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**Assignment 1a**

**Q.** What is GitHub? When was it created? By who? Why? What similar platforms exist? Why would you use such a platform?

**A.** GitHub is a web based open source platform used as version control system for any software development. This version controlling is accomplished using git. Development of GitHub platform was started from October 19th, 2007 and the site was launched in April 2008 which was initially known as Logical Awesome LLC. It was founded by Tom Preston-Werner, Chris Wanstrath and PJ Hyett.

The idea behind creating GitHub was that the piece of code should be easily available to everyone working the software development and one should be able to commit changes to required piece of code anytime and from anywhere.

Some similar platforms which exists are Mercurial, Fossil, CVS etc.

We use this platform so that we get the latest updated code every time before making any changes. And to ensure no loss of any data.

**Q.** Define following terms in the context of Git.

* Repository: The information related to project or files which changes over time are stored in one form called repository.
* Commit: Commit records the changes which are supposed to be updated in repository.
* Push: Push is used to push a record changes that are made on local directory to a remote directory.
* Branch: Branch is a lightweight movable pointer to the commits. The default branch is known as Main Branch
* Fork: Fork is replica of repository, allowing to make changes to original repository without affecting it.
* Merge: Merge integrates the changes from commits into current branch.
* Clone: Cloning is creating a copy of repository on local machine.
* Pull: Pull holds all the changes from GitHub repository and adds them to the local repository.
* Pull request: Pull requests makes others aware about the changes you have pushed to GitHub.