

Questions for Advanced Ruby on Rails

Category: General - (15 questions)	
Rails helper for making controller attribute available in views	<code>helper_attr :method_name</code>
Ruby: Gem that gives a rich interface that is an upgrade to Scaffold	Streamlined framework
Rails: compact syntax to check a list of strings against a parameter value	<code>["item1", "item2", "item3", ...].include?(params[:user_value])</code>
Prototype: How would you implement a general busy indicator that would automatically start and finish with any Prototype object	<code>register</code> on <code>Create</code> and on <code>Complete</code> functions that handle this with <code>Ajax.Responders.register</code> function
Rails: How do you add benchmarking information to logging when in controller	use <code>.benchmark</code> method of any model class <code>Classname.benchmark "name for benchmark" do</code>
Rails: How do you do benchmark logging when in a view	<code>benchmark helper<% benchmark "name" do -%></code>
Rails: Shortcut helper to add accessors to class attributes	<code>cattr_accessor :var_name</code>
Rails: Helper to chain additional functionality onto function while still calling original function	<code>alias_method_chain :new_stuff, :old_stuff</code> must make a method called <code>old_stuff_with_new_stuff</code> that will get called when <code>old_stuff</code> is called
Function to turn a string into a model if one exists matching in Rails project	<code>"model_name".camelize.constantize</code>
Ruby: What file does irb look for to load code from if present	<code>.irbc</code> from your home directory
Rails: What switch can you use with <code>script/console</code> to reverse all database changes when you exit	<code>--sandbox</code>
Rails: Syntax to call helper methods when in <code>script/console</code>	<code>helper.method_name</code>
4 cache storage mechanisms Rail 2.x offers out of the box	memory, file, DRb, and memcached
Rails: How do you use cache storage mechanism to grab any keyed information	<code>cache(key, :expires_in => xxx) do block end</code>
What is the effect of: <code>rake rails:freeze:edge</code>	it copies entire rails source into <code>vender/rails</code> in a project

Category: Plugins - (13 questions)	
What is Ferret open source project	light weight but high performance text search engine from the Java Lucene project that can be used in Rails
When using Ferret search system how do you add to a model object	acts_as_ferret
What is the Sphinx open source project	stand-alone full-text search engine that accesses MySQL or PostgreSQL directly
What is the Starling open source project	light-weight, persistent queue server that messages can be sent to from Rails
Plugin that simulates a simple daemon using ruby	simple-daemon gem
How can you see a list of sources Rails will use when searching for plugins	ruby script/plugin sources
How can you add another resource to plugin search in Rails	script/plugin source url
How can you remove a plugin source from list used on Rails	script/plugin unsource
How can you install Rails plugin from Subversion repository	-o flag
Rails: How do you generate your own plugin	script/generate plugin MyPlugin
What code is run on Rails app startup from every plugin	init.rb
Rails: What directory in plugins is used to store code for functionality	lib
Rails: 2 standard files for code to be run when plugin is installed / uninstalled	install.rbininstall.rb
Category: Logging - (6 questions)	
Rails: How do you set the logging level for a given environment - test, development, production	In the individual config files, such as, development.rbconfig.log_level = :info
What are the five levels of logging supported by logger object	debug info warn error fatal

<p>Rails: Methods provided by logger to determine if current logger will respond to a given logging level, such as, warn</p>	<pre>.debug?info?warn?error?fatal?</pre>
<p>Rails: How can you override the format of the logger messages being generated</p>	<pre>by overriding the format_message method in the Logger class (in your environment.rb file) class Logger def format_message(severity, timestamp, prognome, msg)</pre>
<p>How can you create your own logger file separate from main one in Rails</p>	<pre>MYLOG = Logger.new("#{RAILS_ROOT}/log/my_log.log") MYLOG.level = Logger::DEBUG</pre>
<p>How can you exclude sensitive parameters from logging in Rails such as password</p>	<pre>class ApplicationController < ActionController::Bas filter_parameter_logging :password end</pre>
<p>Category: Documentation - (7 questions)</p>	
<p>Rake task to generate documentation for a rails project</p>	<pre>rake doc:app</pre>
<p>How do you format documentation comments to produce headers in rDoc</p>	<pre># = Heading one # == Heading two # === Heading three</pre>
<p>RDoc syntax to produce ordered list of items</p>	<pre># 1. One # 2. Two # 3. Three</pre>
<p>RDoc syntax to produce a bulleted list of items</p>	<pre># * One # * Two # * Three</pre>
<p>RDoc syntax to italicize text</p>	<pre># <i>_italicized_</i></pre>
<p>RDoc syntax to bold documentation</p>	<pre># *bold*</pre>
<p>RDoc syntax to do term / definition</p>	<pre># [term] my definition</pre>
<p>Category: Acts as List - (8 questions)</p>	

