

What is PHP?

PHP stands for *Hypertext Preprocessor*. It is an open source server-side scripting language which is widely used for web development. It supports many databases like MySQL, Oracle, Sybase, Solid, PostgreSQL, generic ODBC etc.

What was the old name of PHP?

The old name of PHP was Personal Home Page.

What is the name of scripting engine in PHP?

The scripting engine that powers PHP is called *Zend Engine 2*.

Explain the difference between PHP4 and PHP5.

PHP4 doesn't support oops concept and uses Zend Engine 1.

PHP5 supports oops concept and uses Zend Engine 2.

Which programming language does PHP resemble to?

PHP has borrowed its syntax from Perl and C.

What is "echo" in PHP?

PHP echo output one or more string. It is a language construct not a function. So the use of parentheses is not required. But if you want to pass more than one parameter to echo, the use of parentheses is required.

What is "print" in PHP?

PHP print output a string. It is a language construct not a function. So the use of parentheses is not required with the argument list. Unlike echo, it always returns 1.

What are the different loops in PHP?
For, while, do-while and for each.

What is the use of count() function in PHP?

The PHP count() function is used *to count total elements in the array, or something an object.*

What is the use of header() function in PHP?

The header() function is used to send a raw HTTP header to a client. It must be called before sending the actual output. For example, you can't print any HTML element before using this function.

What does isset() function?

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What are the rules for naming a PHP variable?

The following rules are needed to be followed while naming a PHP variable:

- A variable must start with a dollar symbol, followed by the variable name.
For example: `$price=100;` where `price` is a variable name.
- Variable names must begin with a letter or underscore.
- A variable name can consist of letters, numbers, or underscores. But you cannot use characters like `+`, `,`, `-`, `%`, `&` etc.
- A PHP variable name cannot contain spaces.
- PHP variables are case-sensitive. So `$NAME` and `$name` both are treated as different variables.

Is PHP a case-sensitive language?

PHP can be considered as a partial case-sensitive language. The variable names are completely case-sensitive but function names are not. Also, user-defined functions are not case-sensitive but the rest of the language is case-sensitive.

Differentiate between variables and constants in PHP

Variables	Constants
The value of a variable can be changed during the execution.	The constant value can't be changed during script execution.
Variables require compulsory usage of the \$ sign at the start.	No dollar sign (\$) is required before using a constant.
It is possible to define a variable by simple assignment.	Constants can't be defined by simple assignments. They are defined using the define() function.
The default scope is the current access scope.	Constants can be accessed throughout without any scoping rules.

What is a session in PHP?

A session in PHP is a way to store information to be used across multiple pages of an entire website. The information is not stored on the user's computer, unlike cookies. In a temporary directory on the server, a file will be created by the session where registered session variables and their values are stored. This information will be available to all pages on the site during that visit.

What does PEAR stands for?

PEAR stands for “PHP Extension and Application Repository”. PEAR is a framework and repository for all of the reusable PHP components.

Explain the difference between \$message and \$\$message.

\$message	\$\$message
\$message is a regular variable.	\$\$message is a reference variable.
It has a fixed name and stores a fixed value.	It stores data about the variable.
Data stored in \$message is fixed.	The value of the \$\$message can change dynamically as the value of the variable changes.

What is the difference between “echo” and “print” in PHP?

echo	print
echo can output one or more strings.	print can only output one string and it always returns 1.
echo is faster than print because it does not return any value.	print is slower compared to echo.
If you want to pass more than one parameter to echo, a parenthesis should be used.	Use of parenthesis is not required with the argument list.

What is the purpose of @ in PHP?

In PHP, @ is used for suppressing error messages. If any runtime error occurs on the line which consists @ symbol at the beginning, then the error will be handled by PHP.

What are the different types of Array in PHP?

There are 3 main types of arrays that are used in PHP:

Indexed Array

An array with a numeric key is known as the indexed array. Values are stored and accessed in linear order.

Associative Array

An array with strings for indexing elements is known as the associative array. Element values are stored in association with key values rather than in strict linear index order.

Multidimensional Array

An array containing one or more arrays within itself is known as a multidimensional array. The values are accessed using multiple indices.

Does JavaScript interact with PHP?

JavaScript is a client-side programming language, whereas PHP is a server-side scripting language. PHP has the ability to generate JavaScript variables, and this can be executed easily in the browser. Thereby making it possible to pass variables to PHP using a simple URL.

How does the 'foreach' loop work in PHP?

The **foreach statement** is a looping construct that is used in PHP to iterate and loop through the array data type.

The working of foreach is simple, with every single pass of the value, elements get assigned a value, and pointers are incremented. This process is repeatedly done until the end of the array has been reached.

What is the use of session_start() and session_destroy() functions in PHP?

The session_start() function is used to start a new session. Also, it can resume an existing session if it is stopped. In this particular case, the return will be the current session if resumed.

The session_destroy() function is used to destroy all of the session variables.

What are the different ways of handling the result set of MySQL in PHP?

There are 4 ways of handling the result set of MySQL in PHP. They are:

`mysqli_fetch_array()`: Returns the current row of the result set as an associative array, a numeric array, or both.

`mysqli_fetch_assoc()`: Returns the current row of the result set as an associative array.

`mysqli_fetch_object()`: Returns the current row of a result set, as an object.

`mysqli_fetch_row()`: Returns result row as an enumerated array.