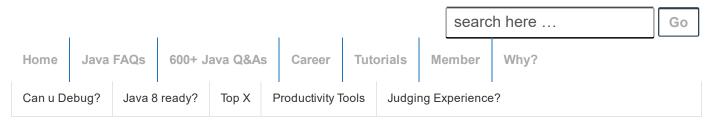
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# 11 FAQ XSD interview questions and answers

Posted on September 4, 2015 by Arulkumaran Kumaraswamipillai



Q1. How do you restrict an element in XSD?

A1. With "xs:restriction". In the XSD shown below, the "AddressType" is restricted to "Mailing", "Office", and "Home".

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
23
    <xs:schema xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSche
targetNamespace="http://www.mycompany.com"
4
          xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
          xmlns:tns="http://www.mycompany.com"
elementFormDefault="qualified" attributeForm
5
6
          <xs:element name="Party" min0ccurs="0" max0c</pre>
8
9
                <xs:complexType>
10
                      <xs:sequence>
                                <xs:element name="id" type="x
<xs:element name="PartyName"
<xs:element name="PartyType"</pre>
11
12
13
                                <xs:element name="AddressDeta</pre>
14
15
                                       <xs:complexType>
16
                                            <xs:sequence>
17
                                                  <xs:element name=</pre>
```

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```
18
                                               <xs:simpleTy</pre>
19
                                                    <xs:rest</pre>
20
                                                        <xs:
21
                                                         <xs:
22
                                                        <xs:
23
                                                    </xs:res
24
                                               </xs:simpleT
25
                                         </xs:element>
26
                                         <xs:element name=</pre>
27
                                         <xs:element name=</pre>
28
                                         <xs:element name=</pre>
29
                                         <xs:element name=</pre>
30
                                         <xs:element name=</pre>
31
                                     </xs:sequence>
32
                               </xs:complexType>
33
                          </xs:element>
34
             </xs:seauence>
35
        </xs:complexType>
36
37
        <xs:element name="Adviser" type="tns:Ref_Adv</pre>
38
39
        <xs:complexType name="Ref_Adviser">
40
             <xs:sequence>
                  <xs:element name="firstName" type="x</pre>
41
42
                  <xs:element name="surname" type="xs:</pre>
43
             </xs:sequence>
44
        </xs:complexType>
45
46
47 </xs:schema>
```

- Q2. Can you explain as per the XSD shown above the term "targetNamespace"?
- A2. Placing the targetNamespace attribute at the top of your XSD schema means that all entities defined in it are part of this namespace. In the above example,

The "Ref\_Adviser" is in the targetNamespace "http://www.mycompany.com"

and then "xmlns:tns" prefix in the declaration uses the same targetNamespace "http://www.mycompany.com". The element "Adviser" is of custom defined type "Ref\_Adviser" in the "tns" prefix namesapce. The other elements are in the "xs" prefix, which is in the "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" namespace.

```
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```
1 <xs:element name="Adviser" type="tns:Ref_Adviser"</pre>
```

- Q3. What is the difference between complexType and simpleType attribute in XSD?
- A3. A simple element is an XML element that can contain only text. In the above example the "AddressType" is defined as a "simpleType" with enumerated values.

A complex element is an XML element that contains other elements and/or attributes. "Party" is defined as a "complexType".

Q4. What are the different data types in XSD? How do you define it?

A4. There are different datatypes like int, string, date, decimal, etc.

```
1 <xs:element name="id" type="xs:string">
```

You can have custom datatype as in the Java classes. For example, "ExpiryDate" is a custom type in the format "MMYY"

and use it as

```
1 <xs:element name="validTillDate" type="tns:Expiry
```

**Note**: Namespace prefix is "tns", which is the "targetNamespace."

Q5. Can you import XSDs?

A5. Yes.

```
1 <xsd:import schemaLocation="../common/MyAppCommon
```

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```
namespace="http://www.mycompany.com/myapp
```

Q6. What is the difference betwen "xsd:sequence" and "xsd:all"?

A6. "<xsd:all>" indicates that the child elements can appear in any order.

"<xsd:sequence>" indicates that the child elements can only appear in the order mentioned.

Q7. How do you provide documentation for your XSDs?

A7. with the "annotation" and "documentation" tags.

Q8. How do you make an element in XML schema optional?

A8. With the "minOccurs" attribute.

```
1 <xs:element name="description" type="xs:string" m
```

Q9. How do you make an element in XML schema compulsary?

A9. With the "minOccurs" attribute set to 1.

Q10. What is the difference between the terms "Optional" and "Not Required" with respect to XSDs?

A10. **Optional:** means the element does NOT need to be present in the XML.

**Not Required:** means the element can be present, but it does NOT need to have a "value". You define this with the "nillable" attribute.

```
1 <xsd:element name="Date" type="xsd:date" nillable
```

Q11. How will you represent the secnario in XSD where you can have elements "Pending" followed by "Authorised" or "Pending" followed by "Cancelled"?

A11. You can use the "choice" element.

```
<<xsd:complexType name="OrderProcessing">
2
       <xsd:choice>
          <xsd:seauence>
4
5
               <xsd:element name="Pending" type="..." />
               <xsd:element name="Authorise" type="..."</pre>
6
          </xsd:sequence>
7
          <xsd:seauence>
              <xsd:element name="Pending" type="..." />
<xsd:element name="Cancelled" type="..."</pre>
8
9
10
          </xsd:sequence>
11
       </xsd:choice>
12 </xsd:complexType>
```

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