

CSS & CSS3 Interview Questions and Answers

Q1. What is CSS?

Answer: CSS stands for Cascading Style Sheets and is used to style and layout web pages.

Q2. What is the difference between CSS and CSS3?

Answer: CSS3 is the latest version and includes new features like animations, transitions, flexbox, grid, and media queries.

Q3. What are the different types of CSS?

Answer: Inline CSS, Internal CSS, and External CSS.

Q4. What is the difference between inline, internal, and external CSS?

Answer: Inline is written inside elements, internal is in a `<style>` tag, and external is in a separate .css file.

Q5. What is a CSS selector?

Answer: A selector is used to target HTML elements for styling.

Q6. What is the difference between class and id selectors?

Answer: Class can be used multiple times, while id is unique and used once.

Q7. What is the universal selector in CSS?

Answer: The universal selector (*) selects all elements on the page.

Q8. What are pseudo-classes in CSS?

Answer: Pseudo-classes define a special state of an element, e.g., :hover, :focus, :active.

Q9. What are pseudo-elements in CSS?

Answer: Pseudo-elements allow styling specific parts of an element, e.g., ::before, ::after.

Q10. What is the difference between visibility: hidden and display: none?

Answer: visibility: hidden hides the element but keeps space, display: none removes it from layout.

Q11. What is the box model in CSS?

Answer: The box model consists of content, padding, border, and margin.

Q12. What is the difference between padding and margin?

Answer: Padding is space inside the element border, margin is space outside the element border.

Q13. What is z-index in CSS?

Answer: z-index defines the stack order of positioned elements.

Q14. What are relative, absolute, fixed, and sticky positioning?

Answer: Relative: relative to itself, Absolute: relative to parent, Fixed: relative to viewport, Sticky: switches between relative and fixed.

Q15. What is the difference between em and rem units?

Answer: em is relative to parent font size, rem is relative to root font size.

Q16. What are media queries in CSS?

Answer: Media queries allow responsive design by applying styles based on device properties.

Q17. What is the difference between max-width and min-width?

Answer: max-width sets the maximum width, min-width sets the minimum width of an element.

Q18. What is flexbox in CSS3?

Answer: Flexbox is a layout model for arranging items in rows or columns with flexible alignment and spacing.

Q19. What is CSS Grid?

Answer: CSS Grid is a two-dimensional layout system for creating complex web layouts.

Q20. What is the difference between flexbox and grid?

Answer: Flexbox is one-dimensional (row or column), Grid is two-dimensional (row and column).

Q21. What is the difference between transition and animation in CSS3?

Answer: Transition occurs on state change, animation allows keyframes for more complex effects.

Q22. What are keyframes in CSS?

Answer: Keyframes define intermediate steps of an animation sequence.

Q23. What is the difference between transform and transition?

Answer: transform changes an element's shape or position, transition defines how it changes over time.

Q24. What are vendor prefixes in CSS?

Answer: Vendor prefixes ensure CSS features work across different browsers, e.g., -webkit-, -moz-, -o-, -ms-.

Q25. What is the difference between nth-child and nth-of-type?

Answer: nth-child selects based on position among all siblings, nth-of-type selects based on element type.

Q26. What is specificity in CSS?

Answer: Specificity determines which CSS rule is applied when multiple rules match the same element.

Q27. How is CSS specificity calculated?

Answer: Inline styles > IDs > Classes/Pseudo-classes > Elements/Pseudo-elements.

Q28. What is the difference between float and display: inline-block?

Answer: float removes element from normal flow, inline-block allows block behavior while remaining inline.

Q29. What is the difference between relative and absolute units?

Answer: Relative units scale based on context, absolute units are fixed (e.g., px, cm).

Q30. What is the purpose of calc() in CSS?

Answer: calc() allows calculations for property values, e.g., width: calc(100% - 50px).

Q31. What is the difference between overflow: hidden, scroll, and auto?

Answer: hidden hides overflow, scroll adds scrollbars, auto adds scrollbars only when necessary.

Q32. What is the difference between opacity and rgba?

Answer: opacity affects the entire element including children, rgba controls transparency of only the color.

Q33. What is the difference between inline and block elements?

Answer: Inline elements do not start a new line, block elements do.

Q34. What is the difference between white-space: nowrap and normal?

Answer: nowrap prevents line breaks, normal allows them.

Q35. What is the difference between ::before and ::after?

Answer: ::before inserts content before an element, ::after inserts content after it.

Q36. What is the difference between transform: translate and position: absolute?

Answer: translate moves an element without affecting document flow, absolute positions it relative to its container.

Q37. What are transitions-delay and transitions-duration?

Answer: transition-delay sets wait time before starting, transition-duration sets how long it lasts.

Q38. What is the difference between min-height and max-height?

Answer: min-height sets minimum height, max-height sets maximum height of an element.

Q39. What is the purpose of clip-path in CSS3?

Answer: clip-path is used to create custom shapes by clipping parts of an element.

Q40. What is the difference between background-color and background-image?

Answer: background-color sets a solid color, background-image sets an image as background.

Q41. What is the difference between linear-gradient and radial-gradient?

Answer: linear-gradient transitions colors along a line, radial-gradient transitions colors from a center point.

Q42. What is the difference between display: flex and display: grid?

Answer: flex arranges items in one direction, grid arranges them in two directions.

Q43. What are CSS variables?

Answer: CSS variables store values that can be reused throughout the stylesheet using --variable-name syntax.

Q44. What is the difference between hover and focus states?

Answer: hover triggers when mouse hovers over, focus triggers when an element is active (e.g., input field).

Q45. What is the difference between visibility: collapse and hidden?

Answer: collapse hides table rows/columns and removes space, hidden hides but keeps space.

Q46. What is the purpose of object-fit in CSS?

Answer: object-fit defines how images or videos should resize to fit their container.

Q47. What is the difference between background-clip and background-origin?

Answer: background-clip defines painting area, background-origin defines positioning area.

Q48. What is the difference between word-break and overflow-wrap?

Answer: word-break breaks words at arbitrary points, overflow-wrap breaks them only if necessary.

Q49. What is the difference between justify-content and align-items in flexbox?

Answer: justify-content aligns items horizontally, align-items aligns them vertically.

Q50. What is the difference between @import and link in CSS?

Answer: @import is used inside CSS to import files, link is used in HTML to link stylesheets.

Q51. What is the difference between absolute and fixed positioning?

Answer: absolute is relative to nearest positioned ancestor, fixed is relative to the viewport.