What is GitHub? When was it created? Why? By who? What similar platforms exist? Why would you use such a platform? (Answer between 5 and 10 lines)

GitHub is a web-based Git or version control repository and Internet hosting service. It is mostly used for code. It offers all of the distributed version control and source code management functionality of Git as well as adding its own features. It was created on Oct. 1st, 2007 and launched in April 2008 by Tom Preston-Werner. It was created to allow groups of people to work on the same documents (often code) at the same time, without stepping on each other’s toes. Similar platforms existing include: GitLab, BitBucket, Beanstalk. Developers would use such a platform to easily control the version of their local/remote code and when they are working on the same project, they can finish their parts independently and merge their work later, which can make developing more efficient.

Define the following terms in the context of Git (2 lines maximum):

**Repository:** A repository is a project's folder. A repository contains all of the project files (including documentation), and stores each file's revision history.

**Commit:** A commit is an individual change to a file. Commits usually contain a commit message which is a brief description of what changes were made.

**Push:** Pushing refers to sending your committed changes to a remote repository, such as a repository hosted on GitHub.

**Branch:** A branch is a parallel version of a repository. It is contained within the repository, allowing you to work freely without disrupting the "live" version.

**Fork:** A fork is a personal copy of another user's repository that lives on your account.

**Merge:** Merging takes the changes from one branch, and applies them into another. This often happens as a pull request or via the command line.

**Clone:** A clone is a copy of a repository that lives on your computer instead of on a website's server somewhere, or the act of making that copy.

**Pull:** Pull refers to when you are fetching in changes and merging them.

**Pull request:** Pull requests are proposed changes to a repository submitted by a user and accepted or rejected by a repository's collaborators.