

Assignment 4 - Data Rendering & Relations with EJS

I. Instructions

In this second assignment, you will build upon your Multiple-Choice Exam Question Bank backend by creating a set of endpoints that retrieve and present data using **EJS-based HTML views**. This assignment emphasizes:

- Displaying MongoDB data on web pages rendered using the **EJS template engine**
- Using **Mongoose's `populate()`** to pull related data from multiple collections (such as subjects, topics, and users)
- Structuring clean and readable views for real-time browsing of the question bank

You will gain practical experience in:

- Fetching related documents from multiple collections using `.populate()`
- Rendering data as HTML using EJS view templates
- Designing API routes that grow in complexity and data composition

II. Assignment Overview

- **Main Technologies:** Node.js, Express.js, MongoDB, Mongoose, JWT, bcrypt, dotenv, cors
- **Tools:** Postman, MongoDB Compass, Visual Studio Code, Curl

Collections:

You will create 4 collections:

1. **Users** – to store user credentials (teacher accounts)
2. **Subjects** – high-level domains (e.g., Math, Physics)
3. **Topics** – sub-categories under each subject (e.g., Algebra)
4. **Questions** – multiple-choice questions with 4 options and 1 correct answer

You will implement the following **three GET endpoints**, each building on the previous one in complexity:

Task	Endpoint	Description
1	/subjects/view	Show all subjects as a simple HTML list
2	/topics/view	Show all topics with their associated subject names
3	/questions/view	Show all questions with subject, topic, and author populated and displayed in a table

By the end of this assignment, you will be able to:

- Use **Mongoose's `.populate()`** to retrieve related data across collections, such as:
 - The subject name linked to each topic or question
 - The topic name and the author's username associated with a question

- Render dynamic HTML views using the **EJS template engine** based on data retrieved from the database
- Build public-facing routes that display:
 - A list of all subjects
 - A list of topics with their corresponding subject names
 - A table of questions including their subject, topic, and author
- Organize your views into reusable `.ejs` files and separate the route logic from the presentation layer
- Return clean and semantic HTML from your Express routes using `res.render()`
- Test endpoints using **Postman** and view results via a **web browser**

Authentication Note: This assignment **does not require login or JWT authentication** — all EJS-rendered endpoints are **publicly accessible** and intended for **read-only viewing** of the question bank contents.

III. Assignment Requirements

1. Task 1: Project Initialization and Configuration

◆ Description:

- Create a new Node.js project.
- Install required packages: `express`, `mongoose`, `dotenv`, `cors`, `bcryptjs`, `jsonwebtoken`
- Configure environment variables using `.env` file:
- Create `.env`:

```
PORT=6000
MONGO_URI=mongodb://localhost:27017/assignment4
JWT_SECRET=your_jwt_abc
```

✅ **Test:** Start server → <http://localhost:6000>

Expected Outcome:

- The server starts successfully on `http://localhost:6000`
- MongoDB connects without error

2. Task 2: Get All Questions (Public)

Endpoint: `/questions/view`

◆ Description:

Render all questions using `.populate()` to include:

- `questionText`, `options`, `correctAnswer`
- Subject name (via `subjectId`)
- Topic name (via `topicId`)
- Author username (via `createdBy`)
- Display results in a formatted HTML `<table>`
- No authentication required

◆ Expected Response:

```
[
  {
    "questionText": "What is the solution to  $2x + 3 = 7$ ?",
    "options": {
      "A": "x = 1",
      "B": "x = 2",
      "C": "x = 3",
      "D": "x = 4"
    },
    "correctAnswer": "B",
    "subjectId": { "_id": "64aee200c438b927a9cfa222", "name": "Mathematics" },
    "topicId": { "_id": "64aee210c438b927a9cfa333", "name": "Algebra" },
    "createdBy": { "_id": "64aee111c438b927a9cfa111", "username": "teacher01" }
  }
]
```

Postman Test:

GET <http://localhost:8386/questions/view>

◆ Expected HTML Output

```
<h2>All Questions</h2>
<table border="1">
  <thead>
    <tr>
      <th>Question</th>
      <th>Subject</th>
      <th>Topic</th>
      <th>Author</th>
    </tr>
  </thead>
  <tbody>
    <tr>
      <td>What is  $2 + 2$ ?</td>
      <td>Mathematics</td>
      <td>Arithmetic</td>
      <td>teacher01</td>
    </tr>
  </tbody>
</table>
```

◆ EJS Logic (example)

```
<table>
  <% questions.forEach(q => { %>
    <tr>
      <td><%= q.questionText %></td>
      <td><%= q.subjectId.name %></td>
      <td><%= q.topicId.name %></td>
      <td><%= q.createdBy.username %></td>
    </tr>
  <% }) %>
</table>
```

3. Task 3: View All Subjects

Endpoint: `/subjects/view`

◆ Description:

- Render a list of all subjects from the database.
- Use `Subject.find()` to get all subjects.
- No `.populate()` is needed here.
- No authentication required.

✓ Expected Response

```
[
  { "_id": "64aee200c438b927a9cfa222", "name": "Mathematics" },
  { "_id": "64aee201c438b927a9cfa223", "name": "Physics" }
]
```

✓ Postman Test:

GET <http://localhost:8386/subjects/view>

◆ Expected HTML Output:

```
<h2>All Subjects</h2>
<ul>
  <li>Mathematics</li>
  <li>Physics</li>
</ul>
```

◆ EJS Logic (example):

```
<ul>
  <% subjects.forEach(s => { %>
    <li><%= s.name %></li>
  <% }) %>
</ul>
```

4. Task 4: View Topics with Subjects

Endpoint: `/topics/view`

◆ Description:

- Render all topics with the names of their associated subjects.
- Use `.populate('subjectId', 'name')` to get the subject name for each topic.
- No authentication required.

