

# API

WASA: Web and Software Architecture

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- definition of allowed interactions between two parts of software

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  - possible requests
  - their parameters
  - return values
  - any data format they require

CONSUMER <=> API <=> PROVIDER

- explicit interface
- information hiding
- unbreakable contract

- APIs for programming languages
- operating system APIs
- software libraries
- hardware APIs
- web APIs

- private: e.g., for internal use of a company
- public: available for use by the public
  - access may be restricted to some users only. API tokens
- Interface stability: changes may break compatibility with clients
  - mark parts that may change because not stable yet (beta)
  - mark parts as 'deprecated' if they will be removed or not supported in the future

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## through documentation

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*a free text explanation*

Possible cons:

- incomplete or missing
- unclear
- outdated

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## through a description file

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*a machine-readable specification*

Pros:

- human- and machine-readable
  - automatic validation
  - code generation
  - mock servers (for testing)
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- vendor-neutral description format for HTTP-based remote API
- industry standard for describing modern APIs
- broadly adopted

```
openapi: 3.0.0
info:
  title: An example OpenAPI document
  description: |
    This API allows writing down marks on a Tic Tac Toe board
    and requesting the state of the board or of individual squares
  version: 0.0.1
paths: {} # No endpoints defined yet
```

## Hi-Lo Game

- I think a secret number between 1 and 100
- You try to guess it in max 10 trials
- Each trial, I will tell you if your guess is too high, or too low

# Hi-Lo Game Service Requirements

1. start a new game
2. accept a guess (up to 10 guesses), and return hi, lo, or correct
3. reset a game, generating a new secret number
4. obtain the list of each guess in a game, with related results
5. obtain the list of all games, with final result (win/lose) and number of guesses

Which resources would you design?

- <https://www.openapis.org>
- <https://oai.github.io/Documentation/>