How do you set up a list relationship between 2 models in ActiveRecord	parent model: has_many children, :order => "position" child model: belongs_to :parent acts_as_list :scope => book
Acts as list methods to move item up and down in list	decrement_position increment_position
Rails: Acts as list methods to determine if record is first or last in list	first?last?
Acts as list methods to determine if an record is higher / lower than another record	higher_item lower_item
Rails: Acts as list method to insert a record at a given position	insert_at
Acts as list methods to move an item higher or lower	move_higher move_lower
Acts as list method to move a record to top or bottom of list	move_to_bottom move_to_top
Acts as list method to remove an item from list	remove_from_list
Category: Action Controller - (21 questions)	
Rails: How can you render a partial to a string in controller	render_to_string(:partial => 'name',)
Rails: What is the following syntax do in routes.rb file:map.connect 'cardbox/:tab_id/:flashcard_id' ,	the :xxxx will translate that part of the url into a param[:xxx] value that is available in controller
Rails: How do you perform validation on urls in the routes.rb file	:requirements parameter
Rails: How do you extend the life of a flash message	.extend method
When you supply an object to the surround_filter in Rails helper what 2 methods must that object implement	before after
How can you stream data directly from controller to client in Rails	stream_data method

Rails: One liner to render and return from controller at the same time	<code>render :action => ... and return</code>
Rails: What method is required to create a filter in a separate class that can then be shared	<code>def self.filter(controller)</code>
What helpers can be used to control the order of before and after filters in Rails controller	<code>prepend_before_filter</code> <code>prepend_after_filter</code>
Rails: When using a method as an <code>around_filter</code> how do you indicate where to run the controller action	yield statement withing the method
Rails: When using a code block as an <code>around filter</code> how do you indicate where to run the controller action	pass a block taking controller and action; <code>around_filter do controller, action </code> <code>do.....action.call</code>
Rails: Instead of using <code>send_file</code> (which uses a lot of memory) how do you send the request back to Apache to serve the file	<code>response.headers['X-Sendfile'] = path</code>
When mapping a field from a form, how do you access the value if field is using format: <code>id="cardbox[name]"</code>	<code>params[:cardbox][:name]</code>
What helper is available on <code>params</code> hash that returns array of specified parameters	<code>.slice(params[:cardbox].slice(:name, :user, ...)</code>
Rails: How would send back a response of 403 forbidden to a request	add <code>:status => 403</code> to the render statement <code>render , :status => 403</code>
Rails: How do you grab the action name being called	<code>controller.action_name</code>
Rails helpers that generate a path to listing action of <code>map.resources</code> controller, ex: <code>users</code>	<code>users_path</code> tack <code>_path</code> on to plural name
Rails helper to generate path to edit path for a <code>map.resource</code> controller, ex: <code>user</code>	<code>edit_user_path(user)</code>
Rails helper to link to the destroy action for <code>map.resource</code> controller, ex: <code>user</code>	<code>user_path(user), :method => :delete</code> the method tells router to send to correct location
Rails helper to generate path to new record action of <code>map.resources</code> controller, ex: <code>user</code>	<code>new_user_path</code>
Rails: How can you find the subdomain the request came to, such as, <code>iphone.yoyobrian.com</code>	<code>request.subdomains.first</code>
Category: Testing - (25 questions)	

