

## THE REQUEST AND RESPONSE CYCLE IN THE INTERNET

**Internet** is the network between devices that allows **clients** and **servers** to exchange information.

Let's go back in time,say 100 years back.

You need to send a mail to your friend in the UK through NIPOST.

You would have to:

1. Write your mail
2. Specify your address
3. Drop the mail in mailbox
4. The mail goes through NIPOST and arrives at it's destination.

In this situation :

You are the **client**.

NIPOST is the **server**.

Your mail is the **request**.

Your delivered mail is the **response**.

A **client** will send a **request** to the **server**,upon receipt the **server** will send a **response** back to the **client** provided the **request** was made in a language (**HTTP**) the **server** understands.

**HTTP** (Hyper text transfer protocol ) is a general rule for how the client and the server can communicate .

The **request and response** cycle starts with a **client** entering a web address,an HTTP **request** is built by the **server**,the **server** reads the **request** and generates an HTTP **response** ,the **response** is handed over to the **internet** which in turns displays the response to the **client**.