

Flask jsonify() - Cheat Sheet

1. What is jsonify?

- Converts Python dict/list/tuple to JSON
- Returns Flask Response object
- Sets Content-Type to application/json

2. Return dict as JSON

```
@app.route('/user')
def get_user():
    return jsonify({"id": 1, "name": "Siva"})
```

3. Return list as JSON

```
@app.route('/users')
def get_users():
    users = [{"id": 1, "name": "Siva"}, {"id": 2, "name": "SK"}]
    return jsonify(users)
```

4. Multiple key-value pairs

```
@app.route('/status')
def get_status():
    return jsonify(status="success", code=200)
```

5. With HTTP status code

```
return jsonify({"error": "Not Found"}), 404
```

6. Pretty print (debugging)

```
import json
print(json.dumps({"key": "value"}, indent=4))
```

7. Manual JSON response

```
from flask import Response
import json

@app.route('/manual')
def manual_json():
    data = {"msg": "hello"}
    return Response(json.dumps(data), mimetype='application/json')
```

8. jsonify() vs json.dumps()

```
jsonify():
- Returns Flask Response
- Auto sets content-type
```

```
json.dumps():
```

- Returns JSON string
- Needs manual Response wrapping

9. Serialization errors

```
jsonify(set([1, 2, 3]))          # Error: set is not serializable
jsonify(datetime.now())         # Error: datetime is not serializable
```

10. Custom JSON Encoder

```
import datetime

class CustomJSONEncoder(app.json_encoder):
    def default(self, obj):
        if isinstance(obj, datetime.datetime):
            return obj.isoformat()
        return super().default(obj)

app.json_encoder = CustomJSONEncoder
```