XML eXternal Entities -> this is not as common as it once was but its still very good to know and understand.

When you make an HTTP request it may sometimes contain XML which is a type of document that can be sent to, stored, and sent from a server. To handle this XML, the server must use an XML processor, which by default, have external entities enabled.

We cam chain XXE with other attacks like SSRF (server side request forgery) to unlock access to previous servers or pages that were previously blocked. Since we can store malicious XML server-side we can use this to be able to access non-public servers that are usually only accessible by VPN or by servers within the same LAN.

Alternatively we can point a request back out our own malicious server.