**4. What's the difference between Lightweight APs and Cloud-based Aps.**

**Lightweight Access Points**

* Lightweight APs need a physical Wireless LAN Controller (WLC) to operate.
* The AP only handles basic wireless functions, while all configurations, policies, and updates come from the controller.
* Commonly used in centralized environments like offices, schools, or campuses.
* If the controller goes down, the APs lose most of their functionality.
* Adding more APs requires proper planning because the controller has to support the additional load.
* Management and monitoring are done locally through the controller.

**Cloud-Based Access Points**

* Cloud-based APs don’t rely on any physical controller, they’re managed completely through a cloud dashboard.
* Once connected to the internet, they automatically fetch their configuration from the cloud.
* Ideal for remote and multi-location setups since everything can be managed online.
* Firmware updates, configurations, and monitoring happen automatically through the cloud interface.
* Easy to scale. New APs can be added quickly without complex setup.
* Offers more flexibility and reduces the need for on-site maintenance.