Ajit Gupta Follow 2 min read · Jun 16, 2025

🚀 Java Microservices Interview Cheat Sheet (20 Q&A)

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1. Monolith vs Microservices?

- Monolith: 1 app, 1 DB. Simple but scaales poorly.
- Microservices: Many small apps. Scales great, but complex.

2. Why API Gateway?
Single entry point → routes calls, auth, load balancing.

3. Circuit Breaker?
Stops calling broken services. (Resilience4j = Spring's fix.

4. REST vs Kafka?

- – REST: Sync (ask & wait).
- – Kafka: Async (fire & forget)

5. Saga Pattern?
No shared DB? Saga fixes transactions via events/ rollbacks.

6. Service Discovery?
Eureka/Consul = "Yellow Pages" for microservices.

7. WebFlux?

- Non-blocking→ handles 10k requests with few threads.

8. Blue-Green vs Canary?

- – Blue-Green: Flip switch (0 downtime).
- – Canary: Slow rollout (test on 5% users)

9. DB per Service: Interviewers love **real examples** (e.g., "At Netflix, they use API Gateways to...")

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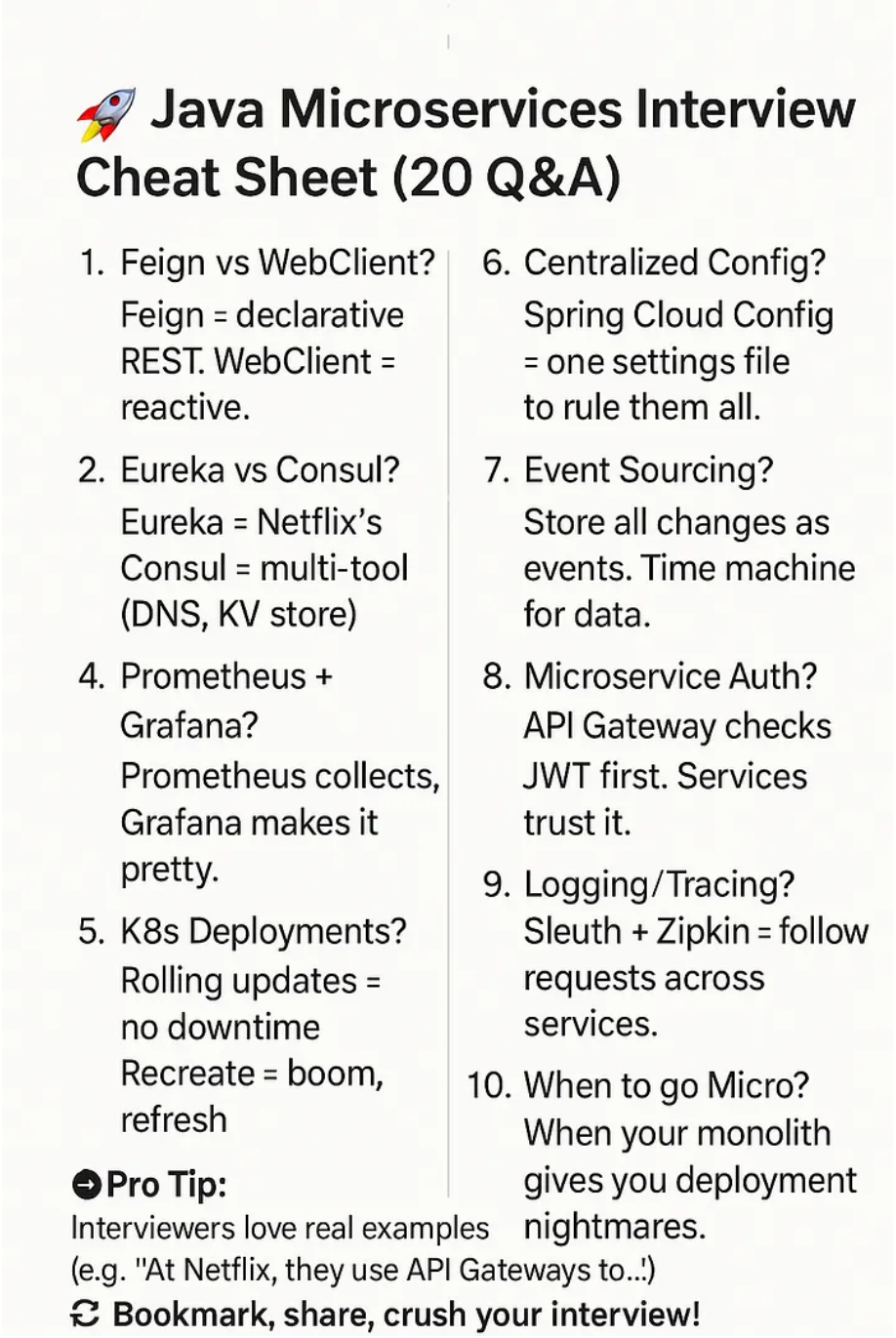
9. DB per Service?
No sharing! Each service owns its data → no messy coupling.

10. JWT/OAuth2?
- JWT: Token = ID card.
- OAuth2: Lets apps auth for you (like "Login with Google").



11. Feign vs WebClient?

- Feign = declarative REST. WebClient = reactive.

12. Centralized Config?
- Spring Cloud Config = one settings file to rule them all.

13. Eureka vs Consul?
- Eureka = Netflix's. Consul = multi-tool (DNS, KV store).

14. Prometheus + Grafana?
- Prometheus collects, Grafana makes it pretty.

15. K8s Deployments?
- Rolling updates = no downtime. Recreate = boom, refresh.

16. CQRS?
- Separate read/write DBs. Fast queries + clean writes.

17. Event Sourcing?
- Store all changes as events. Time machine for data.

18. Microservice Auth?
- API Gateway checks JWT first. Services trust it.

19. Logging/Tracing?
- Sleuth + Zipkin = follow requests across services.

20. When to go Micro?
- When your monolith gives you deployment nightmares.

💎 Bonus Pro Tip:
Always mention tradeoffs:
- "Microservices add complexity but solve scaling"
- "Eventual consistency means temporary data mismatches"

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