**Servlet** technology is used to create a web application (resides at server side and generates a dynamic web page).

**Servlet** technology is robust and scalable because of java language. Before Servlet, CGI (Common Gateway Interface) scripting language was common as a server-side programming language

* Servlet is a technology which is used to create a web application.
* Servlet is an API that provides many interfaces and classes including documentation.
* Servlet is an interface that must be implemented for creating any Servlet.
* Servlet is a class that extends the capabilities of the servers and responds to the incoming requests. It can respond to any requests.
* Servlet is a web component that is deployed on the server to create a dynamic web page.

**Web application**: A web application is an application accessible from the web. A web application is composed of web components like Servlet, JSP, Filter, etc. and other elements such as HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. The web components typically execute in Web Server and respond to the HTTP request.

**HTTP SERVLET**

The HttpServlet class extends the GenericServlet class and implements Serializable interface. It provides http specific methods such as doGet, doPost, doHead, doTrace etc.

There are many methods in HttpServlet class. They are as follows:

1. **public void service(ServletRequest req,ServletResponse res)** dispatches the request to the protected service method by converting the request and response object into http type.
2. **protected void service(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** receives the request from the service method, and dispatches the request to the doXXX() method depending on the incoming http request type.
3. **protected void doGet(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** handles the GET request. It is invoked by the web container.
4. **protected void doPost(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** handles the POST request. It is invoked by the web container.
5. **protected void doHead(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** handles the HEAD request. It is invoked by the web container.
6. **protected void doOptions(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** handles the OPTIONS request. It is invoked by the web container.
7. **protected void doPut(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** handles the PUT request. It is invoked by the web container.
8. **protected void doTrace(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** handles the TRACE request. It is invoked by the web container.
9. **protected void doDelete(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res)** handles the DELETE request. It is invoked by the web container.
10. **protected long getLastModified(HttpServletRequest req)** returns the time when HttpServletRequest was last modified since midnight January 1, 1970 GMT.