How can you use CSV data instead of YAML in loading test data	put the csv file in the fixtures directory and use it just like YAML, testing harness will load it if it is named in the fixture helper on a test file
How do you load test data that is not in the standard directory in Rails	use <pre>Fixtures.create_fixtures(dir, name)</pre> name is the file name minus the extension
Rails: How would you dynamically generate data in a YAML file for testing fixture	you can use eRb, just like in the view<% = xxxx %>
How do you start an interactive ruby session with all the information loaded from rails project	go to root directory of project and type ruby script/console
How do you access information from rails app when using script/console	use the app object to grab app.get app.ModelName
Rails: When creating a table how do you specify a MySQL engine type that will support transactions	create_table :model_name, :options => 'Type=InnoDB' do t
How do you change a current table through Rails migration to support transactions	alter table model_name type=InnoDB;
What does the option: self.use_transactional_features = true accomplish during Rails tests	instead of loading data from YAML data manually each time the whole test is wrapped in a database transaction that rolls back at end of test.
Ruby on Rails: what does the option self.use_instantiated_fixtures do in Rails tests	allows you to access data using: @name_of_yaml_datainstead of:database_name(name_of_yaml_data)
What are Rails cookies based on	Ruby CGI::Cookie class
What Rails test helper can be used to test the url generated by option list	assert_generates
What Rails test helper can be used to test what controller / option a given url will be routed to	assert_recognizes
What Rails test helper can be used to test both url generation and routing of a url at same time	assert_routing
What Rails test helper can be used to test if data is a certain kind of object	assert_kind_of

What file should you put custom assert helpers that will be available to all Rails testers	/test/test_helper.rb
In Rails 2.x fixtures what is new way of linking associated records	by using labels instead of id numbers relationship_name: :name1, :name2 you can use your relationships from model file
Rails: In YAML file how can you grab identity of any named data item	Fixtures.identify(:fixture_name)
In Rails 2.x how can you generate defaults to use for YAML data	DEFAULTS: &DEFAULTS field1: value field2: value add it back in with <<: *DEFAULTS
Rails: 2 gem that allows mocking of objects in testing	FlexMockMocha
Directory in Rails 2.x to allow creation of mocking objects for tests	test/mocks/test directory any module here will be substituted for real code when 'require xxxx' is found during testing
Rails: Testing helper that allows you to compare value between the return value of an expression as a result of what is evaluated in the yielded block	assert_difference
Rails: Testing helper that asserts the final return of code block is true	assert_block
Testing helper that asserts 2 variables reference same object or not	assert_same assert_not_same
Rails: How can you explicitly trigger a respond_to format in a test	add {:format => 'json'} in the parameters list
Rails testing class / method for decoding a json response in testing	ActiveSupport::JSON::decode()
Category: Action Mailer - (2 questions)	
Rails: how do you call a method from a mailer class	must remember to put create_ prefix in front of the method name

Rails: Syntax for attaching files to email in Action Mailer	call the part method with Hash object in the Action Mailer classpart(:content_type => "image/gif", :disposition => "attachment; filename=mypic.gif", transfer_encoding => "base64") do attachment attachment.body = File.read("mypic.gif")end
Category: Debugging - (8 questions)	
How do you reload rails after changing code when using script/console	reload!
How can you do a check of ruby syntax from the command line	ruby -cw filename.rb
Rails: How do you add a breakpoint in code	breakpoint "Symantic Name"
What gem is required to use debugger with Rails 2.x	ruby-debug
How do you start rails app with debugger with Rails 2.x	ruby script/server -u or --debugger
How do you move to the next breakpoint when debugging Rails from console	Ctrl-D (or Ctrl-Z with Windows)
Rails: How can you output the environment information to a view for debugging purposes	<%= debug(request.env) %>
When raising an error how can you pass in a formatted model object	rails myObj.to_yaml
Category: Routing - (21 questions)	
Way to add REST based routes to a controller	map.resources :controller_name
Rake task to see defined routes	rake routes
What does form_for generate when used with REST based routing	hidden field with _method name and value of "PUT" system knows how to correctly map to REST using map.resource in route.rb
What does :collection do in map.resources line:	it maps over actions that apply to all cardboxes, so it would route
map.resources :cardboxes, :collection => {:search => :get}	/cardboxes/search

