What is rails?

Rails is a web

* Web applilcation framework, written in Ruby
* Convention over configurtion is large part of rails
* This decreases decisions developers have to make but inreasing simplcity, no loss in flexibility
* Don't repeat yourself (DRY) is huge part of rails.
* This means a modification to one element does not require you to change every element that is unrelated.
* History: Rails was founded by David Heinemeier Hansson, both a programmer, and race car driver.
* Released as open source in July 2004, In 2007 it is ship with Apply Leopard.
* 2009 it went major new developments. Templates, engines, forms.
* Every year or so a new version has been released since then. Currently at version 4.1
* Technical: Rails uses a model-view-controller pattern like many web frameworks to organize application programming
* The model maps to a table in a database, and a Ruby file.
* Controller responds to external requests from web server to determine which files to render. Can provide one or more ctions, usually query one or more models for info to pass to view.
* View is what is used to compile the rails files to HTML. This generates output for the user
* Some critisims with scalibility. Twitter outages of 2007 and 2008 caused Twitter to move from Rails to Scala