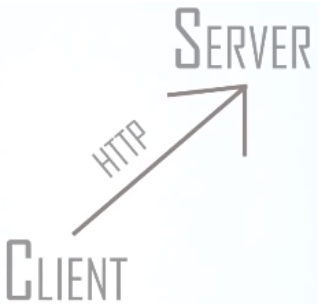
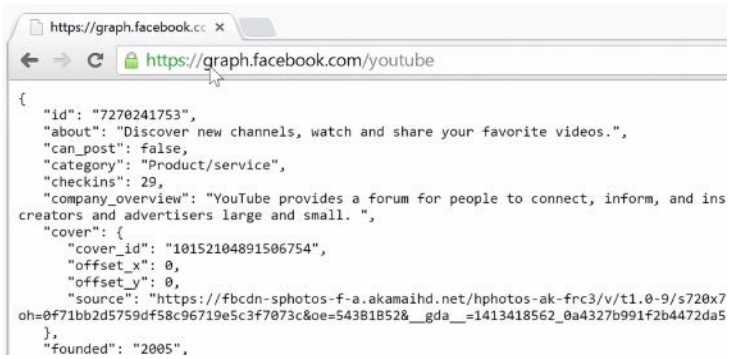
REST Stands for Representational State Transfer

Essentially, a REST API works the same way as a Website... you make a call from a Client to a Server to retrieve data via HTTP Protocol:



Example: If we look at the YouTube's facebook page:

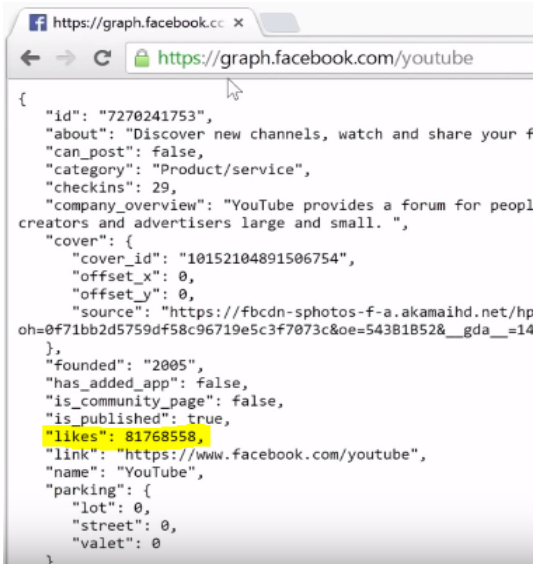
...and then we change www.facebook.com/youtube to https://graph.facebook.com/youtube ....



...we have just made an API request!

What we see is data formatted as JavaScript Object Notation (JSON):

-Structured data, organized according to key value pairs, for example, how many likes it has:



There are 4 Types of REST API's

- **Table API:** used to perform CRUD operations on existing tables.
- **Aggregate API:** used to compute aggregate statistics about existing table and column data.
- **Import Set API:** used to provide a REST interface for import set tables.
- **Performance Analytics API:** used to query data about Performance Analytics scorecards.

**CRUD = Create, Read, Update, Delete

The following methods conform to the REST standard and are available in ServiceNow:

- GET
- POST
- PUT
- PATCH
- DELETE

Each API may support certain methods. Refer to the documentation for each API to view detailed method information.