<p>What is the syntax to generate a path using route helper for search in following:</p> <pre>map.resources :cardboxes, :collection => {:search => :get}</pre>	<pre>search_cardboxes_path</pre>
<p>What is the significance of :member when doing map.resources</p> <pre>map.resources :cardboxes, :member => {:copy => :post}</pre>	<p>it maps an action that applies to one cardbox not whole collection</p> <pre>url: /cardboxes/5/copy</pre>
<p>What is the difference between :collection / :member in map.resources</p>	<p>:collection creates map to actions that apply to all model objects</p> <p>:member creates map to actions that apply to a single instance of model</p>
<p>Rails: Shortcut to nest flashcards underneath cardbox routes in route.rb using REST syntax</p>	<pre>map.resources :cardboxes, :has_many => :flashcards</pre>
<p>Syntax for form_for when dealing with nested resources</p>	<pre>form_for([@top_model, @nested_model]) do</pre>
<p>Rails: When responding to Ajax call, how can you respond that the call was a success without sending any data back</p>	<pre>repond_to do format format.js {head :ok}</pre>
<p>Rails: When responding to Ajax call how do you indicate HTTP 422 response (bad)</p>	<pre>repond_to do format format.js {head :unprocessable_entity}</pre>
<p>Rails: How do you create routes for a singular resource with REST syntax</p>	<pre>map.resource :nameuse singular resource instead of resources</pre>
<p>New way in Rails 2.x to specify the routing for the base url '/'</p>	<pre>map.root</pre>
<p>In Rails 2.x what are 2 ways to use regular expressions to match items in route</p>	<pre>directly map.connect ':controller/show/:id', :id => /xxx/ or with :requirements map.connect ':controller/show/:id', :requirements => {:id => /xxx/}</pre>
<p>What is a route glob in Rails</p>	<p>when the last parameter has a * before it rails will append the rest of url to the variable</p> <pre>map.connect 'cardboxes/list/*specs'</pre>

<p>Rails: Difference between routing shortcuts name_path and name_url</p>	<p>_url generates full URI including site name_path generates the url minus the website http://www.xxx.com part</p>
<p>What is syntax map.with_options in Rails routing</p>	<p>allows you to put multiple routes to same controller together</p>
<p>What is the :path_prefix syntax in Rails routing</p>	<p>used to nest one resource underneath another</p>
<p>When generating links how can you format one for xml or other :format version</p>	<p>formatted_xxx_path(object, "xml")</p>
<p>What Rails object holds the routes for accessing in script/console</p>	<p>ActionController::Routing::Routes</p>
<p>Rails map helper for nesting urls, such as, admin/user</p>	<pre>map.namespace :admin do admin map.resources :usersend</pre>
<p>Category: Setup - (9 questions)</p>	
<p>When creating a new rails project, how do you specify database</p>	<pre>--database=xxx rails new_project --database=mysql</pre>
<p>Rails: How do you register new MIME types for controller</p>	<pre>in mime_types.rb file in config/initializers folderMIME::Type.register 'audio/mpeg', :mp3</pre>
<p>How can you add in custom code to all ActiveRecord models in project</p>	<pre>in config/initializers/core_extensions.rb (or other file here) ActiveRecord::Base.extend MyModule module should be in the lib directory of project</pre>
<p>Rails: How can you find the current environment (production, test, etc) being used</p>	<pre>ENV["RAILS_ENV"]</pre>
<p>Ruby: What is the difference between require and load when adding in other classes</p>	<pre>require - caches code and reuses from cacheload - loads fresh everytime the statement is encountered</pre>
<p>Rails: Global variable that give access to default logger instance</p>	<pre>RAILS_DEFAULT_LOGGER</pre>
<p>In Rails environment, how to specify a gem is part of the project</p>	<pre>config.gem gem_name</pre>
<p>In Rails environment, how to require a specific version of gem</p>	<pre>config.gem gem_name, :version=>'1.1'</pre>

