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1. How can you secure a web application?

To secure a web application, I would:

- Use **HTTPS** to encrypt data in transit.
- Implement input validation to prevent SQL injection and XSS.
- Use authentication and authorization (like tokens or session management).
- Apply security headers (e.g., Content-Security-Policy).
- Keep all software, libraries, and frameworks **updated**.

SQL Injection: A code injection attack where malicious SQL is inserted into a query to access or modify the database.

XSS (Cross-site Scripting): A vulnerability where attackers inject malicious scripts into trusted websites.

2. How can the page loading time decrease?

To reduce page loading time, I would:

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- Minify CSS, JavaScript, and HTML files.
- Compress images and use modern formats like WebP.
- Implement Content Delivery Networks (CDNs) to serve assets from closer locations.
- Use browser caching to store static resources locally.

Minification: Removing unnecessary characters from code without changing functionality.

CDN (Content Delivery Network): A distributed network of servers that delivers content based on user location.

Browser Caching: Storing web content in the browser for faster access on repeat visits.

3. How can data transfer speed increase?

To increase data transfer speed, I would:

• Use **compression techniques** like Gzip or Brotli to reduce file size.

- Optimize database queries to return only necessary data.
- Limit data transfer by using **pagination** and requesting specific fields.

Gzip/Brotli: Algorithms that compress data to reduce transmission size

Pagination: Splitting data into chunks/pages instead of sending all at once.

4. What are the benefits of using caching in a web application?

To improve performance in a web application, I would use caching to:

- Reduce **server load** by avoiding repeated computations.
- Improve response time for frequently accessed data.
- Minimize database hits for static or rarely changing content.
- Deliver a **smoother user experience** under high traffic.

Caching: Temporarily storing frequently used data for quicker future access.

Server Load: The processing burden placed on the server.

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5. How do you handle API rate limiting?

To handle API rate limiting, I would:

- Implement throttling to restrict the number of requests per user or IP.
- Send appropriate HTTP status codes (like 429 Too Many Requests).
- Apply exponential backoff strategies on retries.

Rate Limiting: Restricting the number of API requests within a time window.

Throttling: Controlling traffic to prevent overuse or abuse.

Exponential Backoff: A retry mechanism where the wait time increases after each failed attempt.

6. What are microservices and their advantages?

To design scalable systems, I would use microservices to:

- Break down the application into independent services.
- Allow independent development and deployment of each service.
- Improve **scalability** and performance by scaling only needed components.
- Increase **fault isolation**, so a failure in one service doesn't break the whole system.
- Enable use of different technologies for different services.

Microservices: An architectural style where the application is broken into loosely coupled, independently deployable services.

Fault Isolation: Containing the impact of a failure to a single component.

7. How do you handle version control in team projects?

To handle version control effectively in a team, I would:

- Use a system like **Git** for tracking changes.
- Follow branching strategies (like Git Flow) for organized development.
- Write clear commit messages for traceability.

Version Control: A system that records changes to files so you can track and manage code history.

Git: A popular version control system.

8. How do you implement continuous integration and deployment (CI/CD)?

To implement CI/CD, I would:

- Use tools like GitHub Actions, Jenkins, or GitLab CI.
- Automate build, test, and deployment pipelines.
- Run tests after every code push using unit and integration tests.
- Deploy to staging and production environments using **pipelines**.
- Monitor deployments and roll back if needed.

CI/CD: A DevOps practice to automatically integrate code (CI) and deploy it continuously (CD).

Pipelines: A series of automated steps in software delivery.

Rollback: Reverting to a previous stable version in case of errors.

9. How do you design effective user authentication systems?

To design a secure authentication system, I would:

- Use hashing algorithms (e.g., bcrypt) to store passwords.
- Implement multi-factor authentication (MFA) for added security.
- Use **JWTs or session tokens** for managing logged-in users.
- Set **password policies** and validation rules.
- Securely store tokens and implement token expiration.

Authentication: Verifying a user's identity.

Hashing: A one-way function that converts data (like passwords) into a secure format.

JWT (JSON Web Token): A token format for secure transmission of claims between parties.

MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication): Requires more than one method of verification (e.g., password + OTP).

10. How do you implement effective search engine optimization (SEO)? To implement SEO, I would:

- Use **semantic HTML tags** (e.g., <header>, <article>) for structured content.
- Add **meta tags** like title and description for better indexing.
- Optimize page speed and reduce load times.
- Use alt attributes for images to improve accessibility and indexing.
- Generate sitemaps and submit them to search engines.

SEO (Search Engine Optimization): Techniques to improve website visibility in search engine results.

Meta Tags: Snippets of text that describe a page's content; not visible on the page but in the

page's code.

Sitemap: A file that lists all important URLs of a site to help search engines crawl them.

11. Explain the difference between authentication and authorization.

To manage access securely, I ensure:

• Authentication is used to verify who the user is (e.g., login with email & password).

 Authorization is used to determine what the authenticated user is allowed to do (e.g., admin access).

Authentication: Confirms user identity.

Authorization: Grants or denies access to resources based on user identity.

12. What is "containerization" (e.g., using Docker) and why is it beneficial for development and deployment?

To streamline development and deployment, I use containerization to:

• Package applications and dependencies into isolated containers.

• Ensure the app runs the same in any environment.

• Enable faster deployment and scaling.

• Reduce conflicts between development and production setups.

Containerization: A method of packaging software along with its dependencies so it runs reliably across different environments.

