’s easy to use and works in most of the cases.

We use annotate a method with @Transactional annotation for Declarative transaction management. We need to configure transaction manager for the DataSource in the spring bean configuration file.

<bean id="transactionManager"

class="org.springframework.jdbc.datasource.DataSourceTransactionManager">

<property name="dataSource" ref="dataSource" />

</bean>

41) What is Spring DAO?

Ans:

Spring DAO support is provided to work with data access technologies like JDBC, Hibernate in a consistent and easy way. For example we have JdbcDaoSupport, HibernateDaoSupport, JdoDaoSupport and JpaDaoSupport for respective technologies.

Spring DAO also provides consistency in exception hierarchy and we don’t need to catch specific exceptions.

42) How to integrate spring and Hibernate Frameworks?

Ans:

We can use Spring ORM module to integrate spring and Hibernate frameworks, if you are using Hibernate 3+ where SessionFactory provides current session, then you should avoid using HibernateTemplate or HibernateDaoSupport classes and better to use DAO pattern with dependency injection for the integration.

Also Spring ORM provides support for using spring declarative transaction management, so you should utilize that rather than going for hibernate boiler-plate code for transaction management.

43) What is Spring Security?

Ans:

Spring security framework focuses on providing both authentication and authorization in java applications. It also takes care of most of the common security vulnerabilities such as CSRF attack.

It’s very beneficial and easy to use Spring security in web applications, through the use of annotations such as @EnableWebSecurity. You should go through following posts to learn how to use Spring Security framework.

Spring Security in Servlet Web Application

Spring MVC and Spring Security Integration Example

44) How to inject a java.util.Properties into a Spring Bean?

Ans:

We need to define propertyConfigurer bean that will load the properties from the given property file. Then we can use Spring EL support to inject properties into other bean dependencies. For example;

<bean id="propertyConfigurer"

class="org.springframework.context.support.PropertySourcesPlaceholderConfigurer">

<property name="location" value="/WEB-INF/application.properties" />

</bean>

<bean class="com.journaldev.spring.EmployeeDaoImpl">

<property name="maxReadResults" value="${results.read.max}"/>

</bean>

If you are using annotation to configure the spring bean, then you can inject property like below.

@Value ("${maxReadResults}")

private int maxReadResults;

45) Name some of the design patterns used in Spring Framework?

Ans:

Spring Framework is using a lot of design patterns, some of the common ones are:

Singleton Pattern: Creating beans with default scope.

Factory Pattern: Bean Factory classes

Prototype Pattern: Bean scopes

Adapter Pattern: Spring Web and Spring MVC

Proxy Pattern: Spring Aspect Oriented Programming support

Template Method Pattern: JdbcTemplate, HibernateTemplate etc

Front Controller: Spring MVC DispatcherServlet

Data Access Object: Spring DAO support

Dependency Injection and Aspect Oriented Programming

46) What are some of the best practices for Spring Framework?

Ans:

Some of the best practices for Spring Framework are:

Avoid version numbers in schema reference, to make sure we have the latest configs.

Divide spring bean configurations based on their concerns such as spring-jdbc.xml, spring-security.xml.

For spring beans that are used in multiple contexts in Spring MVC, create them in the root context and initialize with listener.

Configure bean dependencies as much as possible, try to avoid autowiring as much as possible.

For application level properties, best approach is to create a property file and read it in the spring bean configuration file.

For smaller applications, annotations are useful but for larger applications annotations can become a pain. If we have all the configuration in xml files, maintaining it will be easier.

Use correct annotations for components for understanding the purpose easily. For services use @Service and for DAO beans use @Repository.

Spring framework has a lot of modules, use what you need. Remove all the extra dependencies that gets usually added when you create projects through Spring Tool Suite templates.

If you are using Aspects, make sure to keep the join pint as narrow as possible to avoid advice on unwanted methods. Consider custom annotations that are easier to use and avoid any issues.

Use dependency injection when there is actual benefit, just for the sake of loose-coupling don’t use it because it’s harder to maintain.

35) How transaction management works in Hibernate?

Ans: Transcation management is very easy in hibernate because it will not permit any operation out side the transaction as session starts we can call the begainTransaction () method that returns the reference of that transaction so that we don’t need to rely on exception or rollback if method throws any exception it will automatically rollback the transaction.

36) What is cascading and what are different types of cascading?

Ans: When we have relationship between entities, then we need to define how the different operations will affect the other entity.This is done by cascading.

The different types are:

1. None: No Cascading, it’s not a type but when we don’t define any cascading then no operations in parent affects the child.

