

Nice — I turned your journal + the screenshot into a compact, viva-ready theory sheet. Each experiment gets a tiny “flashcard” you can memorise: aim, core theory, quick viva answers and one-line mitigation/commands where useful. Short, plain language — speak these aloud and you’ll be fine.

General tips before viva

- Answer clearly: say the aim, tools, one example vuln, and one fix.
 - Use key words: validate/sanitize, prepared statements, HTTPS, HttpOnly, CSP, least privilege, SAST/DAST.
 - If asked for an example, give a *defensive* example (prepared statement, escaping), not exploit code.
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Experiment 1 — Study various cybersecurity standards

Aim: Learn laws, standards and how they guide secure development.

Key points

- Standards: ISO 27001 (info security), NIST, GDPR (privacy), PCI-DSS (payment).
 - Purpose: define controls, risk management, compliance.
 - Viva lines: “Standards help set minimum security controls and audit requirements.”
 - When asked: name one control = encryption at rest & in transit; periodic audits.
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Experiment 2 — SDLC Case Study (Secure SDLC)

Aim: Show how security fits into each SDLC phase.

Per phase — one sentence each

- Investigation: identify assets, compliance needs, stakeholders.
- Analysis: threat modelling, attack surface mapping.
- Logical design: define auth, data flow, trust boundaries.
- Physical design: servers, network segmentation, secure hosting.
- Implementation: secure coding, SAST, code reviews.
- Maintenance: patching, monitoring, incident response.

Viva one-liner: “SecSDLC integrates security controls early — shift left.”

Experiment 3 — Demonstrate SAST tools

Aim: Use static scanners to find code vulnerabilities.

Key points

- SAST = static code analysis (before running app). Tools: Bandit (Python), SpotBugs, Semgrep.
 - Finds: insecure patterns (eval, insecure deserialization, hard-coded secrets).
 - Viva: “Run SAST in CI to catch vulnerabilities before deployment.”
 - Fix flow: run scanner → review findings → patch code → re-scan.
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Experiment 4 — OWASP methodologies (pick 5)

Aim: Study OWASP Top 10 + implement mitigations.

Pick 5 quick examples & fixes

- Injection (SQLi) — use prepared statements / ORM, validate inputs.

- Broken Auth — use strong password storage, MFA, session controls.
- XSS — escape output, CSP, input sanitization.
- Insecure Components — keep libs updated, run dependency scanning.
- Security Misconfig — use secure defaults, remove debug endpoints.

Viva: “OWASP provides common web risks and mitigation guidance.”

ZAP mention: “ZAP is an open-source DAST scanner for runtime testing.”

Experiment 5 — DVWA OS Command Injection

Aim: Show command injection and how to prevent it.

Key points

- Vulnerability: unsanitized input used in shell commands.
 - Risk: attacker can execute arbitrary OS commands.
 - Fixes: avoid shell calls; if necessary, whitelist inputs, use safe APIs and escape inputs.
 - Viva Qs quick:
 - How to detect: DAST scanners, suspicious input echoing.
 - Prevention: input validation + least privilege; never pass raw user input to shell.
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Experiment 6 — Registration page data validation (Frontend + Backend)

Aim: Implement robust input validation and authentication basics.

Core theory

- Client-side (JS/HTML5) = immediate UX checks (required, pattern).
 - Server-side = authoritative checks (regex, length, sanitization, encoding).
 - Best practices: whitelist inputs, central validation library, limit lengths, show friendly errors.
 - Viva answers:
 - Why both? Client = UX, Server = security.
 - Good practice = canonicalise input, then validate & sanitize.
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Experiment 7 — Session management for web app

Aim: Implement secure sessions (tokens, timeouts, cookie flags).

