

Knowledge Transfer (KT) Session – Insomnia API Client

1. What is Insomnia?

- Insomnia is an API client tool used to send requests to APIs and analyze responses.
- Supports REST, GraphQL, gRPC, and WebSockets.
- Helps developers test, debug, and validate backend services.
- Commonly used for verifying APIs, testing authentication, and checking request/response formats.

2. How Insomnia is Different from Postman

- Insomnia has a clean and minimal UI, while Postman is more feature-heavy.
- Insomnia is lightweight and faster with large collections.
- Stronger OpenAPI design and debugging capabilities.
- Postman offers more advanced automation and collaboration tools.

3. Components of Insomnia

a) Document

- Used to create and edit OpenAPI specifications.
- Design Tab: Write OpenAPI spec defining endpoints, methods, and schemas.
- Preview Tab: Visual display of API structure similar to Swagger UI.
- Debug Tab: Convert spec endpoints into executable requests.
- Test Tab: Write test scripts using Mocha and Chai.

b) Collections

- Used to organize API requests into folders.
- Helps group APIs by service or module.
- Requests include URL, method, headers, body, and authentication.

c) MCP Client (Brief Overview)

- Stands for Model Context Protocol.
- Enables integration with external tools and AI systems.
- Primarily for future extensibility rather than daily API testing.

d) Mock

- Used to simulate API responses when backend services are not ready.

- Can be hosted on Insomnia Cloud or self-hosted environments.
- Allows frontend teams to continue development independently.
- Helps test different response scenarios including errors.

e) Environment Variables

- Make API requests dynamic and reusable.
- Used for base URLs, tokens, API keys, and other values.
- Support multiple environments like Dev, QA, and Prod.
- Switching environments updates all requests automatically.

End of KT Session Guide