**What is wsdl?**

WSDL stands for Web Services Description Language.

It is the standard format for describing a web service.

It was developed by Microsoft and IBM.

**Features:**

WSDL is an XML-based protocol for information exchange in decentralized and distributed environments.

WSDL definitions describe how to access a web service and what operations it will perform.

WSDL is a language for describing how to interface with XML-based services.

WSDL is an integral part of Universal Description, Discovery, and Integration (UDDI), an XML-based worldwide business registry.

WSDL is the language that UDDI uses.

**WSDL Elements:**

Definition − It is the root element of all WSDL documents. It defines the name of the web service, declares multiple namespaces used throughout the remainder of the document, and contains all the service elements described here.

Data types − The data types to be used in the messages are in the form of XML schemas.

**Web Services:**

\* SOAP is known as a transport-independent messaging protocol.

\* SOAP is based on transferring XML data as SOAP Messages.

\* Each message has something which is known as an XML document.

\* Only the structure of the XML document follows a specific pattern, but not the

Content.

\* The best part of Web services and SOAP is that it’s all sent via HTTP, which is the standard web protocol.

2) **RESTful web services:**

\* It is used to build Web services that are lightweight, maintainable, and scalable

in nature.

\* A service which is built on the REST architecture is called a RESTful service.

\* The underlying protocol for REST is HTTP, which is the basic web protocol. REST stands for Representational State Transfer web services.