13. How do you ensure code maintainability and readability in a large project?

To ensure maintainable and readable code, I would:

- Follow consistent coding standards and naming conventions.
- Break code into modular, reusable components.
- Write clear comments and documentation.
- Conduct **code reviews** and use **linters** for style enforcement.

• Use **version control** for tracking changes and collaboration.

Maintainability: Ease with which code can be updated or modified. **Linter**: A tool that automatically checks code for potential errors and enforces style rules.

14. Explain the difference between hashing and encryption in data security. When would you use each?

To secure data:

- **Hashing** is **one-way**, used for storing passwords securely.
- **Encryption** is **two-way**, used when data needs to be retrieved or decrypted later (e.g., messaging).

Hashing: Converts data into a fixed-length string using a one-way function (irreversible). **Encryption**: Converts data into unreadable form that can later be decrypted with a key.

15. What is the significance of HTTP status codes in API responses?

To ensure proper communication in APIs:

- I use HTTP status codes to indicate the result of an API request.
- For example:

200 OK for success

400 Bad Request for invalid input

401 Unauthorized for access issues

500 Internal Server Error for server failures

HTTP Status Codes: Numeric codes sent by a server to indicate the result of a client's request.

16. How do you ensure your project is mobile-friendly?

To make a project mobile-friendly, I would:

- Use **responsive design** with flexible layouts (media queries).
- Optimize font sizes, buttons, and touch targets.
- Test on multiple screen sizes and devices.
- Optimize **load times** and minimize mobile data usage.

Responsive Design: A web design approach that adapts content to different screen sizes. **Media Queries**: CSS rules used to apply styles based on screen size or device.

17. How do you track project progress in a team?

To track team progress effectively, I would:

- Use task management tools like Jira, Trello, or Asana.
- Break tasks into milestones and sprints.
- Conduct daily stand-ups or regular sync meetings.
- Use version control and commit logs to monitor code changes.

Sprint: A short development cycle used in Agile methodology. **Stand-up Meeting**: A quick daily meeting to share progress and blockers.

18. What is load testing and why is it important?

To evaluate system performance, I use load testing to:

- Simulate **real-world traffic** and measure how the system behaves under stress.
- Identify bottlenecks and performance issues.
- Ensure the system can **scale** during peak usage.

Load Testing: Testing that measures a system's ability to handle expected or high traffic levels. **Bottleneck**: A component that limits overall performance.

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19. What is latency in a network, and how can it be reduced?

To optimize performance, I reduce latency by:

- Using **CDNs** to deliver content closer to users.
- Reducing **DNS lookup times** and request overhead.
- Optimizing database queries and backend logic.
- Using HTTP/2 or QUIC for faster network protocols.

CDN: Content Delivery Network, a distributed system for fast content delivery. **DNS Lookup**: The process of resolving a domain name to an IP address.

HTTP/2 / QUIC: Modern network protocols that reduce latency and improve data transfer.

20. What is a session and how is it different from a token?

To manage user login state:

• A session stores user data on the server, and the client holds a session ID.

- A **token** (like JWT) stores user data on the **client side** and is sent with each request.
- Sessions are **stateful**, while tokens are **stateless**.
- Tokens work better for scalable APIs and cross-domain access.

Session: A server-stored data structure to keep track of user activity. **Token**: A self-contained, client-side credential (usually encoded) for authentication. **JWT (JSON Web Token)**: A compact, URL-safe token format used for stateless authentication.

21. What is the difference between horizontal and vertical scaling?

To scale systems based on demand:

- Horizontal scaling means adding more machines or instances (scaling out).
- Vertical scaling means upgrading the resources (CPU/RAM) of the existing machine (scaling up).
- Horizontal scaling is more **flexible and fault-tolerant**.
- Vertical scaling is simpler but has hardware limits.

Horizontal Scaling: Adding more servers to handle increased load. **Vertical Scaling**: Increasing the resources (like RAM or CPU) of a single server.

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22. What is the difference between black box and white box testing?

To test software effectively:

- Black box testing checks functionality without knowing internal code.
- White box testing involves testing with knowledge of the internal code structure.
- Black box is best for user-level testing, white box is used by developers.

Black Box Testing: Testing software behavior without looking into its internal code. **White Box Testing**: Testing based on internal logic, paths, and structure of the code.

23. What is the purpose of using environment variables?

To manage configurations cleanly:

- I use **environment variables** to store settings like **API keys, DB URLs, or secret tokens**.
- They help **separate code from configuration**, keeping secrets out of source code.
- They allow for **different setups** (development, testing, production) using the same codebase.

Environment Variables: Key-value pairs that define configuration outside the application code.

Configuration Management: Organizing settings so that code runs correctly in different environments.

24. What is database sharding?

To scale databases efficiently:

- I use **sharding** to split a large database into **smaller parts called shards**.
- Each shard holds a **subset of data** and can be stored on separate servers.
- It improves **performance**, availability, and helps handle large-scale traffic.

Database Sharding: Partitioning a database into smaller, faster, and more manageable pieces. **Shard**: A smaller, independent database unit storing a portion of the overall data.

25. How do you handle time zone differences in web applications?

To support global users:

- I store all timestamps in **UTC** in the database for consistency.
- Convert to **local time zones** only at the frontend based on user preferences or browser settings.
- Use libraries like **moment.js** or **Intl.DateTimeFormat** for reliable conversions.

UTC (Coordinated Universal Time): A standard time reference used globally. Time Zone Handling: The process of managing and converting time data accurately across different locations.

