

Python Interview Questions and Answers

Q1. What is Python?

Answer: Python is a high-level, interpreted, object-oriented programming language.

Q2. What are the key features of Python?

Answer: Easy to learn, interpreted, dynamically typed, object-oriented, extensive libraries.

Q3. What are Python's data types?

Answer: int, float, str, bool, list, tuple, set, dict, NoneType.

Q4. What is the difference between list and tuple?

Answer: Lists are mutable, tuples are immutable.

Q5. What is the difference between set and frozenset?

Answer: Set is mutable, frozenset is immutable.

Q6. What is a dictionary in Python?

Answer: A dictionary is a collection of key-value pairs, unordered and mutable.

Q7. What is the difference between deep copy and shallow copy?

Answer: Shallow copy copies only references, deep copy creates a new independent copy of objects.

Q8. What is Python used for?

Answer: Web development, data science, AI/ML, scripting, automation, desktop applications.

Q9. What is PEP 8?

Answer: PEP 8 is Python's style guide for writing clean and readable code.

Q10. What are Python namespaces?

Answer: A namespace is a container that holds variable names mapped to objects.

Q11. What are Python scopes?

Answer: LEGB Rule: Local, Enclosing, Global, Built-in.

Q12. What is the difference between global and nonlocal keywords?

Answer: global declares a variable in global scope, nonlocal declares in enclosing scope.

Q13. What is the difference between Python 2 and Python 3?

Answer: Python 3 uses print() function, Unicode by default, integer division behavior changed, etc.

Q14. What are Python functions?

Answer: Functions are reusable blocks of code defined with def keyword.

Q15. What are *args and **kwargs?

Answer: *args allows variable number of arguments, **kwargs allows variable keyword arguments.

Q16. What are Python decorators?

Answer: Decorators are functions that modify the behavior of other functions or classes.

Q17. What are Python generators?

Answer: Generators are functions that yield values one at a time using yield keyword.

Q18. What are Python iterators?

Answer: Iterators implement __iter__() and __next__() methods for iteration.

Q19. What is the difference between iterator and iterable?

Answer: Iterable is an object that can return an iterator, iterator performs actual iteration.

Q20. What are Python comprehensions?

Answer: Compact ways to create lists, sets, and dictionaries using expressions.

Q21. What are Python modules?

Answer: A module is a file containing Python code, functions, and classes.

Q22. What are Python packages?

Answer: A package is a collection of modules in a directory with __init__.py.

Q23. What is the difference between import and from import?

Answer: import imports entire module, from import imports specific attributes or functions.

Q24. What are Python libraries?

Answer: Predefined collections of modules for specific tasks, e.g., NumPy, Pandas.

Q25. What is the difference between is and ==?

Answer: is checks object identity, == checks value equality.

Q26. What is mutable vs immutable in Python?

Answer: Mutable objects can change (list, dict, set), immutable cannot change (str, tuple, frozenset).

Q27. What is Python's memory management?

Answer: Python uses automatic garbage collection with reference counting and generational GC.

Q28. What are Python exceptions?

Answer: Errors detected during execution, handled using try-except-finally blocks.

Q29. What is the difference between errors and exceptions?

Answer: Errors are unrecoverable issues, exceptions can be handled programmatically.

Q30. What is Python's with statement?

Answer: with is used to manage resources like file handling using context managers.

Q31. What is a lambda function?

Answer: Lambda is an anonymous single-line function defined using lambda keyword.

Q32. What are Python's built-in data structures?

Answer: List, tuple, set, dictionary.

Q33. What is the difference between append() and extend()?

Answer: append() adds single element, extend() adds elements from another iterable.

Q34. What is the difference between remove(), pop(), and del?

Answer: remove() deletes by value, pop() deletes by index and returns element, del deletes by index.

Q35. What is Python's pass statement?

Answer: pass is a placeholder statement that does nothing.

Q36. What is the difference between break, continue, and pass?

Answer: break exits loop, continue skips to next iteration, pass does nothing.

Q37. What are Python's built-in functions?

Answer: Examples: len(), type(), print(), id(), sorted(), range().

Q38. What is Python's map function?

Answer: map() applies a function to each item of an iterable and returns an iterator.

Q39. What is Python's filter function?

Answer: filter() filters elements based on a function that returns True or False.

Q40. What is Python's reduce function?

Answer: reduce() applies a function cumulatively to elements (requires functools).

Q41. What are Python's property decorators?

Answer: @property defines getter, setter, and deleter methods for class attributes.

Q42. What are Python's class methods and static methods?

Answer: Class methods use @classmethod and take cls, static methods use @staticmethod and take no implicit arguments.

Q43. What is multiple inheritance in Python?

Answer: A class can inherit from multiple classes.

Q44. What is method resolution order (MRO)?

Answer: MRO is the order in which base classes are searched, follows C3 linearization.

Q45. What is Python's super() function?

Answer: super() is used to call methods of parent class.

Q46. What are Python's magic methods?

Answer: Special methods that start and end with __, e.g., __init__, __str__, __len__, __add__.

Q47. What is the difference between __str__ and __repr__?

Answer: __str__ is user-friendly representation, __repr__ is developer-focused representation.

Q48. What is pickling in Python?

Answer: Pickling is serializing objects into byte streams using pickle module.

Q49. What is unpickling in Python?

Answer: Unpickling is deserializing byte streams back into objects.

Q50. What are Python's virtual environments?

Answer: Virtual environments allow isolated Python environments for projects using venv or virtualenv.

Q51. What is the GIL in Python?

Answer: Global Interpreter Lock allows only one thread to execute Python bytecode at a time.

Q52. What are Python frameworks?

Answer: Django, Flask for web; TensorFlow, PyTorch for AI/ML.