"Forum"

Question and answers already given in the google doc

1. When creating posts and comments, you mentioned that a timestamp should be included. In previous class exercises, the timestamp was generated on the client side. However, considering that client times may be inconsistent—especially when users come from different time zones—I was thinking that it might be better for the server to generate the timestamp uniformly. What do you think?

It depends on the meaning of the timestamp. This will be clarified in the final version of the text. Here the correct interpretation is that the timestamp is the time when the actual post is created in the system, i.e., the information enters the database.

2. should the posts only be edited by the authenticated users only Right?

The text says that only comments must be edited, so no need to edit posts. You can implement it if you want, but it is not mandatory.

3. a post, can it be created by an anonymous user? is it possible to edit the fields of the post, except the text?

Posts cannot be created by anonymous users. Editing of posts is not required.

4. In the comments, in addition to the "interesting" button, should there also be a "not interesting" button? If the answer to the previous question is yes, should the count for both buttons be displayed separately?

No "not interesting" button or flag requirement. This will be clarified in the final version of the text. So, anything not marked as "interesting" is "not interesting" by default, i.e., it has not been marked, so no requirement of having another count.

5. Should we set a maximum number of characters for post/comment text, as we did in the lab for security reasons (i.e. avoid wasting space on db)? Since

there is no reasonable unique value (since posts/comments can be very long or short) to set and there is no specification in the text about it, should we avoid setting a limit?

Avoiding it is ok, since it is not required.

6. Can posts have max number of comments equal to 0, meaning that no comments are allowed?

Yes

7. Should newlines at the beginning or end of the string be kept? Or just the ones in the middle?

Kept.

8. And what about leading or trailing spaces?

Up to you (these can be difficult to handle). However, these are just details, don't focus too much on these issues unless they are explicitly required features.

9. This sentence seems to contradict the first point in the list of what authenticated users can do. The doubt is: should the list of comments appended to each post be hidden only from NON-authenticated users? Or is it just a matter of visualization when the home page is displayed at first glance, meaning that we should not display comments by default?

Yes, not authenticated users cannot see the list of comments, except for anonymous comments. This will be fixed in the final version of the text, sorry for the confusion. It is not just a matter of visualization.

10. When displaying the comment count, should anonymous users be able to see the actual number of comments or just the number of anonymous comments? To be consistent with the application logic, I think we should display the actual number of comments, since anonymous comments count towards the maximum allowed limit, so that anonymous users can know how many comments are allowed, but I ask for confirmation because there is nothing in the text about this.

Total number of comments, including both types.

11. Should we also show the date for all users? Since the previous paragraph mentions to show the date but here is not specified.

Yes please (the timestamp, not just the "date"). This will be fixed in the final version of the text. This will help to check the chronological sorting.

12. What does it mean to show the author? Show his name, or his username (e.g. email)? It's our choice?

Up to you, can be username or name.

13. Should the text of a post be shown when showing the list of all posts?

Yes, please show the post as well. This will be fixed in the final version of the text. Thanks.

14. If an unauthenticated user can add "anonymous comments" but not view comments, does this mean he/she can not see his/her comment? Otherwise, there would not be a way to display only the comment the authenticated user made only to him, as the comment would not have an author.
I also have the same doubt. It is a little contradictory that a user comments without seeing what others have commented. In addition, a normal webpage should allow you to see all the comments so you know what you should want to comment. Or at least we could implement that as anonymous you can see all the anonymous comments, and when authenticated all are visible.

Thanks for pointing out this issue. The final text will be fixed in this regard. Anonymous (not authenticated) users can see comments for a post, but only anonymous comments. Regardless of what is "normal", please remember that we try to keep the text simple so some features you "normally" find in website, sometimes they are not required.

15. does this mean when a visitor user looks at the home page just sees the number of comments, and when clicks on a post, sees the actual comments? should the comments be be completely hidden or there should be a button to unhide them?

The implementation is up to you, but keep in mind what each type of user can access and see: visitors (not authenticated users) cannot see comments,

authenticated users can. How to implement this, again, is up to you (button, click, a new page for each post, etc...) and subject to evaluation.

16. Can a user post multiple comments on the same post?

There is no restriction on this in the text: yes

17. Can unauthenticated users see the post (including title, author and timestamp)? In addition, as I understand from the responses to other comments, in the new track it will be written that users of anonymous comments (ie, unauthenticated users), can see only the other anonymous comments. Correct? Thank you very much.

Yes, authenticated users can. Yes, not authenticated users will only be able to see the anonymous comments (the text will soon be fixed)

18. Can you confirm that it is not required for a user to be able to delete their own account? If that was implicitly required, that calls for some other specifications (what happens to his content, what an admin can do about it, and the level of protection for this action)

Yes, what is not specified is not required.

19. I would like to inquire whether it is permissible to reuse the same front-end authentication component that we reviewed during lectures, and more generally, whether we may retain the same site layout (as you demonstrated in class), or if we are required to create an entirely new design with different layout, colours, and buttons.

Taking code from classes and labs is fine. But you need to decide if the code is suitable for your case or not, and potentially make the necessary modifications.

20. Can authenticated users mark the text of a post with an "interesting flag"? Or is it limited just to comments?

For posts, it is not required.

21. now that non authenticated user that must see the list of anonymous comments under a post that has at least one, should non logged-in see also the flag relatives to an anonymous comment or only the anonymous comments without the number of flag?

No, they cannot see it.

22. Does this mean that a user that has not yet marked a specific comment as "interesting" would not be able to see the total of "interesting flags" that comment received from other users?

The total can be seen. Here the text refers to the specific comment, i.e., if the authenticated user has marked the comment as private for him/herself.

23. If so, when users add a comment, are they automatically able to see how many other users marked that comment as "interesting"? Otherwise, the user would become able to see the information only by marking his own comment as interesting.

Yes.

24. Regardless of the answer of question 2), a user that writes a comment is to be considered automatically "interested" to his own comment?

No.

25. when not specified [the maximum number of comments], it must be illimitate or a fixed number in any case, hardcoded server-side?

illimitate.

26. when edited [comments], they must keep same number for interesting value? Or should it restart from 0?

Keep the same number of interesting value. This will be clarified in the final text. In any case, this is a minor point, anything is fine.

27. Could other information in the post (e.g. maximum number of comments) be edited?

Not required

28. Should there be a page or a filter to show only the posts that you have created?

Not required. However, similarly to what has been done during the lectures, it must be clear from the interface what actions the user can perform and what he/she cannot.

29. Does this mean that admin users can log in without using 2FA and still function as regular authenticated users (with username/password only), having access to all functionalities of authenticated users except editing or deleting other users' posts?

Yes

30. Do we need to list also the authentication APIs?

Yes