In Rails environment how do you require a gem from a non-standard repository	<code>config.gem gem_name, :source=> 'www.library.com'</code>
Category: Action View - (19 questions)	
ActionView helper that creates a tag surrounding content	<code>content_tag(:tag, content)</code>
When using <code>form_for</code> how do you tell it to use a different builder class	<code>:builder => MyBuilder</code>
How can you create your own version of <code>form_for</code> builders	subclassing FormBuilder class <code>class MyBuilder < ActionView::Helpers::FormBuilder</code>
Rails: What variable is used in FormBuilder to reference the view context in which form element is being built	<code>@template</code>
Rails: Method that allows you to grab part of a template into a variable that can then be used other places	<code>.capture@my_var.capture do... stuffend</code>
Rails: Elegant solution to make a one liner for showing a tag with content conditionally	<code><%= content_tag('p', @my_text) if xxxxx %></code>
What does the <code>.builder</code> file ending trigger in Rails template	causes Rails to execute the template with <code>Builder::XmlMarkup</code> library
Rails: How can you check for the presence of a variable in a ActionView template	use the <code>local_assigns</code> hash <code>local_assigns.has_key? :my_var</code>
How can you tell how many times a partial has been executed in Rails	special variable <code>partialname_counter</code>
Rails: When using <code>form_for</code> where is the builder grabbing the values for fields from	straight from database before any code in Model file, so overriding attributes won't work
Rails: View helper to return an escaped version of text that ignores already escaped characters	<code>escape_once</code>
Rails: View helper that turns all web and email address in text into clickable links	<code>auto_link</code>
View helper that turns text with Markdown codes into HTML	<code>markdown</code>
Ruby on Rails: view helper that turns all the Textile markup into HTML	<code>textilize</code>
Rails: View helper that wraps text over a certain size with line breaks	<code>word_wrap</code>

As of Rails 2.0, how is the format separated from the rendering engine in templates	by using naming scheme: action.format.renderer example for show response to js using the rjs render engine, file should be named: show.js.rjs
Rails: How can you use map to generate a series of tags from a has_many collection	<%= user.comments.map { comment content_tag :div, h(comment.content)}.join("/n") %>
Rails naming scheme for view that will be rendered if there are no more specific views for the respond_to format	action.erb more specific would be action.html.erb or action.js.erb
Rails: what is the difference between h and simple_format helpers	h (shortcut for html_escape) - generates escape characters for HTML display, like turning & into & simple_format - replaces any single line breaks with and double line breaks with <p> tags
Category: RSpec - (7 questions)	
RSpec way of creating an object that is similar to a test case	describe "string description of case we are doing" do
RSpec way of creating an object that is similar to a test method below the describe statement	it "description of behavior" do
RSpec scripts are collections of _____	behaviors
Methods used in RSpec to run code before and after running every example	before(:each) after(:each)
RSpec syntax to do basic verification	should and should_not methods which can be run on any object
What is the RSpec syntax of be_xxxx that is used with should and should_not methods	it transforms be_xxx into the xxx? method calls on objects be_valid is turned into .valid? call
What is RSpec syntax to generate has_key on target in should / should_not predicate	have_key(:target)
Category: XML - (8 questions)	
Ruby: When converting .to_xml, how do you limit the fields used in creating XML	:only => [:field1, field2.....]
Rails: When converting with .to_xml, how do you create XML without the <?xml instruction tag at top	:skip_instruction => true
When using .to_xml, how do you change root element in xml output	:parent =>

