1. Understanding the Need for Styling React Components

Objective:

To provide a clean, user-friendly interface and enhance the visual structure of the UI, styling is an essential part of any frontend application. In React, component-based architecture allows us to encapsulate both logic and presentation, making styling a crucial concern at the component level.

Key Reasons for Styling:

- **Improved User Experience:** Well-styled components guide user interaction and make the interface intuitive.
- **Component Reusability**: Encapsulated styles help make components modular and reusable across the application.
- **Maintainability**: Organized styles reduce the complexity of managing styles in large applications.
- **Brand Consistency**: Applying consistent styling across components ensures branding and design coherence.

Common Styling Challenges in React:

- Global CSS can lead to class name conflicts across components.
- Managing large-scale UI styles can become disorganized without modularization.
- Need for dynamic styling based on state or props.

2. Working with CSS Modules in React

Objective:

CSS Modules provide a mechanism to apply scoped and modular styles to React components, avoiding the drawbacks of global CSS.

What is a CSS Module?

A CSS Module is a .css file in which all class and animation names are scoped locally by default. This ensures styles do not clash with other components.

How to Use CSS Modules:

1. **Create a CSS Module file** with the naming convention:

ComponentName.module.css

2. **Import the styles** into your component:

import styles from './ComponentName.module.css';

3. **Apply styles** using JSX syntax:

<div className={styles.container}>Content</div>

Example:

```
CohortDetails.module.css
```

```
.box {
    width: 300px;
    margin: 10px;
    padding: 10px 20px;
    border: 1px solid black;
    border-radius: 10px;
}

CohortDetails.js
import styles from './CohortDetails.module.css';

function CohortDetails() {
    return <div className={styles.box}>Cohort Details</div>;
}
```

Benefits:

- Locally scoped styles: Prevents unintended overrides
- Modular design: Easier to maintain and refactor
- Supports all CSS features: Media queries, pseudo-classes (:hover, :focus, etc.)

3. Working with Inline Styles in React

Objective:

To apply styling directly within the component using JavaScript objects, particularly useful for **dynamic or conditional styling**.

What are Inline Styles?

Inline styles in React are defined as plain JavaScript objects where CSS properties are written in camelCase format and applied directly to elements using the style attribute.

Syntax:

```
const styleObject = {
  color: 'green',
  fontSize: '18px'
};

<h1 style={styleObject}>Title</h1>

Dynamic Example:
  const statusStyle = {
   color: status === 'ongoing' ? 'green' : 'blue'
};

<h3 style={statusStyle}>Status: {status}</h3>
```

Benefits:

- Best suited for conditionally styled elements
- Quick and easy to implement for one-off styles
- Useful for toggling styles based on **state or props**

Limitations:

- Cannot use pseudo-selectors (:hover, :focus)
- No support for media queries
- Less reusable for large or complex styling rules