

How the Web Works

In this lab, you'll be working with a partner to explore a little more about the internet, the web, requests, responses and more. You'll be reading and writing about concepts as well as practicing some of the commands that we saw during the lecture earlier.

Topic 1: The Internet and the World Wide Web

- 1) What is the internet? (hint: [here](#))
 - a) Big network of networks.
- 2) What is the world wide web? (hint: [here](#))
 - a) Interconnected system of public webpages accessible through the internet.
- 3) Partner One: read [this page](#) on how the internet works, Partner Two: read [this page](#) on how the world wide web works. When you're done reading, come back together and answer the following questions
 - a) What are networks? A bunch of computers that are connected together.
 - b) What are servers? Computers that hold data.
 - c) What are routers? A computer that directs network traffic.
 - d) What are packets? Data files broken into smaller pieces.
- 4) Come up with a metaphor for the internet and the web, you can do a single one if you think of one that puts them together or two separate ones (feel free to use one you've heard today or read about if you can't think of a new one, but spend at least 10 minutes trying to think of something different before you resort to that)

Your internet connection: Mailbox

TCP/IP: Postal worker making the deliveries.

DNS: Post Office

HTTP: How to fill out the envelope

Component Files: Contents of envelope.

- 5) Draw out a diagram of the infrastructure of the internet and how a request and response travel using your metaphor (like the map and letters we saw during the lecture). Insert the drawing into this document (can be a picture of a physical drawing, a Google Drawing, a Figma drawing, etc)
[Figma Drawing](#) (Did it together)

Topic 2: IP Addresses and Domains

- 1) What is the difference between an IP address and a domain name?
 - a) IP is the computer address, such as 255.255.255.0 and the domain is the nickname that we know it as.
- 2) What's devmountain.com's IP address? (Hint: use 'ping' in the terminal)
 - a) 104.22.12.35
- 3) Try to access devmountain.com by its IP address. It shouldn't work because we have our sites protected by a service called CloudFlare. Why might it be important to not let users access your site directly at the IP address?
 - a) Load balancing, DDoS and security.
- 4) How do our browsers know the IP address of a website when we type in its domain name? (If you need a refresher, go read [this comic](#) linked in the handout from this lecture)
 - a) DNS connects the hostname and the nickname.

Topic 3: How a web page loads into a browser

The steps of how a web page is requested and sent are in the table below. However, **they are out of order**. Unscramble them and explain your thinking/reasoning in the second two columns of the table.

Steps Scrambled	Steps in Correct Order	Why did you put this step in this position?
<i>Example: Here is an example step</i>	<i>Here is an example step</i>	- I put this step first because ____ - I put this step before/after ____ because ____
Request reaches app server	Initial request (link clicked, URL visited)	I put this one first because you need something to begin.
HTML processing finishes	Request reaches app server	Requested info stops here first.
App code finishes execution	App code finishes execution	The server side code gets executed then back
Initial request (link clicked, URL visited)	Browser receives HTML, begins processing	The client receives the data from the server and starts processing
Page rendered in browser	HTML processing finishes	It needs to finish the HTML before it can render.
Browser receives HTML, begins processing	Page rendered in browser	This is what gets printed onto the page

Topic 4: Requests and Responses

Setup

- Download the folder for this exercise from Frodo.
- Make sure you unzip it.
- Open it in VS Code
- Run `npm i` in the terminal (make sure you're in the web-works folder you just downloaded).
 - You'll know it was successful if you see a node_modules folder in the web-works folder.
- Run `node server.js` in the terminal (also in the web-works folder) and you should see a log to the terminal saying 'serving up port 4500'
- You'll be using this file to figure out what will happen when you make requests to this server, so read it over to see what's going on. We'll be getting into the two GET functions and the POST function.

Part A: GET /

- You'll start by looking at the function that runs when we make a get request to /, which looks like this:
<http://localhost:4500> or <http://localhost:4500/>

- You'll use the curl command to make a request and read the response in your terminal
- 1) Predict what you'll see as the body of the response: Site info
- 2) Predict what the content-type of the response will be: Website info
- Open a terminal window and run `curl -i http:localhost:4500`
- 3) Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why? Sort of, it gave back header info who powers the site.
- 4) Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?

Part B: GET /entries

- Now look at the next function, the one that runs on get requests to /entries.
- You'll use the curl command again. This time, you'll need to figure out how to modify it to get the response that you need.
- 1) Predict what you'll see as the body of the response: show us the entries array
- 2) Predict what the content-type of the response will be: it will show objects with json
- In your terminal, run a curl command to get request this server for /entries
- 3) Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
- a) From the examples from the interactive lecture.
- 4) Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
- a) My partner made a good argument that it would show in JSON.

Part C: POST /entry

- Last, read over the function that runs a post request.
- 1) At a base level, what is this function doing? (There are four parts to this)
- a) Creating an object, pushing newEntry, Increments globalID by 1, reposting with update.
- 2) To get this function to work, we need to send a body object with our request. Looking at the function in server.js, what properties do you know you'll need to include on that body object? And what data types will they be (hint: look at the objects in the entries array)?
- a) We need date and content
- 3) Plan the object that you'll send with your request. Remember that it needs to be written as a JSON object inside strings. JSON objects properties/keys and values need to be in **double quotes** and separated by commas.
- a) `{"date": "August 2"}, {"content": "Hello... you"}`
- 4) What URL will you be making this request to?
- a) Localhost:4500/entries
- 5) Predict what you'll see as the body of the response:
- a) All the entries plus what we add
- 6) Predict what the content-type of the response will be:
- a) It will be displayed with JSON
- In your terminal, enter the curl command to make this request. It should look something like the example below, with the information you decided on in steps 3 and 4 instead of the ALL CAPS WORDS.

- curl -i -X POST -H 'Content-type: application/json' -d JSONOBJECT URL

- 7) Were you correct about the body? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
 - a) Yes, from previous example.
- 8) Were you correct about the content-type of the response? If yes, how/why did you make your prediction? If not, what was it and why?
 - a) Yes, from previous example.

Submission

1. Save this document as a PDF
2. Go to Github and create a new repository. (Click the little + in the upper right hand corner.)
3. Name your repository "web-works" (or something like that).
4. Click "uploading an existing file" under the "Quick setup heading".
5. Choose your web works PDF document to upload.
6. Add "commit message" under the heading "Commit changes". A good commit message would be something like "Adding web works problems."
7. Click commit changes.

Further Study: More curl

Visit [this link](#) and do the exercises using the website provided. Keep track of the commands you used in this document. (Don't forget to resubmit to GitHub when you complete this section)