Core theory

- Session lifecycle: create (login) → assign session ID → store server-side or use token (JWT) → send cookie/token → validate on each request → expire/terminate on logout or timeout.
- Session ID: long, random, unpredictable (use secure generator).
- Cookie flags: `HttpOnly`, `Secure`, `SameSite=Strict/Lax`.
- Token vs stateful sessions: JWT = stateless (careful with revocation), server sessions = stateful (easier revoke).
- Viva Qs:
 - How set/retrieve? Server sends `Set-Cookie`; browser sends Cookie header.
 - Alternatives: URL rewriting or hidden form fields (less secure, avoid cookies only if unavoidable).

Quick secure checklist: rotate ID on privilege change, short timeout, use HTTPS, store minimal session data.

Experiment 8 — Burp Suite proxy to test web applications

Aim: Intercept and analyze HTTP(S) traffic to identify issues.

Flash answers

1. **Primary function of Proxy tool:** intercept and inspect HTTP(S) requests and responses between browser and server for analysis and modification.
2. **Configure browser:** set browser proxy to Burp host (default `127.0.0.1:8080`) or use Burp's helper extension; disable browser's automatic proxy settings as needed.
3. **Proxy listener:** a Burp process that listens for incoming proxy connections (default `127.0.0.1:8080` for HTTP).
4. **Install Burp CA certificate:** to intercept HTTPS you must trust Burp's CA in browser so TLS won't break (Burp acts as MITM for analysis).
5. **Troubleshooting:** ensure browser proxy set correctly, Burp listener enabled, certificate installed, no conflicting proxy extensions, firewall allowing port 8080, and site not using certificate pinning.

Quick viva line: "Burp helps find insecure headers, cookies, input fields, and replay/modify attacks."

Supporting theory & short answers (common viva Qs)

XSS (Cross Site Scripting)

- Attacker injects script into pages users view. Prevent by encoding output, CSP, server-side sanitization.

SQL Injection

- Occurs when user input changes SQL logic. Fix with prepared statements and parameterized queries.

Authentication vs Authorization

- Auth = verify identity. Authz = decide permitted actions.

HTTP vs HTTPS

- HTTPS = HTTP over TLS (encrypted). Always use HTTPS in production.

API / REST API

- API: interface for apps. REST uses stateless HTTP verbs (GET/POST/PUT/DELETE) and resources (URLs).

SAST / DAST

- SAST = static code scanning (pre-run). DAST = dynamic testing (running app). Both complement each other.

Repository (Git)

- Repo stores code, commits, branches. Common commands: `git add`, `git commit -m`, `git push`, `git pull`.

How to commit changes (short)

- `git status` → `git add file` → `git commit -m "msg"` → `git push origin branch`.

MFA

- Multi-factor auth uses 2+ proofs (password + OTP or hardware). Significantly lowers account takeover risk.

Encryption / Decryption

- Encryption uses key to convert plain text into ciphertext; decryption reverses. Symmetric (AES) vs asymmetric (RSA).

SADL / Secure SDLC phases

- Requirements → Design → Implementation → Testing (SAST/DAST) → Deployment → Maintenance + monitoring.

How to secure an application (summary)

- Validate & sanitize inputs, use HTTPS, secure auth, use prepared statements, limit privileges, update dependencies, logging & monitoring, run SAST/DAST.
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Short viva phrases you can memorise (one-liners)

- “Always validate on server; client-side only for user convenience.”
 - “Use prepared statements to stop SQL injection.”
 - “Set cookie flags HttpOnly and Secure to protect session cookies.”
 - “Run SAST in CI and DAST before release.”
 - “Burp Proxy listens on localhost:8080 and needs its CA cert for HTTPS.”
 - “Session ID must be random, rotated on privilege change, and short-lived.”
 - “Use HTTPS and certificates to protect data in transit.”
 - “OWASP Top 10 lists the most common web risks and fixes.”
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If you want I can:

- Convert this into a 1-page printable PDF (compact).
- Make a 2-minute viva script per experiment (what to say).
- Make flashcards (Q + one-line A) for quick memorization.

Which one next?

