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Programming Languages - PHP

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Programming Languages

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Question 1:

Who is father of PHP?

[ANSWER] Answer & Explanation:

The father of PHP is Rasmus Lerdorf. Background: Created PHP in 1994 as "Personal Home Page" Originally a set of Common Gateway Interface (CGI) binaries written in C Later evolved into "PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor" (recursive acronym) Evolution Timeline: 1994: PHP/FI (Personal Home Page/Forms Interpreter) 1997: PHP/FI 2.0 - Zeev Suraski and Andi Gutmans joined 1998: PHP 3.0 - Complete rewrite 2000: PHP 4.0 - Zend Engine 2004: PHP 5.0 - Zend Engine II, OOP support 2015: PHP 7.0 - Major performance improvements 2020: PHP 8.0 - JIT compiler, union types 2023: PHP 8.3 - Latest stable version Current Status: PHP powers over 70% of websites worldwide, including Facebook, Wikipedia, and WordPress.

Question 2:

what is session?

[ANSWER] Answer & Explanation:

A session is a server-side storage mechanism that maintains user data across multiple HTTP requests. How Sessions Work: // Start a session session_start(); // Store data in session $_SESSION["username"] = "john_doe"; $_SESSION["user_id"] = 123; $_SESSION["role"] = "admin"; // Access session data echo "Welcome " . $_SESSION["username"]; // Check if session variable exists if (isset($_SESSION["user_id"])) { echo "User is logged in"; } // Destroy session session_destroy(); Session Configuration: // Set session parameters ini_set("session.cookie_lifetime", 3600); // 1 hour ini_set("session.gc_maxlifetime", 3600); ini_set("session.cookie_secure", 1); // HTTPS only ini_set("session.cookie_httponly", 1); // No JavaScript access // Custom session handler session_set_save_handler("session_open", "session_close", "session_read", "session_write", "session_destroy", "session_gc"); Benefits: Server-side security, larger storage capacity, automatic cleanup, cross-page data persistence.

Question 3:

In PHP, what is PEAR?

[ANSWER] Answer & Explanation:

PEAR (PHP Extension and Application Repository) is a framework and distribution system for reusable PHP components. Installation and Usage: // Install PEAR package pear install Mail pear install DB // Using PEAR Mail package require_once "Mail.php"; $recipients = "user@example.com"; $headers["From"] = "sender@example.com"; $headers["Subject"] = "Test Email"; $body = "This is a test email"; $mail = Mail::factory("smtp", ["host" => "smtp.gmail.com", "port" => 587, "auth" => true, "username" => "your_email@gmail.com", "password" => "your_password"]); $result = $mail->send($recipients, $headers, $body); PEAR Database Example: require_once "DB.php"; $dsn = "mysql://username:password@localhost/database"; $db = DB::connect($dsn); if (PEAR::isError($db)) { die("Connection failed: " . $db->getMessage()); } // Execute query $result = $db->query("SELECT * FROM users WHERE active = 1"); while ($row = $result->fetchRow()) { echo $row[0] . " - " . $row[1] . "\n"; } Modern Alternative: Composer has largely replaced PEAR for dependency management in modern PHP development.

Question 4:

Describe different errors in PHP?

[ANSWER] Answer & Explanation:

Fatal errors: These are critical errors. Example: instantiating an object of a class which does not exist or a non-existent function is called. These errors results in termination of the script immediately and default behavior of PHP is shown to them when they take place. Twelve different error types are used to represent these variations internally. Warnings: These are serious errors. Example: attempting to include () file which is not available. These errors are showed to the user by default but they will not result in ending the script. Notices: These errors are non-critical and trivial errors that come across while executing the script in PHP. Example: trying to gain access the variable which is not defined. These errors are not showed to the users by default even if the default behavior is changed.

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Question 5:

How a cookie is destroyed?

[ANSWER] Answer & Explanation:

A cookie is destroyed by setting its expiration time to a past date. Methods to Destroy Cookies: // Method 1: Set expiration to past time setcookie("username", "", time() - 3600); // 1 hour ago setcookie("user_id", "", time() - 1); // 1 second ago // Method 2: Set expiration to Unix epoch setcookie("session_token", "", 1); // Method 3: Using current time minus any value setcookie("preferences", "", time() - 86400); // 24 hours ago Complete Cookie Management: // Create cookie with expiration setcookie("user_data", "john_doe", ["expires" => time() + 3600, // 1 hour "path" => "/", "domain" => ".example.com", "secure" => true, // HTTPS only "httponly" => true, // No JavaScript access "samesite" => "Strict" // CSRF protection]); // Check if cookie exists if (isset($_COOKIE["user_data"])) { echo "Cookie value: " . $_COOKIE["user_data"]; } // Destroy specific cookie function destroyCookie($name, $path = "/", $domain = "") { setcookie($name, "", ["expires" => time() - 3600, "path" => $path, "domain" => $domain]); unset($_COOKIE[$name]); } // Destroy all cookies foreach($_COOKIE as $name => $value) { destroyCookie($name); } Important: The path and domain must match the original cookie settings for successful deletion.

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