

1.1 Unit-1 Orientation and First Steps

1. What is PHP?

PHP is a recursive acronym for “PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor”. PHP is a server side scripting language that is embedded in HTML. It is used to manage dynamic content, databases, session tracking, even build entire e-commerce sites.

2. What are the common usage of PHP?

- PHP performs system functions, i.e. from files on a system it can create, open, read, write, and close them.
- PHP can handle forms, i.e. gather data from files, save data to a file, thru email you can send data, return data to the user.
- You add, delete, modify elements within your database thru PHP.
- Access cookies variables and set cookies.
- Using PHP, you can restrict users to access some pages of your website.

3. What is escaping to PHP?

The PHP parsing engine needs a way to differentiate PHP code from other elements in the page. The mechanism for doing so is known as ‘escaping to PHP’.

4. What do you mean by having PHP as whitespace insensitive?

PHP whitespace insensitive means that it almost never matters how many whitespace characters you have in a row. one whitespace character is the same as many such characters.

5. Is PHP a case sensitive language?

No, PHP is partially case sensitive.

6. What are the characteristics of PHP variables?

- All variables in PHP are denoted with a leading dollar sign (\$).
- Variables are assigned with the = operator, with the variable on the left-hand side and the expression to be evaluated on the right.
- Variables used before they are assigned have default values.
- PHP does a good job of automatically converting types from one to another when necessary.
- PHP variables are Perl-like.

7. What are rules for naming a PHP variable?

Rules for naming a variable are following –

- Variable names must begin with a letter or underscore character.
- A variable name can consist of numbers, letters, underscores but you cannot use characters like + , - , % , (,) . & , etc

8. What are the differences between PHP constants and variables?

- There is no need to write a dollar sign (\$) before a constant, where as in Variable one has to write a dollar sign.
- Constants cannot be defined by simple assignment, they may only be defined using the define() function.
- Constants may be defined and accessed anywhere without regard to variable scoping rules.
- Once the Constants have been set, may not be redefined or undefined.

9. What is the use of “echo” in php?

It is used to print a data in the webpage,

Example:

10. Differences between GET and POST methods ?

We can send 1024 bytes using GET method but POST method can transfer large amount of data and POST is the secure method than GET method .

11. Define web browser.

A web browser (commonly referred to as a browser) is a software application for retrieving, presenting and traversing information resources on the World Wide Web. An information resource is identified by a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI/URL) that may be a web page, image, video or other piece of content

Unit-4 Working with Arrays

1. How to declare an array in php?

Eg : var \$arr = array('apple', 'grape', 'lemon');

2. What is use of in_array() function in php ?

in_array used to checks if a value exists in an array

3. What is use of count() function in php ?

count() is used to count all elements in an array, or something in an object

4. What is mean by an associative array?

Associative arrays are arrays that use string keys is called associative arrays.

5. What is the use of “ksort” in php?

It is used for sort an array by key in reverse order.

6. What is the difference between \$var and \$\$var?

They are both variables. But \$var is a variable with a fixed name. \$\$var is a variable who's name is stored in \$var. For example, if \$var contains “message”, \$\$var is the same as \$message.

7. How to create an array of a group of items inside an HTML form ?

We can create input fields with same name for “name” attribute with square bracket at the end of the name of the name attribute, It passes data as an array to PHP.
For instance :

2.1 Unit-6 Making Web Forms

1. what is the use of isset() in php?

This function is used to determine if a variable is set and is not NULL.

2. What is the importance of “action” attribute in a html form?

The action attribute determines where to send the form-data in the form submission.

3. What is the use of “enctype” attribute in a html form?

The enctype attribute determines how the form-data should be encoded when submitting it to the server. We need to set enctype as “**multipart/form-data**” when we are using a form for uploading files

4. What is the importance of “method” attribute in a html form?

“method” attribute determines how to send the form-data into the server. There are two methods, get and post. The default method is get. This sends the form information by appending it on the URL. Information sent from a form with the POST method is invisible to others and has no limits on the amount of information to send.

