**• Explain branching and merging**

**Ans.** Branching means creating an independent line of development from the main project. Think of it as a copy of your code where you can make changes without affecting the main branch.Example—main or master branch.

Merging means combining changes from one branch into another.

**• Explain about creating a branch request in GitLab**

**Ans.** In GitLab, you simply create a branch in the repository:

* Go to your GitLab project.
* Click on Repository → Branches.
* Click New branch.
* Name the branch and choose the source branch (main or master).
* Create branch — it’s now available in the Repository.

**• Explain about creating a merge request in GitLab**

**Ans.** A Merge Request is GitLab’s way of asking to merge your branch into another branch**.**

* Push your branch to GitLab.
* Go to your GitLab project.
* Go to Merge Requests tab, Click New merge request.
* Choose source branch and target branch.
* Add title and description explaining your changes.
* Click Create merge request.
* Once approved → Merge into the target branch.