Simple React Concepts With Real-Life Examples

1. Reconciliation

Explanation: React compares before and after versions of the UI, then updates only what changed.

Example: Like a teacher checking homework by just looking at what's been added or erased, instead of rereading every word.

2. Virtual DOM

Explanation: A faster, in-memory version of the web page structure React uses to decide updates.

Example: Editing a draft on your notepad before making final changes on an official form.

3. React Batch Updating

Explanation: React groups several changes together to update the UI more efficiently.

Example: Collecting all your clothes before making one trip to the washing machine, instead of washing them one by one.

4. setState() Syntax

Explanation: A function to change part of the component's data (state).

Example: Changing the TV channel by pressing the remote, which updates what you see on the screen.

Code: this.setState({ channel: 5 })

5. Object Syntax (setState)

Explanation: Update state by giving setState an object describing the change.

Example: Changing your phone volume to a specific number.

Code: this.setState({ volume: 10 })

6. Callback Syntax (setState)

Explanation: Give setState a function to update state based on the previous value.

Example: Counting how many times you press a button, always increasing based on the last count.

Code:

js
this.setState(prev => ({ count: prev.count + 1 }))

7. Object Syntax vs Callback Syntax

Explanation: Use object for simple updates, callback when new state depends on the current state.

Example: If two people are adding sugar to tea at the same time, you need to know the latest amount before adding more (use callback).

8. Children Prop

Explanation: Lets a component display whatever you put between its tags.

Example: Like a lunchbox (component) that can hold sandwiches, fruits, or notes (children).

9. Passing Text as Children

Explanation: Place text or elements inside component tags for them to be shown inside.

Example: Writing a message on a gift card before putting it in an envelope.

Code: <Button>Send</Button>

10. Accessing Children

Explanation: Inside the component, get what's between its tags using **props.children**.

Example: Opening the lunchbox (component) to see what snacks (children) are inside.

11. Controlled vs Uncontrolled Input

Explanation: Controlled means React manages the input's value, uncontrolled means the DOM manages it.

Example:

Controlled: Teacher keeping track of your test score (React manages).

• Uncontrolled: You keep your own score and just show it when asked.

12. Controlled Input

Explanation: Every change to the input field is tracked and managed by React.

Example: Someone watching you write your name and updating their list in real time.

13. Uncontrolled Input

Explanation: Browser keeps track of the input field, React only checks when needed.

Example: Writing your name on paper, and later someone checks what you wrote.

14. Props vs State

Explanation:

• **Props:** Like gifts from your parent (can't change).

State: Like your own wallet (you can add or spend money).

Table:

Aspect	Props	State
Control	Passed from parent	Managed by self
Change?	No	Yes

15. State Should be Minimal

Explanation: Only store what's necessary in state, use it to derive anything else.

Example: If you record your birth year, you don't have to write your age each year—just calculate it!

16. Keys (in Lists)

Explanation: Keys help React identify which items in a list are changed, added, or removed.

Example: Like giving every student a roll number so the teacher can track each one, even if they move seats.