2. ALL: Cascades save, delete, update, evict, lock, replicate, merge, and persist. Basically everything

3. SAVE\_UPDATE: Cascades save and update, available only in hibernate.

4. DELETE: Corresponds to the Hibernate native DELETE action, only in hibernate.

5. DETATCH, MERGE, PERSIST, REFRESH and REMOVE – for similar operations

6. LOCK: Corresponds to the Hibernate native LOCK action.

7. REPLICATE: Corresponds to the Hibernate native REPLICATE action.

37) How to integrate log4j logging in hibernate application?

Ans: Hibernate 4 uses JBoss logging rather than slf4j used in earlier versions. For log4j configuration, we need to follow below steps:

1) Add log4j dependencies for maven project, if not maven then add corresponding jar files.

2) Create log4j.xml configuration file or log4j.properties file and keep it in the classpath. You can keep file name whatever you want because we will load it in next step.

For standalone projects, use static block to configure log4j using DOMConfigurator or PropertyConfigurator. For web applications, you can use ServletContextListener to configure it.

38) How to use application server JNDI Data Source with Hibernate framework?

Ans: For web applications, it’s always best to allow servlet container to manage the connection pool. That’s why we define JNDI resource for DataSource and we can use it in the web application. It’s very easy to use in Hibernate, all we need is to remove all the database specific properties and use below property to provide the JNDI DataSource name.

39) How to integrate Hibernate and Spring frameworks?

Ans: Spring is one of the most used Java EE Framework and Hibernate is the most popular ORM framework. That’s why Spring Hibernate combination is used a lot in enterprise applications .Spring is alwayz provide integration support for Hibernate with Spring ORM module.

Following steps are required to integrate spring and Hibernate frameworks together.

1) Add hibernate-entitymanager, hibernate-core and spring-orm dependencies.

2) Create Model classes and corresponding DAO implementations for database operations. Note that DAO classes will use SessionFactory that will be injected by Spring Bean configuration.

3) If you are using Hibernate 3, you need to configure org.springframework.orm.hibernate3.LocalSessionFactoryBean or org.springframework.orm.hibernate3.annotation.AnnotationSessionFactoryBean in Spring Bean configuration file. For Hibernate 4, there is single class org.springframework.orm.hibernate4.LocalSessionFactoryBean that should be configured.

4) Note that we don’t need to use Hibernate Transaction Management, we can leave it to spring declarative transaction management using @Transactional annotation.

40) What is Hibernate Template class?

Ans: When Spring and Hibernate integration started, Spring ORM provided two helper classes – HibernateDaoSupport and HibernateTemplate. The reason to use them was to get the Session from Hibernate and get the benefit of spring transaction management. However from Hibernate 3 we can use SessionFactory getCurrentSession () method to get the current session and use it to get the spring transaction management benefits.

41) How to integrate Hibernate with Servlet or Struts2 web applications?

Ans: Hibernate integration with Servlet or Struts2 needs to be done using ServletContextListener.

42) Which design patterns are used in Hibernate framework?

Ans: Some of the design patterns used in Hibernate Framework are:

Domain Model Pattern – An object model of the domain that incorporates both behavior and data.

Data Mapper – A layer of Mappers that moves data between objects and a database while keeping them independent of each other and the mapper itself.

Proxy Pattern for lazy loading

Factory pattern in SessionFactory

43) What are best practices to follow with Hibernate framework?

Ans: Some of the best practices to follow in Hibernate are:

1)Always check the primary key field access, if it’s generated at the database layer then you should not have a setter for this.

2) By default hibernate set the field values directly, without using setters. So if you want hibernate to use setters, then make sure proper access is defined as @Access (value=AccessType.PROPERTY).

3) If access type is property, make sure annotations are used with getter methods and not setter methods. Avoid mixing of using annotations on both filed and getter methods.

4) Use native sql query only when it can’t be done using HQL, such as using database specific feature.

5) If you have to sort the collection, use ordered list rather than sorting it using Collection API.

6) Use named queries wisely, keep it at a single place for easy debugging. Use them for commonly used queries only. For entity specific query, you can keep them in the entity bean itself.

7) For web applications, always try to use JNDI DataSource rather than configuring to create connection in hibernate.

8) Avoid Many-to-Many relationships, it can be easily implemented using bidirectional One-to-Many and Many-to-One relationships.

9) For collections, try to use Lists, maps and sets. Avoid array because you don’t get benefit of lazy loading.

10) Do not treat exceptions as recoverable, roll back the Transaction and close the Session. If you do not do this, Hibernate cannot guarantee that in-memory state accurately represents the persistent state.

11) Prefer DAO pattern for exposing the different methods that can be used with entity bean.

12) Prefer lazy fetching for associations.

44) What is Hibernate Validator Framework?

