Q. What happens when we type facebook.com in our browser?

Ans:

Overview of a HTTP(facebook.com) request from the browser:

1. You enter "facebook.com" into the address bar.

2. Browser resolves this to the numeric IP address (this can be cached by the OS or require a trip out to a DNS server).

3. Browser issues a "HTTP/GET" request. It passes along an HttpRequest which includes metadata about the browser, user preferences (like preferred language) and any stored cookies for that domain.

4. Facebook servers receive the request and their code begins to craft a response.

   - Facebook will use the passed information including cookies to determine who the user is and what information to send back

5. A HTTP Response is returned from Facebook including a status line (200 OK, etc). Headers which include content-type, etc and the HTML body.

6. The browser receives the Response and begins to parse it for display.

   - The HTML body will include links to CSS, JS and images. All of these will trigger additional calls back to servers to retrieve those bits

7. The browser layout engine will start to assemble the final page for display.

   - CSS information may alter the layout and look of the page

   - JS and DHTML may alter the layout of the page

8. The final page is assembled and rendered to the end user.