Ruby: When using <code>.to_xml</code> , how do you get output to not include data type in tags	<code>:skip_types => true</code>
When using <code>.to_xml</code> , how do you get Rails to include associated records in output	<code>:include</code>
When using <code>.to_xml</code> in Rails, how do you get additional model method results to be included in output	<code>:methods =></code>
What has replaced ActionWebService in Rails 2.x	<code>ActiveResource</code>
Ruby: How can you totally customize the xml returned by <code>.to_xml</code>	use <code>:proc =></code> parameter to specify a function that will be run to add text to the stream
Category: ActionView - URL helper - (13 questions)	
Rails helper that generates a form containing a single button that submits to the URL created by the set of options	<code>button_to</code>
Rails helper: <code>button_to</code>	Generates a form containing a single button that submits to the URL created by the set of options
Rails <code>url_for</code> option to specify the anchor to be appended to url	<code>:anchor => "xxxxx"</code> will add <code>#xxxxx</code> to end of url
Rails helper: <code>url_for(@user)</code> will generate what	<code>/users/#{user.id}</code>
Rails helper <code>url_for</code> option to return full pathname including host	<code>:only_path => false</code>
Rails helper <code>url_option</code> to generate a link to referring page	<code>url_for :back</code>
Rails <code>button_to</code> helper option to generate a path to destroy action for <code>map.resource</code> controller	<code>:method => :delete</code>
Rails action view helper to return true if current page was generated by set options such as: <code>{:action=> :my_action,...}</code>	<code>current_page?</code>
Rails helper <code>link_to</code> option to have link open up in new window	<code>:popup => true</code>
Rails: How can you generate a restful path using <code>map.resources</code> helper for search controller with query string parameters	<code>searches_path(:foo=>"bar", :baz=>"sdf")/searches?foo=bar&bax=sdf</code>
Syntax for rails <code>link_to</code> to point to the <code>map.resources</code> destroy action	<code>link_to "Delete", @model, :method => :delete</code>

<p>Rails syntax for generating a more elaborate target link in link_to</p>	<pre>link_to @model do ... the stuff here will be the target linkend</pre>
<p>Rails action view helpers to create conditional links</p>	<pre>link_to_unless(condition, ... link options) do ...this gets done if condition trueend link_to_if(condition,link options) do .this gets done if condition falseend</pre>
<p>Category: Active Record - (27 questions)</p>	
<p>Difference between build_association and create_association methods in ActiveRecord</p>	<pre>build_association does not save the new object</pre>
<p>Rails: Options for has_many to specify callbacks triggered on adding / deleting associated object</p>	<pre>:after_add:before_add:after_remove:before_ remove</pre>
<p>Rails: Option with has_many that specifies code to extend association methods in ActiveRecord</p>	<pre>:extend</pre>
<p>Rails: Option with has_many to specify the sql used to find records for association</p>	<pre>:finder_sql</pre>
<p>When doing a has_many :through association, if the connecting model is polymorphic how do you specify which model to connect to on the other side</p>	<pre>:source_type</pre>
<p>Rails: When creating validations in ActiveRecord how can you limit them to just create or update</p>	<pre>:on => :create</pre>
<p>When using :if with ActiveRecord validation helpers, what 3 types of arguments can be used</p>	<pre>string - which will be eval'ed symbol - which is name of method to be used block - proc which will be run</pre>
<p>What protection should be placed on ActiveRecord call back methods</p>	<pre>should be made protected or private</pre>
<p>How can you add multiple callbacks to an ActiveRecord model</p>	<pre>using the macro style declaration before_save :my_callback</pre>
<p>ActiveRecord callback that is invoked whenever a new ActiveRecord model is instantiated</p>	<pre>after_initialize</pre>
<p>ActiveRecord callback that is invoked whenever an ActiveRecord loads an object from database</p>	<pre>after_find</pre>
<p>ActiveRecord helper to map properties onto a complex object (not a table)</p>	<pre>composed_of</pre>

Rails: When accepting params from a form, how do you map the model information into the id's of form elements	use the pattern model[field]ex: id="cardbox[name]"
What is an abstract ActiveRecord class in Rails	one that does not correspond to a table but is meant to be used as a base class to other ActiveRecord model classes
Ruby on Rails: how do you create an abstract ActiveRecord class	self.abstract_class = true
How do you turn on Unicode handling in Ruby scripts	\$KCODE = 'u' at top of script
How do you make a regular expression unicode aware in Ruby	use /u modifier /.../u
What Ruby library can be used to override most String methods to make them unicode aware	jcode
Ruby Regexp method that allows you to combine multiple expressions into one for one pass	.union
Active Record syntax to check if a certain field name has changed	.name_change? add _change to end of name
ActiveRecord syntax to return if a record has changed before saving	.changed?
ActiveRecord syntax to grab the previous value of a changed field	_was added to field name .name_was
ActiveRecord syntax to grab an array with old and new value of a changed field	_change on end of field name .name_change
ActiveRecord method to grab an array of all the changed fields in a record	.changed
ActiveRecord method to grab a hash of all changes in a record	.changes
When you are modifying a field in ActiveRecord and not using attribute = syntax, how can you flag the field as having been changed so it is marked dirty.	_will_change! added to end of field name record.name_will_change!record.name.upcase
Rails: When a ActiveRecord model has a has_many relationship what is the helper for generating a new record of the many item	.build(:field1 => ...).user.comments.build()
Category: Active Record 2 - (24 questions)	