3.1 Unit-7 Working with Databases

1. How to create a mysql connection?

```
mysql_connect(servername,username,password);
```

2. How to set a page as a home page in a php based site ?

index.php is the default name of the home page in php based sites.

3. How to select a database?

```
mysql_select_db($db_name).
```

4. How to execute an sql query? How to fetch its result ?

```
$my_qry = mysql_query("SELECT * FROM `users` WHERE `u_id`='1'");  
$result = mysql_fetch_array($my_qry);  
echo $result['First_name'];
```

5. What are the differences between mysql_fetch_array(), mysql_fetch_object(), mysql_fetch_row()?

mysql_fetch_array Fetch a result row as an associative array, a numeric array, or both.

mysql_fetch_object (resource result) Returns an object with properties that correspond to the fetched row and moves the internal data pointer ahead. Returns an object with properties that correspond to the fetched row, or FALSE if there are no more rows

mysql_fetch_row() fetches one row of data from the result associated with the specified result identifier. The row is returned as an array. Each result column is stored in an array offset, starting at offset 0.

6. Difference between mysql_connect and mysql_pconnect?

There is a good page in the php manual on the subject, in short mysql_pconnect() makes a persistent connection to the database which means a SQL link that do not close when the execution of your script ends. mysql_connect() provides only for the database new connection while using mysql_pconnect, the function would first try to find a (persistent) link that's already open with the same host, username and password. If one is found, an identifier for it will be returned instead of opening a

new connection... the connection to the SQL server will not be closed when the execution of the script ends. Instead, the link will remain open for future use.

7. What is PEAR?

PEAR is a framework and distribution system for reusable PHP components. The project seeks to provide a structured library of code, maintain a system for distributing code and for managing code packages, and promote a standard coding style.

PEAR is broken into three classes: PEAR Core Components, PEAR Packages, and PECL Packages.

The Core Components include the base classes of PEAR and PEAR_Error, along with database, HTTP, logging, and e-mailing functions.

The PEAR Packages include functionality providing for authentication, networking, and file system features, as well as tools for working with XML and HTML templates.

8. How we can retrieve the data in the result set of MySQL using PHP?

- `mysql_fetch_row`
- `mysql_fetch_array`
- `mysql_fetch_object`
- `mysql_fetch_assoc`

4.1 Unit-8 Remembering Users with Cookies and Sessions

1. What is the difference between Session and Cookie?

- The main difference between sessions and cookies is that sessions are stored on the server, and cookies are stored on the user's computers in the text file format.
- Cookies can't hold multiple variable while session can hold multiple variables..
- We can set expiry for a cookie, the session only remains active as long as the browser is open.
- Users do not have access to the data you stored in Session, Since it is stored in the server.
- Session is mainly used for login/logout purpose while cookies using for user activity tracking.

2. How to set cookies in PHP?

```
Setcookie("sample", "ram", time()+3600);
```

3. How to Retrieve a Cookie Value?

```
eg : echo $_COOKIE["user"];
```

4. How to create a session? How to set a value in session ? How to Remove data from a session?

```
Create session : session_start();  
Set value into session : $_SESSION['USER_ID']=1;  
Remove data from a session : unset($_SESSION['USER_ID']);
```

5. How to get the value of current session id?

session_id() function returns the session id for the current session.

6. How will you start a session in PHP?

A PHP session is easily started by making a call to the session_start() function. This function first checks if a session is already started and if none is started then it starts one. It is recommended to put the call to session_start() at the beginning of the page.

7. How will you access session variables in PHP?

Session variables are stored in associative array called \$_SESSION[]. These variables can be accessed during lifetime of a session.

8. How will you check if session variable is already set or not in PHP?

Make use of isset() function to check if session variable is already set or not.

9. How will you destroy the session?

A PHP session can be destroyed by session_destroy() function.

10. How will you access the actual name of the uploaded file in PHP?

Using \$_FILES['file']['name'] – it provides the actual name of the uploaded file