TEMPLATE ENGINE

A template engine facilitates you to use static template files in your applications. At runtime, it replaces variables in a template file with actual values, and transforms the template into an HTML file sent to the client. So, this approach is preferred to design HTML pages easily.

- Pug (formerly known as jade)
- mustache
- dust
- atpl
- eco
- ect
- ejs and many more

Using template engines with Express

Template engine makes you able to use static template files in your application. To render template files, you have to set the following application setting properties:

- **Views:** It specifies a directory where the template files are located.

  For example: app.set('views', './views').

- **view engine:** It specifies the template engine that you use. For example, to use the Pug template engine: app.set('view engine', 'pug').

Let's take a template engine pug (formerly known as jade)

Pug Template Engine

1. **npm install pug --save**
2. instead of require("pug"): include the following lines.
3. ```
   app.set('views',"./views") // views directory .pug
   ```
4. ```
   app.set('view engine', 'pug');
   ```
5. ```
   inside the route :
   ```
    res.render('index.pug');

Pug template must be written inside .pug file and all .pug files must be put inside views folder(create) in the root folder of Node.js application.

Input to pug engine:

```
doctype html
html
  head
     title A simple pug example
  body
    h1 Hello class
    p All is Well
```

Output rendered by Pug engine:

```html
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
 <head>
   <title>A simple pug example</title>
 </head>
 <body>
   <h1> Hello class   </h1>
   <p> All is Well </p>
 </body>
</html>
```