



Intro to Android Development 3

Accessibility Capstone

Dec 10, 2010

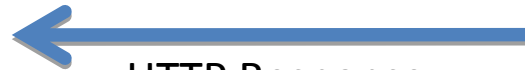
Using Web Services



HTTP Request



HTTP Response



Using Web Services



Why use a web service?

An HTTP Request

<http://www.google.com>

<http://www.geonames.org/>

<http://ws.geonames.org/wikipediaSearch?q=london&maxRows=10>

Adding parameters:
?param1=val1¶m2=val2

An HTTP Response

- Response code

2xx = success! 😊

4xx = client error

5xx = server error

- Response body (XML, JSON)

```
<geonames>
```

```
<entry>
```

```
<lang>en</lang>
```

```
<title>London</title>
```

```
<summary>
```

London (; and largest urban area of England and the United Kingdom. At its core, the ancient City of London, to which the name historically belongs, still retains its limited mediaeval boundaries; but since at least the 19th century the name "London" has also referred to the whole metropolis which has developed around

How to Use a Webservice

- Find a webservice or write your own
example: www.geonames.org
- Construct the URL
add parameters, extra headers (if needed)
- Execute the request asynchronously
- Check the response code
200 = success, 4xx = client error, 5xx = server error
- Parse the response body

Construct the URL

```
final static String PLACE_NAME = "Seattle";
```

```
final static String URL = "http://ws.geonames.org/" +  
    "wikipediaSearch?q=" + PLACE_NAME + "&maxRows=4";
```


Execute the Request

```
public String callWebService(){
    HttpClient httpclient = new DefaultHttpClient();
    HttpGet request = new HttpGet(URL);
    String result = "";

    ResponseHandler<String> handler =
        new BasicResponseHandler();
    try {
        result = httpclient.execute(request, handler);
    } catch (ClientProtocolException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    } catch (IOException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    }
    httpclient.getConnectionManager().shutdown();

    return result;
}
```

Execute the Request

```
public String callWebService(){  
    HttpClient httpClient = new DefaultHttpClient();  
    HttpGet request = new HttpGet(URL);  
    String result = "";  
  
    ResponseHandler<String> handler =  
        new BasicResponseHandler();  
  
    try {  
        result = httpClient.execute(request, handler);  
    } catch (ClientProtocolException e) {  
        e.printStackTrace();  
    } catch (IOException e) {  
        e.printStackTrace();  
    }  
    httpClient.getConnectionManager().shutdown();  
  
    return result;  
}
```

the client will open a connection
and executes the request

Execute the Request

```
public String callWebService(){
    HttpClient httpClient = new DefaultHttpClient();
    HttpGet request = new HttpGet(URL);
    String result = "";
    ResponseHandler<String> handler =
        new BasicResponseHandler();
    try {
        result = httpClient.execute(request, handler);
    } catch (ClientProtocolException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    } catch (IOException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    }
    httpClient.getConnectionManager().shutdown();

    return result;
}
```

request object contains URL

Execute the Request

```
public String callWebService(){
```

this kind of response handler will return the response body as a string if the request was successful

```
HttpClient();  
URL);
```

```
ResponseHandler<String> handler =  
    new BasicResponseHandler();
```

```
try {  
    result = httpClient.execute(request, handler);  
} catch (ClientProtocolException e) {  
    e.printStackTrace();  
} catch (IOException e) {  
    e.printStackTrace();  
}  
httpClient.getConnectionManager().shutdown();
```

```
return result;
```

```
}
```

Execute the Request

```
public String callWebService(){
    HttpClient httpclient = new DefaultHttpClient();
    HttpGet request = new HttpGet(URL);
    String result = "";

    ResponseHandler<String> handler =
        new BasicResponseHandler();

    try {
        result = httpclient.execute(request, handler);
    } catch (ClientProtocolException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    } catch (IOException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    }
    httpclient.getConnectionManager().shutdown();

    return result;
}
```

executes the request and processes the response using the handler

Execute the Request

```
public String callWebService(){
    HttpClient httpClient = new DefaultHttpClient();
    HttpGet request = new HttpGet(URL);
    String result = "";

    ResponseHandler<String> handler =
generated by the handler BasicResponseHandler();
    try {
        result = httpClient.execute(request, handler);
    } catch (ClientProtocolException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    } catch (IOException e) {
        e.printStackTrace();
    }
    httpClient.getConnectionManager().shutdown();

    return result;
}
```

Calling on *callWebService()* and Displaying the Results

```
public void onCreate(Bundle savedInstanceState) {  
    super.onCreate(savedInstanceState);  
    setContentView(R.layout.main);  
  
    TextView tv = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.resultTV);  
    String result = callWebService();  
    tv.setText(result);  
}
```

What's wrong with the example?

1. We don't parse the response.
2. We execute the request synchronously (should be asynchronous).
3. We don't handle errors.

Assignment

Develop an application that uses a web service that is accessible to a blind person.

For extra brownie points: use the GPS!

- Use TTS to make the application accessible.
- Find a web service (you can start from [Geonames](#))
- Find and use a Java XML parser to parse the response body (you can try [SAX](#))

Note: many web services use JSON, not XML.