Viva questions asked

1. How to integrate a live API

- **What:** Connect your app to a remote service (endpoint) that returns data (JSON/XML).
 - **Steps:** get endpoint URL + method (GET/POST), read docs, obtain API key if needed → call endpoint (e.g., `fetch` in JS or `requests` in Python) → handle response (parse JSON) → show/save data.
 - **Extras:** handle errors, retries, rate limits, and CORS in browsers; secure API keys (don't store in client).
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2. Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)

- **Definition:** Attacker injects malicious scripts into pages viewed by other users.
 - **Types:** Stored (in DB), Reflected (in URL), DOM-based (client-side).
 - **Prevention:** escape/encode output (`html.escape`), use Content Security Policy (CSP), validate/strip `<script>` on input, use frameworks' templating that auto-escapes.
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3. Client and Server Validation — kaise hota hai

- **Client-side:** JavaScript checks before submit (UX). Example: required fields, format checks.
- **Server-side:** Mandatory security checks on server — never trust client. Example: regex/email, length limits, sanitization.

- **Why both:** client = good UX; server = security and data integrity.
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4. Authentication — kaise karte hain

- **Definition:** Verify who the user is.
 - **Common methods:** username/password, OAuth (Google/GitHub), tokens (JWT), API keys, sessions (cookie-based).
 - **Flow (session):** user logs in → server validates → server creates session id → sends cookie → cookie used on subsequent requests.
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5. SQL Injection and OS Command Injection

- **SQL Injection:** attacker inserts SQL into inputs → modifies DB queries.
 - **Example:** ' OR '1'='1'
 - **Fix:** prepared statements / parameterized queries, ORM, strong input validation, least DB privileges.
 - **OS Command Injection:** attacker runs system commands via unsafe concatenation.
 - **Fix:** avoid shelling out, use safe APIs, validate/whitelist inputs, escape inputs.
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6. How a session is established

- **Cookie session (classic):**
 1. User logs in → server creates session record (id + data).
 2. Server sends **Set-Cookie: session=SESSIONID**.

3. Browser sends cookie on requests → server looks up session data.
- **Token-based (stateless):** server returns JWT → client stores (localStorage or cookie) → sends in `Authorization: Bearer`
 - **Secure tips:** set `HttpOnly`, `Secure`, `SameSite` flags for cookies.
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7. How to secure an application (quick checklist)

- Validate + sanitize inputs (server-side).
 - Use HTTPS everywhere.
 - Use prepared statements for DB.
 - Escape output to prevent XSS.
 - Apply secure auth (hash passwords with bcrypt).
 - Least privilege for DB and services.
 - Keep dependencies updated.
 - Use CSP, rate limiting, logging & monitoring, and secure config (no secrets in code).
 - Pen-test & code review (SAST/DAST).
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8. What is privacy?

- **Definition:** Control over personal data — who collects it, how it's used, stored, and shared.
 - **Practices:** minimize data collection, use encryption at rest/in transit, get consent, follow laws (e.g., GDPR basics).
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9. What is SAST / DAST?

- **SAST (Static Application Security Testing)**: analyze source code or binaries for vulnerabilities before running app (e.g., linters, code scanners).
 - **DAST (Dynamic Application Security Testing)** (you wrote DST — likely DAST): test running application to find runtime issues (e.g., scanning for SQLi, XSS).
 - **Use both**: SAST finds coding errors early; DAST finds runtime issues and misconfigurations.
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10. What is HTTP / HTTPS?

- **HTTP**: Hypertext Transfer Protocol — request/response protocol for web.
 - **HTTPS**: HTTP over TLS — encrypted connection, prevents eavesdropping and tampering.
 - **Note**: HTTPS uses certificates; always use HTTPS in production.
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11. Authentication vs Authorization

- **Authentication**: “Who are you?” (login)
 - **Authorization**: “What can you do?” (permissions/roles)
 - Example: Alice logs in (auth), then allowed to access admin page only if she has admin role (authz).
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12. What is a repository

- **Repo**: Storage for code + history (e.g., Git repository).