Rails: Statement to prevent an migration from being reversed	<code>raise IrreversibleMigration</code>
What table does Rails store the schema information into in database	<code>schema_info</code>
Rails: When using script/console, how can you get all changes to database reversed when you exit:	<code>use the -s option</code> <code>ruby script/server -s</code>
Rails: Syntax to find a group of records by id's, such as 1, 5, 6	<code>MyModel.find([1,5,6])</code>
Rails: Syntax to get find to omit a certain number of records from start of result set	<code>:offset</code>
ActiveRecord find parameter to specify the join sql fragment	<code>:joins</code>
ActiveRecord find parameter to make results read only	<code>:readonly</code>
ActiveRecord syntax for including multiple tables in a join with find	<code>:include => [model1, model2,]</code>
ActiveRecord validation helper that iterates over a set of attributes, calling a block	<code>validates_each</code>
ActiveRecord validation helpers that check for values being in or not in an array	<code>validates_exclusion_of</code> <code>validates_inclusion_of</code>
ActiveRecord syntax for starting a transaction on a Model	<code>MyModel.transaction(@item1, @item2, ...)</code> <code>do</code> <code>end</code>
What type of MySQL database engine supports transactions and what is the default engine used	InnoDB supports transactions MyISAM is the default
What class can be used to set up observers for ActiveModel events outside of the model hooks such as after_create	<code>ActiveRecord::Observer</code>
Rails: Once an ActiveRecord::Observer is set up how do you register with system	<code>in</code> <code>environment.rb</code> <code>config.active_record.observers = :modelname_observer</code>
What is the difference between acts_as_list and acts_as_nested_set	<code>acts_as_nested_set</code> contains more information but is slower when updating list
When using tables that don't follow Rails naming convention, how do you tell the model	<code>set_table_name "actual_name"</code>
Rails: When using a table that has a primary key other than "id" how do you tell the model	<code>set_primary_key "key_name"</code>

What is a polymorphic relationship in ActiveRecord	when using a single name to connect one table to multiple tables the connecting name represents the role that the other tables play in the relationship
Rails: Syntax for setting up polymorphic relationship between 2 models in ActiveRecord what is the syntax for the multiple tables that are defined by a single relationship to a single table	use :as attribute to name the relationship has_many :phone_numbers, :as => :callable
Syntax for setting up polymorphic relationship in ActiveRecord for the single table that is connected to multiple tables by a single relationship	you use the relationship name established by :as in other tables and set polymorphic to true belongs_to :callable, :polymorphic => true
When you have a polymorphic relationship in ActiveRecord, what 2 fields are needed to make the relationship work	relationship_id relationship_type relationship is the definition of :as => xxxxx
ActiveRecord helper that allows you to set database query conditions that merge with passed in query	with_scope
ActiveRecord model helper that allows you to declare a named scope that can be used with model	named_scope :my_name proc =>.....
ActiveRecord model helper that allows you to declare a named scope that can be used with model	named_scope :my_name proc =>.....
Category: Active Record 3 - (13 questions)	
Rails: What is the trick to overriding a default attribute accessor	use the read_attribute(:name) without the method will call itself in a nested iteration and generate an error
Rails: Model method that returns a hash of all attributes and values	attributes
Difference between methods update_attribute and update_attributes	singular version does not do validation checks and updates only one attribute plural version goes through validation checks
Difference between calling .destroy and .delete as class methods in Rails models	delete uses SQL and bypasses validation by not loading each instance. destroy loads each value and runs through regular callbacks such as before_destroy
What parameter can be used in ActiveRecord finds to specify the table portion of call	:from option

