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

GitHub is a website and cloud-based service that helps developers store and manage their code, as well as track and control changes to their code. Git was created by [Linus Torvalds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linus_Torvalds) in 2005 for development of the [Linux kernel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Linux_kernel), with other kernel developers contributing to its initial development. Its current maintainer since 2005 is [Junio Hamano](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Junio_Hamano" \o "Junio Hamano). Similar platforms like GitHub are CodePlex, Chisel, Beanstalk, Google’s Cloud Source Repositories, [Gitea](https://gitea.io/en-us/), [GitLab](https://gitlab.com/), [Bitbucket](https://bitbucket.org/). We would use such platform because GitHub can help optimize your development workflow. GitHub is an open-source repository hosting service, sort of like a cloud for code. It hosts your source code projects in a variety of different programming languages and keeps track of the various changes made to every iteration.

**Define the following terms in the context of Git (2 lines maximum):**

* **Repository** - A repository, encompasses the entire collection of files and folders associated with a project, along with each file’s revision history.
* **Commit** - The file history appears as snapshots in time called commits.
* **Push** – Git push used to updates the remote repository with any commits made locally to a branch.
* **Branch** – Git branch shows the branches being worked on locally.
* **Fork -**  A fork is a copy of a repository. Forking a repository allows you to freely experiment with changes without affecting the original project.
* **Merge** – Git merge command is typically used to combine changes made on two distinct branches.
* **Clone** – Git clone creates a local copy of a project that already exists remotely. The clone includes all the project’s files, history, and branches.
* **Pull** - Pull requests let you tell others about changes you've pushed to a GitHub repository.
* **Pull request** – Git pull updates the local line of development with updates from its remote counterpart.