Layer 1s refers to the base layer of a blockchain network like ethereum, bitcoin, solana and binance smart chain. Some of the fundamentals of these networks are as follows:

- Recording transactions on the blockchain
- Securing the network
- Coordinating nodes
- Maintaining consensus

Layer 1s are typically designed to be decentralised, secure and scalable.

The two most popular types of Layer 1 blockchains are Proof-of-work (PoW) and Proof-of-stake (PoS) blockchains. PoW is based on a mining mechanism to secure the network which adds new blocks to the block chain. It usually consists of miners solving the complex mathematical puzzles in order to add new blocks to the blockchain. The first miners to solve the puzzle is rewarded with that newly minted cryptocurrency. PoS is more energy efficient than PoW blockchains as nodes are chosen to validate transactions based on the amount of cryptocurrency being held which makes PoS more scalable and sustainable than PoW blockchains. Ethereum is an example of PoS, they performed an upgrade not to long ago to move from PoW to the more efficient PoS mechanism and bitcoin is an example of a PoW blockchain.