.NET Core Microservices Home Assignment

Objective

You are required to implement a small system consisting of two microservices:

Auth Service – Responsible for login, logout, and user authentication.

API Gateway Service – Serves as the entry point and protects internal endpoints by checking the user's authentication status via the Auth Service.

Functional Requirements

1. Auth Service

- Expose an endpoint for users to log in using username and password.
- Expose an endpoint to log out users.
- Maintain a mechanism to validate whether a user is currently authenticated.
- Persist and manage user data (in memory or using a database).
- Log login/logout activity.

2. API Gateway

- Expose an endpoint that:
 - Accepts a request from the client.
 - Checks with the Auth service whether the user is authenticated.
 - o If authenticated, returns the user's details.
 - If not authenticated, returns 401 Unauthorized.
- Log requests and responses.
- Support a clean way to **route traffic** and validate access control.

System Behavior

Authentication should be session-based or token-based.

All data persistence, caching, and communication decisions are up to you.

A user must log in before accessing protected endpoints via the API Gateway.

After logging out, the user must not be able to access protected resources.

Additional Expectations

The system should include basic logging.

Your services should demonstrate proper separation of concerns and maintainability.

Your implementation should support distribution: the services must be independently runnable.

Bonus (Optional)

Use JWTs for authentication and implement token expiration/refresh.

Implement caching of login sessions or tokens.

Add support for user roles or permissions.

Include automated tests (unit or integration).

Add a simple container-based deployment (e.g., Docker Compose).

Submission Guidelines

Push your project to a Git repository (GitHub, GitLab, etc.) or zip it and share a link to drive. Include a `README.md` that:

- Describes your system's architecture and decisions.
- Explains how to run the solution.
- Lists any known limitations, assumptions, or shortcuts.
- Optionally documents any bonus features you've implemented.

Time Estimate

Estimated time to complete the base requirements: 4–6 hours. Additional time may be needed for bonus features.

Questions?

Please document any assumptions you've made or reach out if clarification is needed.

Good luck!