1. What is Maven and what problem does it solve?  
 - Maven is a build automation tool primarily used for Java projects. It simplifies project management by managing dependencies, building projects, and facilitating project documentation.  
  
2. What is a POM file?  
 - The POM (Project Object Model) file is an XML file containing project information and configuration details necessary for building the project, including dependencies, plugins, and goals.  
  
3. What is a dependency in Maven?  
 - A dependency in Maven refers to a Java library or JAR file required by a project to compile, build, or run. These dependencies are specified in the POM file and managed by Maven.  
  
4. What is the Maven repository?  
 - The Maven repository is a directory structure storing project dependencies, plugins, and other artifacts. It consists of a local repository (on the developer's machine) and a remote repository (hosted on a server).  
  
5. Explain the Maven lifecycle phases.?  
 - Maven follows a predefined lifecycle with phases like clean, default, and site, each comprising multiple goals. Common phases include compile, test, package, install, and deploy.  
  
6. What is the purpose of the Maven clean phase?  
 - The clean phase removes the target directory and generated files, ensuring a clean build environment for the project, useful for starting fresh builds.  
  
7. What is the purpose of the Maven install phase?  
 - The install phase copies project artifacts to the local Maven repository, making them available for other projects in the local environment, aiding in compilation and execution.