State Management Quiz

# Can post requests be bookmarked? What are the problems?

The post request can’t be bookmarked because it passes request parameter in the request body, not on the URL as the get request does.

# What is the purpose of request dispatching?

It is used to pass a coming request including request and response objects to another resource on the server.

# What is the difference between redirect and request dispatch?

The request dispatch is executed on the server and the relevant request and response objects are dispatched to another servlet or JSP.

The redirect is executed on the client and the request and response objects are NOT included in the redirect.

Another difference is URL is unchanged in the request dispatch and changed in the redirect.

# What is an attribute?

It is a name in a pair name, value which is used in managing state information of 3 scopes, request (HttpServletRequest), session (HttpSession) and application/context (ServletContext)

# What is the difference between attributes and parameters?

The attributes are used to maintain state information when communicating between components. The parameters are field names which are submitted from clients.

# What are dangers of using attributes?

In the session case, attributes can be changed until the browser is closed.

In the context case, attributes are shared by every servlet and every request in the application.

# What does it mean to say that http is stateless? Give an example of a stateful protocol.

Http is stateless because it doesn’t require the server to retain session information or a status while sending requests and responses.

A stateful protocol is FTP or Telnet because it expects a response after sending a request. If it doesn’t get any response, it will resend the request.

# Give 5 different methods for maintaining state information (count each attribute scope as one method).

1. Using HttpServletRequest
2. Using HttpSession
3. Using ServletContext
4. Using Cookies
5. Using hidden fields in a form

# How long does a session last?

The session exists from the first request until the browser is closed.

# What is a cookie, and how long does a cookie last?

There are 2 cases:

1. Temporary: it is saved on browser until the browser is closed
2. Permanent: it is saved on browser in a period of times which is configured in seconds.

# What is the purpose of URL rewriting?

It is used to append a token or identifier to the URL of the next Servlet or the next resource. We can use it to send more parameter name/value pairs to.

# Why does the request attribute report ‘null’ for the maintaining state demo?

Because the request isn’t forward to another servlet or resource on the server.