

Assignment No 2.

Define Progressive Web App (PWA) and explain its significance in modern web development. Discuss the key characteristics that differentiate PWAs from traditional mobile apps.

A Progressive Web App (PWA) is a type of web application that uses modern web technologies to deliver a fast, reliable and engaging experience similar to native mobile apps. PWAs work across all devices and platforms while leveraging the benefits of both web and mobile applications.

Significance of PWA in Modern Web Development.

- Cross Platform Compatibility - Run on all devices with a single codebase.
- App-like Experience - Smooth animations, push notifications, and offline access.
- Improved Performance - Faster loading using caching and service workers.
- SEO Friendly - Indexed by search engines increasing discoverability.
- Automatic Updates - Always up-to-date without manual downloads.
- No App Store Dependency - Direct installation from the browser.

Key Characteristics vs Traditional Mobile Apps

Feature	PWA	Traditional app
① Installation	Installed via browser	Downloaded from app store
② Platform	Works on all platforms	Separate apps for iOS & Android
③ Offline Access	Works offline using caching	Needs local storage
④ Performance	Fast & light weight	Can be heavy
⑤ Updates	Automatic	Manual update required
⑥ Development cost	Lower	Higher

PWA's are gaining popularity because they combine the best of web and mobile apps, making them a cost-effective, high performance solution for businesses and developers.

Q2. Define responsive web design and explain its importance in the context of Progressive Web Apps. Compare and contrast responsive fluid adaptive web design approaches.

→ Responsive web Design (RWD) is an approach ensures websites adapt to different screen sizes and devices by using flexible grids, layouts, CSS media queries.

Importance in PWAs:

- Ensures a consistent user experience across desktop, tablets and mobile devices.
- Enhances performance and accessibility for a wider audience.
- Works with Progressive Enhancement making PWAs more effective.
- Helps PWAs feel more app-like by adjusting UI dynamically.

Comparison of Responsive, Fluid, and Adaptive web Design

Feature	Responsive	Fluid	Adaptive
Definition	Uses media queries to adjust layout dynamically	Uses percentage based units ^{flexible} for layout	Uses predefined layouts for specific screen sizes.
Flexibility	Highly flexible	Very flexible	Less flexible.
Breakpoint	Uses breakpoints but adjusts smoothly	No fixed breakpoints	Uses fixed breakpoints
Example	Modern websites & PWAs	Simple web pages.	Separate mobile & desktop designs.

Q3 Describe the lifecycle of Service workers, including registration, installation and activation process.

→ A service worker is a background script that enables offline support, caching and push notifications in PWAs. It follows this lifecycle.

(1) Registration - The browser registers the service worker using Javascript (navigator.serviceWorker.register).

(2) Installation - The Service Worker downloads and caches necessary files (install event).

(3) Activation - Old caches are cleaned, and the worker starts controlling pages (activate event).

(4) Fetching & Syncing - Handles network requests, push notifications and background sync.

Q4. Explain the use of IndexedDB in Service Worker for data storage.

→ IndexedDB is a low-level, NOSQL database used for storing large amounts of structured data in browser.

Why use IndexedDB in Service Workers?

- Stores persistent, offline-accessible data (user preferences, app data).

works asynchronously preventing UI blocking
allows structured storage using key-value pairs.

Eg: Storing Data in Indexed DB via Service Worker.

```
const dbRequest = indexedDB.open('PWA-  
dbRequest.onsuccess = function(event) {  
  const db = event.target.result;  
  const transaction = db.transaction('user',  
    'readwrite');  
  const store = transaction.objectStore('user');  
  store.put({ id: 1, name: 'Urvashi' });  
};
```

This helps PWAs work efficiently offline,
enhancing performance and user experience.