

# A Brief Overview of Java Server Page (JSP) programming

JSP has four predefined variables:

- request
  - the `HttpServletRequest` object
- response
  - the `HttpServletResponse` object
- out
  - `PrintWriter` object used to send output to client
- session
  - `HttpSession` object associated with request

JSP includes four scripting elements:

- JSP page directive

```
<%@ page import="java.util.*" %>
```

  - The main use of a JSP page directive is to include imports for the compiler.
- JSP declaration

```
<%! private int accessCount=0; %>
```

  - A JSP declaration is used to define, and possibly initialize, a variable. The declaration is executed only the first time the .jsp page is executed (after translation).
- JSP expression

```
<%= new Date() %>
```

  - A JSP "expression" is used to insert a value directly into the output. The expression is evaluated, converted to a `String`, and inserted into the page.
- JSP scriptlet

```
<%
String wordList=(String) session.getAttribute("wordList");
if(wordList==null)
{
    out.println("wordList is empty");
}
```

```
else
{
    out.println(wordList);
}
%>
```

- A JSP "scriptlet" is a block of Java code that will be executed.

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