**REST API Best Practices:**

**API End-Naming Best Practices**

1. Should write URI’s params as noun instead of verb

Ex: should write “/products/{quantity}” instead of “/getQuantity”

1. Must use forward slashes for hierarchy

Ex: “/products/quantity”, here quantity falls under ‘/products’ collection

1. Should use punctuation for list under a collection

Ex: “products/{id1},{id2}”

1. Have to use query params where necessary

Ex: “/products?available=true”

1. URIs must use lowercase letters and instead of ‘\_’, have to use ‘-‘

Ex: “products/summer-collection”

1. Must not include any file extentions

Ex: “products/list” instead of “products/list.xml”

1. Trailing forward slashes must be avoided

Ex: “products/item” instead of “products/item/”

**API Reponse Best Practices**

1. Provide proper response status code
2. Authentication code should be provided via response header
3. Provide proper content, file-type
4. Provide content-length, if any
5. Provide response date-time
6. Avoid providing response status, code, message via response body
7. Provide proper JSON encode-decode before writing JSON body
8. Avoid using response cookies as it violates the stateless principle
9. If required, use cookie encryption-decryption policies

**API Request Best Practices**

1. Must know when to use GET and when to use POST
2. GET method doesn’t carry request body (only header and url)
3. POST method carries url, header and body
4. GET method is used only to get some information(response) from the server
5. POST should be used when server state changes due to that action