Ans: Hibernate validator allows you to express and validate application level constraints.The source for implementing it via metadata is through annotations,which has the ability to override or extend through the use of xml file.Hibernate validator is not bind to specific application tier or progamming model and is available for both client and server application programming.

45) What is the benefit of Hibernate Tools Eclipse plugin?

Ans: Hibernate Tools plugin helps us in writing hibernate configuration and mapping files easily. The major benefit is the content assist to help us with properties or xml tags to use. It also validates them against the Hibernate DTD files, so we know any mistakes before hand.

1)Explain what is Maven? How does it work?

Ans:

Maven is a project management tool. It provides the developer a complete build lifecycle framework. On executing Maven commands, it will look for POM file in Maven; it will run the command on the resources described in the POM.

2) List out what are the aspects does Maven Manages?

Ans:

Maven handles following activities of a developer

• Build  
• Documentation  
• Reporting  
• Dependencies  
• SCMs  
• Releases  
• Distribution  
• Mailing list

3) Mention the three build lifecycle of Maven?

Ans:

• Clean: Cleans up artifacts that are created by prior builds  
• Default (build): Used to create the application  
• Site: For the project generates site documentation

4) Explain what is POM?

Ans:

In Maven, POM (Project Object Model) is the fundamental unit of work. It is an XML file which holds the information about the project and configuration details used to build a project by Maven.

5) Explain what is Maven artifact?

Ans:

Usually an artifact is a JAR file which gets arrayed to a Maven repository. One or more artifacts a maven build produces such as compiled JAR and a sources JAR.

Each artifact includes a group ID, an artifact ID and a version string.

6) Explain what is Maven Repository? What are their types?

Ans:

A Maven repository is a location where all the project jars, library jars, plugins or any other particular project related artifacts are stored and can be easily used by Maven.

Their types are local, central and remote

7) Why Maven Plugins are used?

Ans:

Maven plugins are used to  
• Create a jar file  
• Create war file  
• Compile code files  
• Unit testing of code  
• Documenting projects  
• Reporting

8) List out the dependency scope in Maven?

Ans:

The various dependency scope used in Maven are:

• Compile: It is the default scope, and it indicates what dependency is available in the classpath of the project  
• Provided: It indicates that the dependency is provided by JDK or web server or container at runtime  
• Runtime: This tells that the dependency is not needed for compilation but is required during execution  
• Test: It says dependency is available only for the test compilation and execution phases  
• System: It indicates you have to provide the system path  
• Import: This indicates that the identified or specified POM should be replaced with the dependencies in that POM’s section

9) Mention how profiles are specified in Maven?

Ans:

Profiles are specified in Maven by using a subset of the elements existing in the POM itself.

10) Explain how you can exclude dependency?

Ans:

By using the exclusion element, dependency can be excluded.

11) Mention the difference between Apache Ant and Maven?

Ans:

Apache Ant Maven  
• Ant is a toolbox – Maven is a framework  
• Ant does not have formal conventions like project directory structure – Maven has conventions  
• Ant is procedural; you have to tell to compile, copy and compress – Maven is declarative ( information on what to make & how to build)  
• Ant does not have lifecycle; you have to add sequence of tasks manually – Maven has a lifecycle  
• Ant scripts are not reusable – Maven plugins are reusable

12) In Maven what are the two setting files called and what are their location?

Ans:

In Maven, the setting files are called settings.xml, and the two setting files are located at

• Maven installation directory: $M2\_Home/conf/settings.xml  
• User’s home directory: ${ user.home }/ .m2 / settings.xml

13) List out what are the build phases in Maven?

Ans:

Build phases in Maven are

• Validate  
• Compile  
• Test  
• Package  
• Install  
• Deploy

14) List out the build, source and test source directory for POM in Maven?

Ans:

• Build = Target  
• Source = src/main/java  
• Test = src/main/test

15) Where do you find the class files when you compile a Maven project?

Ans:

You will find the class files ${basedir}/target/classes/

16) Explain what would the “jar: jar” goal do?

Ans:

jar: jar will not recompile sources; it will imply just create a JAR from the target/classes directory considering that everything else has been done

17) List out what are the Maven’s order of inheritance?

Ans:

The maven’s order of inheritance is

• Parent Pom  
• Project Pom  
• Settings  
• CLI parameters

18) For POM what are the minimum required elements?

Ans:

The minimum required elements for POM are project root, modelVersion, groupID, artifactID and version.

19) Explain how you can produce execution debug output or error messages?

Ans:

To produce execution debug output you could call Maven with X parameter or e parameter.

20) Explain how to run test classes in Maven?

Ans:

To run test classes in Maven, you need surefire plugin, check and configure your settings in setting.xml and pom.xml for a property named “test.”