✓ Example Response:

```
[
  {
    "_id": "64aee210c438b927a9cfa333",
    "name": "Algebra",
    "subjectId": { "_id": "64aee200c438b927a9cfa222", "name": "Mathematics" }
  }
]
```

◆ Postman Test (Preview)

GET `http://localhost:8386/topics/view`

◆ Expected HTML Output


```
<h2>All Topics</h2>
<ul>
  <li>Algebra - Mathematics</li>
  <li>Mechanics - Physics</li>
</ul>
```

IV. Data structure

1. Collection: users

Stores user information (e.g., teachers who create questions).

Field	Data Type	Description
_id	ObjectId	Automatically generated by MongoDB
username	String	Unique account name
password	String	Password hashed using <code>bcrypt</code>
createdAt	Date	Timestamp when the account was created

 Passwords **must be hashed** before storage.

2. Collection: subjects

Stores **academic subjects**, such as *Mathematics*, *Physics*, etc.

Field	Data Type	Description
_id	ObjectId	Auto-generated by MongoDB
name	String	Name of the subject

3. Collection: topics

Stores **specific topics** under each subject (e.g., *Algebra* under *Mathematics*).

Field	Data Type	Description
_id	ObjectId	Auto-generated
name	String	Topic name (e.g., Calculus, Mechanics)
subjectId	ObjectId	References the <code>_id</code> field of the <code>subjects</code> collection

 `subjectId` is a **foreign key** linking each topic to a subject.

4. Collection: questions

Stores multiple-choice questions.

Field	Data Type	Description
_id	ObjectId	Auto-generated
questionText	String	The question prompt
options	Object	4 answer options: { "A": "...", "B": "...", "C": "...", "D": "..." }
correctAnswer	String	One of "A", "B", "C", or "D" as the correct answer
subjectId	ObjectId	References <code>_id</code> in the <code>subjects</code> collection
topicId	ObjectId	References <code>_id</code> in the <code>topics</code> collection

createdBy	ObjectId	References <code>_id</code> in the <code>users</code> collection (who created the question)
createdAt	Date	Creation timestamp

🧠 You can later expand options to support random shuffling or metadata.

5. Relationship Summary:

- `topics.subjectId` → **references** `subjects._id`
- `questions.subjectId` & `questions.topicId` → **references** `subjects._id` and `topics._id`
- `questions.createdBy` → **references** `users._id`

6. Sample Data:

```
sample_data/
├── subjects.json
├── topics.json
└── questions.json
```

✅ `subjects.json`

```
[
  { "_id": { "$oid": "64aee200c438b927a9cfa222" }, "name": "Mathematics" },
  { "_id": { "$oid": "64aee201c438b927a9cfa223" }, "name": "Physics" }
]
```

✅ `topics.json`

```
[
  {
    "_id": { "$oid": "64aee210c438b927a9cfa333" },
    "name": "Algebra",
    "subjectId": { "$oid": "64aee200c438b927a9cfa222" }
  },
  {
    "_id": { "$oid": "64aee211c438b927a9cfa334" },
    "name": "Mechanics",
    "subjectId": { "$oid": "64aee201c438b927a9cfa223" }
  }
]
```

✅ `questions.json`

```
[
  {
    "_id": { "$oid": "64aee300c438b927a9cfa444" },
    "questionText": "What is the solution to  $2x + 3 = 7$ ?",
    "options": {
      "A": "x = 1",
      "B": "x = 2",
      "C": "x = 3",
      "D": "x = 4"
    },
    "correctAnswer": "B",
    "topicId": { "$oid": "64aee210c438b927a9cfa333" },
    "subjectId": { "$oid": "64aee200c438b927a9cfa222" },
    "createdBy": { "$oid": "64aee188c438b927a9cfa111" },
    "createdAt": { "$date": "2025-07-01T10:00:00.000Z" }
  },
  {
    "_id": { "$oid": "64aee301c438b927a9cfa445" },
    "questionText": "What is the acceleration due to gravity on Earth?",

```

```

    "options": {
      "A": "8.9 m/s2",
      "B": "10.0 m/s2",
      "C": "9.8 m/s2",
      "D": "9.0 m/s2"
    },
    "correctAnswer": "C",
    "topicId": { "$oid": "64aee211c438b927a9cfa334" },
    "subjectId": { "$oid": "64aee201c438b927a9cfa223" },
    "createdBy": { "$oid": "64aee188c438b927a9cfa111" },
    "createdAt": { "$date": "2025-07-01T11:00:00.000Z" }
  }
]

```

V. HÌNH THỨC NỘP BÀI

- Gửi bài tập dưới dạng file nén (.zip/.rar), gồm:

- Chụp screenshot toàn màn hình: Thư mục, comment tác giả đầu mỗi file source code, cấu trúc vscode, kết quả thực thi đầy đủ.
- source code
- File tài liệu báo cáo (.PDF hoặc .DOCX).

- Đặt tên file nén theo format:

- [MãSV]_[Tên]_assignment3.zip

Ví dụ: SE12345_NguyenVanA_assignment3.zip

- Hạn chót nộp bài: theo lịch Edunext

VI. LƯU Ý QUAN TRỌNG

X Bài nộp không đầy đủ hoặc thiếu file báo cáo sẽ bị trừ điểm.

X Mọi hành vi sao chép code sẽ bị xử lý theo quy định của nhà trường.

X Sinh viên cần kiểm tra kỹ lưỡng trước khi nộp bài.

- Được sử dụng AI để phân tích và thực hiện bài.