- **Contains:** commits, branches, tags, commit messages.
 - **Purpose:** version control, collaboration, rollback.
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13. MFA (Multi-Factor Authentication)

- **Definition:** Use 2+ methods to verify identity (something you know + have + are).
 - **Examples:** password + OTP (SMS / authenticator app), password + hardware key.
 - **Benefit:** mitigates stolen passwords.
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14. Maintenance phase

- **Definition:** Post-deployment phase: bug fixes, updates, security patches, performance tuning, and feature enhancements.
 - **Tasks:** monitoring, backups, incident response, dependency updates.
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15. API (Application Programming Interface)

- **Definition:** Contract that lets programs talk to each other (endpoints, methods).
 - **Formats:** REST (HTTP/JSON), GraphQL, SOAP.
 - **Elements:** endpoint, method (GET/POST/PUT/DELETE), headers, body, status codes.
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16. REST API

- **Principles:** stateless, resources (URLs), HTTP verbs (GET/POST/PUT/DELETE), use JSON typically.
 - **Example:** `GET /users/123` returns user data.
 - **Status codes:** 200 OK, 201 Created, 400 Bad Request, 401 Unauthorized, 404 Not Found.
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17. PHP (short)

- **What:** Server-side scripting language often used for web apps.
 - **Use:** handle form submissions, sessions, interact with DB.
 - **Note:** secure PHP by using parameterized queries, proper escaping, and up-to-date PHP versions.
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18. Git

- **What:** distributed version control system.
 - **Key concepts:** clone, branch, commit, push, pull, merge.
 - **Local vs remote:** local repo vs GitHub/GitLab as remote.
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19. How to commit changes (basic commands)

1. `git status` — see changes
2. `git add file` or `git add .` — stage
3. `git commit -m "message"` — record snapshot

- 4. `git push origin branch` — push to remote
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20. Can you make changes in a git repo?

- **Yes:** clone → create branch → make edits → `git add` → `git commit` → `git push` → create Pull Request (PR) → code review → merge.
 - **Permissions:** you need push access or fork and PR.
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21. What is encryption / decryption

- **Encryption:** convert plain data to unreadable form using a key.
 - **Decryption:** reverse using key.
 - **Types:**
 - Symmetric (same key): AES — fast, used for data at rest.
 - Asymmetric (public/private): RSA — used for key exchange & signatures.
 - **Use-cases:** TLS uses both (asymmetric to exchange symmetric key).
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22. SADL lifecycle phases (Secure Application Development Lifecycle)

- **1. Requirements & Threat Modeling:** identify assets, threats, security requirements.
- **2. Design:** design architecture with security controls (auth, encryption).
- **3. Implementation:** secure coding, SAST, code reviews.

- **4. Testing:** DAST, penetration tests, security test cases.
 - **5. Deployment:** secure config, secrets management, use HTTPS.
 - **6. Monitoring & Maintenance:** logging, patching, incident response.
 - **(Extra):** Training & governance across all phases.
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Quick viva cheat-sheet (one-liners to memorize)

- **Integrate API:** call endpoint, parse JSON, secure keys.
- **XSS:** input → output; prevent by escaping output and CSP.
- **Client vs Server validation:** UX vs security — both required.
- **Auth:** verify identity; **Authz:** grant access.
- **SQLi:** fix with prepared statements.
- **Session:** cookie or token; secure cookie flags.
- **Secure app:** validate, escape, patch, HTTPS, least privilege.
- **SAST/DAST:** static vs dynamic testing.
- **HTTP/HTTPS:** plain vs encrypted.
- **Repo:** versioned code store.
- **MFA:** multiple proofs of identity.
- **Maintenance:** update, monitor, fix.
- **API/REST:** endpoints + HTTP verbs + status codes.
- **Git commit:** add → commit → push.
- **Encryption:** symmetric/asymmetric.