Syntax for creating an associated record in ActiveRecord without using <<	model1.model2.create
Difference between .create and << syntax when creating an associated record in ActiveRecord	<< is transactional and triggers callbacks
Active Record method to remove all records from an association	.clear
Rails: Difference between .delete(*records) and .delete_all in removing associations in ActiveRecord	delete_all loads all records into memory and then deletes them sequentially
How do you destroy all records associated with another in ActiveRecord	.destroy_all
Difference between using .length and .size when determining the number of associated records in ActiveRecord	.length will always load the associated records before counting.size will count records if loaded, otherwise find size with a COUNT(*) sql call without loading them
Rails: Method to replace one group of associated records with another	.replace(other_array)
Active record syntax to validate length of field is between 5 and 10 characters	validates_length_of :name, :in => 5..10
Category: JavaScript Helpers - (4 questions)	
Rails button_to_function syntax to render an update_page block to use rjs syntax for generating function	button_to_function 'Name', do page page[:something].replaceend
Rails helper to properly escape text for javascript	escape_javascript
Rails helper to generate a javascript <script> block	javascript_tag
Rails link_to_function option to give a back link if user has javascript disabled	:href =>
Category: Form Options Helpers - (9 questions)	
Rails select options builders take an optional parameter that can be used to set unselected option that is blank or has a prompt at top of option list	:include_blank => true (makes it blank) :include_blank => "prompt string"
Rails select builder option that puts a prompt at top of option list if there isn't a value already selected	:prompt => 'Pick one'

<p>Rails select builder option to manually specify which item is selected</p>	<p>:index => value</p>
<p>Rails view helper to build a select tag with options coming from a collection that has a has_many relationship to select object</p>	<p>collection_select(object, method, collection, value_method, text_method)</p>
<p>Rails view helper that can generate options tags that include option groups, operated on a nested array or hash</p>	<p>grouped_options_for_select The first value serves as the <optgroup> label while the second value must be an array of options.["North America",["United States","US"],["Canada","CA"]]</p>
<p>Action view helper that can generate option tags for select using a collection that has a has_many relationship that can be called to generate options for each optgroup that comes from main collection</p>	<p>option_groups_from_collection_for_select</p>
<p>Action view helper that generates options for select from an array of either single or 2 element arrays</p>	<p>options_for_select</p>
<p>Action view helper method that generates option from a collection of objects that respond to 2 methods for generating value and display</p>	<p>options_from_collection_for_select</p>
<p>Rails: 2 action view methods for generating a time zone select or options for time zone select</p>	<p>time_zone_selecttime_zone_options_for_select</p>
<p>Category: ActiveSupport - (4 questions)</p>	
<p>Rails: How do you include memoizable behavior in class</p>	<p>extend ActiveSupport::Memoizable</p>
<p>Rails: Syntax for making a function have memoizable behavior</p>	<p>memoize :function_name</p>
<p>Rails: If you have marked a function as memoizable, how can you force the function to be evaluated again</p>	<p>pass an extra last argument of truemy_function(...., true)</p>
<p>When using ActiveSupport::Memoization how long is the value kept</p>	<p>for each session only, next request starts all over again</p>
<p>Category: i18n - (4 questions)</p>	
<p>Where are the files for Rails localization located</p>	<p>config/locales directory each language is .yml ex: en.yml or fr.yml</p>
<p>When you are in a Rails view how do you print out an internationalized string from i18n directory</p>	<p>t 'nested.name'</p>

How can you set the locale for a Rails user session	<code>I18n.locale = 'en'</code>
Rails: how do you grab a string from I18n package if not in view	<code>I18n.translate('name.of.string')</code>
Category: Rake - (2 questions)	
Rake task that installs all gems that have been marked in environment.rb file with gem.require statements	<code>rake gems:install</code>
Rake tasks that checks into vender/gems all gems that have been marked in environment.rb file with gem.require statements	<code>rake gems:unpack</code>