Homework#2

Q1. Since stamps require images, and they should be persisted, what is your strategy to save the image? Are you going to convert it into a base64 String and save the whole image it in the database OR save the image on the file system, and add the name to the database? Whatever is your answer, why do you consider this the best way to proceed?

Answer: I saved the image in the file system and save the image path in the database. Because converting images into a base64 String and save the whole image it in the database increases the storage requirement and increases the amount of data that must be read from persistent storage. It's obviously slower to read more bytes and get the output.

Q2. Stamps have a group of attributes, so you will probably need a data structure to represent stamps. In PHP, that structure most likely be an associative array or an object. Give it a though and answer which structure are you going to use and why?

Answer: I have used the associative array data structure to represent the stamps. An associative array is the easiest to create, transfer and consume, as it's just data . By using associative array I can easily display all data from the database using a foreach loop.

Q3. If you choose to treat your stamps as objects, how are you going to save the object in the database? Are you planning to save each attribute to a different column manually or use an ORM system? Explain your answers on detail.

Answer: I didn't use object to represent the stamps.

Q4. When saving passwords on the database, plain text is not an option. What is your strategy to store the user password? Are you going to encrypt or hash the password? No matter what your answer is, explain why and what algorithm do you plan to use.

Answer: I am going to hash the password. Although hashing and encryption both provide valuable capabilities, but the right option for storing user passwords for an online application is hashing. Hashing is a one-way function in which a hashed value cannot be reversed to obtain the original input value (i.e., the password). On the other hand Symmetric encryption is based on the use of an encryption key and is a reversible operation. Anyone possessing the key can decrypt an encrypted value to obtain the original value.

Homework#3

Q1. What lessons did you learn doing the project?

Answer: I have learned how to create a website or an app using PHP language. I have learned how to create connection to database and how does session work. I have also learned how to save, update, delete, retrieve and display data and images from database.

Q2. What would you do differently?

Answer: I have created sign up option in my project so that users who are interested to display their collections, can create an account and upload their stamps with all informations to the database and make it visible to all users in a user-friendly manner.

Q3. How the skills you learned can be applied elsewhere?

Answer: Now i know how to create a website or an app for more users where everyone can have their own pages.

Q4. What was the hardest and easiest part of the project?

Answer: For me the hardest part was understanding the princip how does PHP works, what to do for the project and getting a start with it was the hardest part for me. PHP is a complete new language to me. I read about all the functionality but i could not get it until i watches videos and following them. I was not understanding how and where to start. After i understood how to create connection ,save and retrieve data from database, the rest seems easy to me.