How the Web Works

In this lab, you'll be working with a partner to explore a little more about the internet, the web, requests, responses and more. You'll be reading and writing about concepts as well as practicing some of the commands that we saw during the lecture earlier.

Topic 1: The Internet and the World Wide Web

- 1) What is the internet? (hint: here) Worldwide network of networks that use the internet protocol suites.
- 2) What is the world wide web? (hint: here) Interconnected system of public webpages accessible through the internet.
- 3) Partner One: read this page on how the internet works, Partner Two: read this page on how the world wide web works. When you're done reading, come back together and and answer the following questions
 - a) What are networks? Connection between two or more computers (could be wireless or wired)
 - b) What are servers? Remote computers that store websites/pages/apps and 'serve' those to client computers/web browsers.
 - c) What are routers? Signaler that makes sure that signals make it from the servers to the clients
 - d) What are packets? Smaller chunks of data that allow multiple users to access a website at a time.
- 4) Come up with a metaphor for the internet and the web, you can do a single one if you think of one that puts them together or two separate ones (feel free to use one you've heard today or read about if you can't think of a new one, but spend at least 10 minutes trying to think of something different before you resort to that).
 - The world wide web is a city, internet would be the modes of transport / infrastructure.
- 5) Draw out a diagram of the infrastructure of the internet and how a request and response travel using your metaphor (like the map and letters we saw during the lecture). Insert the drawing into this document (can be a picture of a physical drawing, a Google Drawing, a Figma drawing, etc.

Server

Internet / Networks

Packets

Clients

Clients

(Not our picture, just our graphics)

Topic 2: IP Addresses and Domains

- 1) What is the difference between an IP address and a domain name? IP address is the background/ numerical address, and the domain name is the nickname of the IP address that is easier to remember/ understand.
- 2) What's devmountain.com's IP address? (Hint: use 'ping' in the terminal) 172.67.9.59
- 3) Try to access devmountain.com by its IP address. It shouldn't work because we have our sites protected by a service called CloudFlare. Why might it be important to not let users access your site directly at the IP address? Ultimately for security purposes, protecting other services, and ensuring a good user experience.
- 4) How do our browsers know the IP address of a website when we type in its domain name? (If you need a refresher, go read this comic linked in the handout from this lecture) Through DNS servers' address books so-to-speak.

Topic 3: How a web page loads into a browser

The steps of how a web page is requested and sent are in the table below. However, **they are out of order**. Unscramble them and explain your thinking/reasoning in the second two columns of the table.

Steps Scrambled	Steps in Correct Order	Why did you put this step in this position?
Example: Here is an example step	Here is an example step	- I put this step first because
		- I put this step before/after because
Request reaches app server	Initial Request	It must be done before you can reach app server.
HTML processing finishes	Request reaches app server	Must reach server in order to receive anything back
App code finishes execution	Browser receives HTML, begins processing	HTML must process before page can render
Initial request (link clicked, URL visited)	Page rendered in browser	Page must render before HTML can finish processing
Page rendered in browser	HTML finishes processing	App code can't finish executing before HTML finishes processing
Browser receives HTML, begins processing	App code finishes execution	After app code finishes execution, the page is officially completely loaded (nothing else can happen until more info is requested).

Topic 4: Requests and Responses

Setup

- Download the folder for this exercise from Frodo.
- Make sure you unzip it.
- Open it in VS Code
- Run 'npm i' in the terminal (make sure you're in the web-works folder you just downloaded).
 - You'll know it was successful if you see a node_modules folder in the web-works folder.
- Run `node server.js` in the terminal (also in the web-works folder) and you should see a log to the terminal saying 'serving up port 4500'
- You'll be using this file to figure out what will happen when you make requests to this server, so read it over to see what's going on. We'll be getting into the two GET functions and the POST function.

Part A: GET /

- You'll start by looking at the function that runs when we make a get request to /, which looks like this: http://localhost:4500 or http://localhost:4500/
- You'll use the curl command to make a request and read the response in your terminal
- 1) Predict what you'll see as the body of the response: Jurrni Journaling for Journies in a header.
- 2) Predict what the content-type of the response will be: Not sure
- Open a terminal window and run `curl -i http:localhost:4500`
- 3) Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why? Sort of, but I didn't really know what all to expect so I only got a part of it correct.
- 4) Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why? No, again because I wasn't sure what to expect not having seen these types of functions in the past.

Part B: GET /entries

- Now look at the next function, the one that runs on get requests to /entries.
- You'll use the curl command again. This time, you'll need to figure out how to modify it to get the response that you need.
- 1) Predict what you'll see as the body of the response: Some form of entries
- 2) Predict what the content-type of the response will be: text?
- In your terminal, run a curl command to get request this server for /entries
- 3) Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why? I guess? It came out as text but wasn't really sure what type I would get. It was code, a bunch of strings of the same values of the GET / part A. Maybe HTML?
- 4) Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why? No. It looks like some code, with a bunch of strings. Says it was application/json.

Part C: POST /entry

- Last, read over the function that runs a post request.
- 1) At a base level, what is this function doing? (There are four parts to this) Looks like it is taking the same info as from the previous get entries, creating a new entry variable, and taking the objects from the function and pushing them into a previous object.
- 2) To get this function to work, we need to send a body object with our request. Looking at the function in server.js, what properties do you know you'll need to include on that body object? And what data types will they be (hint: look at the objects in the entries array)? ID, date, and content. Looks like they will be strings and numbers.
- 3) Plan the object that you'll send with your request. Remember that it needs to be written as a JSON object inside strings. JSON objects properties/keys and values need to be in **double quotes** and separated by commas.
- 4) What URL will you be making this request to?
- 5) Predict what you'll see as the body of the response:
- 6) Predict what the content-type of the response will be:
- In your terminal, enter the curl command to make this request. It should look something like the example below, with the information you decided on in steps 3 and 4 instead of the ALL CAPS WORDS.
 - curl -i -X POST -H 'Content-type: application/json' -d JSONOBJECT URL
- 7) Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
- 8) Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?

Submission

- 1. Save this document as a PDF
- 2. Go to Github and create a new repository. (Click the little + in the upper right hand corner.)
- 3. Name your repository "web-works" (or something like that).
- 4. Click "uploading an existing file" under the "Quick setup heading".
- 5. Choose your web works PDF document to upload.
- 6. Add "commit message" under the heading "Commit changes". A good commit message would be something like "Adding web works problems."
- 7. Click commit changes.

Further Study: More curl

Visit this link and do the exercises using the website provided. Keep track of the commands you used in this document. (Don't forget to resubmit to GitHub when you complete this section)