Basic CSS

Author: Dwight VanTuyl
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The LINGUIST List

What is CSS?

- **<u>C</u>ascading**: Multiple styles can overlap in order to specify a range of style from a whole web site down to a unique element. Which style gets applied pertains to the rules of CSS cascading logic.

- **<u>S</u>tyle**: CSS deals specifically with the **presentation** domain of designing a web page (color, font, layout, etc).

- **<u>S</u>heet**: Normally, CSS is a file **separate** from the HTML file – linked to the HTML file through its <head> (exceptions apply).

Why CSS?

- Allows for much **richer document appearances** than HTML.

- **Reduce workload** by centralizing commands for visual appearance instead of scattered throughout the HTML doc.

- Use **same style on multiple pages**.

- Reduce page **download size**.

Use HTML for content; CSS for Presentation.
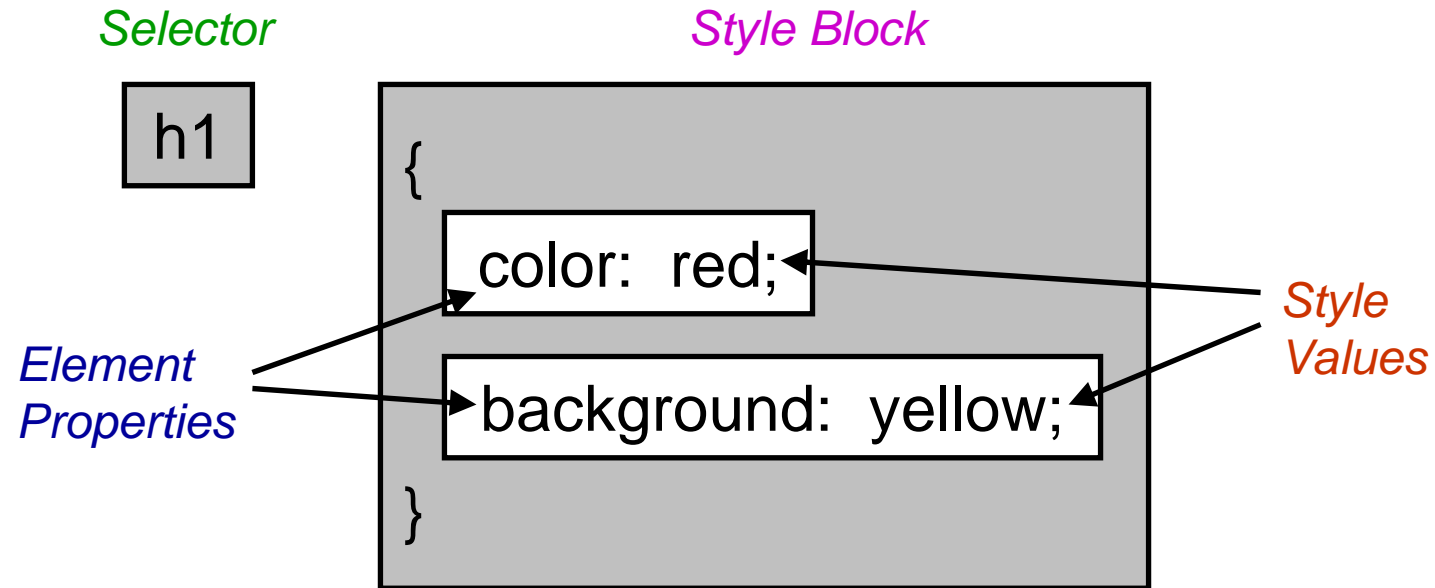
Reference CSS from HTML

<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="lipstick.css" />

pig.html

lipstick.css

```
<html>
        <head>
        <link rel="stylesheet"
        type="text/css"
        href="lipstick.css" />
        </head>
    …
</html>
```

CSS Syntax

Selector   *Style Block*

h1

{

color: red;

background: yellow;

}

Element Properties

Style Values

- The **Selector** selects elements on the HTML page.

- The associated **Style Block** applies its **Style Values** to the selected **Element's Properties**

Selectors

- Select elements to apply a declared style.
- Selector types:
  - <u>Element Selectors</u>: selects **all** elements of a specific **type** (<body>, <h1>, <p>, *etc.*)
  - <u>Class Selectors</u>: selects **all** elements that belong to a given **class.**
  - <u>ID Selectors</u>: selects a **single** element that's been given a **unique id**.
  - <u>Pseudo Selectors</u>: combines a selector with a **user activated state** (:hover, :link, :visited)

Element Selectors

- Finds **all** HTML elements that have the specified **element type**.
- Example:

```
h1 {
    color: blue;
}
```

Finds **all** elements of type <**h1**> and makes the text color blue.

Class Selectors

- Finds **all** elements of a given class – based on the attribute's **class value**.
- Syntax: **.classname** (Remember the dot means class selector)
- Example:

```
.legs {
    font-weight: bold;
    background: pink;
}
```

Finds **all** elements whose class = "**legs**" and makes their font bold and their backgrounds pink.

ID Selectors

- Finds **a single** element that's been given a **unique id** – based on the attribute's **id value**.
- Syntax: **#idname** (Remember the pound-sign means id selector)
- Example:

```
#snout{
    border: solid red;
}
```

Finds **a single element** whose id = "**snout**" and gives it a solid red border.

Pseudo-Selectors

- Apply styles to a **user activated state** of an element.
- If used, must be declared in a **specific order** in the style sheet.
- General Purpose Pseudo-Selector:
  - **:hover**   Element with mouse over
- Specific to hyperlinks (and/or buttons)
  - **a:active**   A link or button that is currently being **clicked** on.
  - **a:link**   A link that has **NOT** been visited yet.
  - **a:visited**   A link that **HAS** been visited.

Grouping Selectors

- Lets say you want to apply the same style to several different selectors. **Don't repeat** the style – **use a comma**!!
- Syntax: **sel1, sel2, sel3** (Remember the comma to group several different selectors)
- Example:

```
h1, .legs, #snout{
    font-size: 20pt;
}
```

Finds all elements of type <**h1**>, all elements with class="**legs**" and the single element whose id = "**snout**" then makes their font-size 20pt.

Conflict Resolution

- It's possible to have **different** styles applied to the **same** selector (**C**ascading**SS**), but what if the styles tell the browser to do **conflicting** things?

- Rules:
  - Which selector is more **specific**?
  - If the selectors are the same, then which style was applied **last**?

Sharpen Your Selector

- Order of specificity:

  (*specific*) **id**, **class**, **element type** (*ambiguous*)

- Combine selectors:

  Elementype.classname   or   Elementype#idname

  e.g.   **p.legs**   or   **h2#snout**

Sharpen Your Selector (cont.)

- **Descendant Selectors:**

    Specify the context in the HTML tree from each ancestor down to the desired element – each separated by a space.

    e.g.   **body.pig   p.pig-head   #snout**

- **HTML Tree:**
    <body class="pig">
            <p class="pig-head">
                    <h1 id="snout">
                            Snout Snout Snout
                    </h1>
            </p>
    </body>

<u>Firebug</u> – Firefox Addon

- Tool for figuring out what styles are being applied to which element (and which are being overwritten due to conflict resolution).

- http://getfirebug.com/

- Right-click on an element,

  then select **"Inspect Element"** from the dropdown menu.

\<span> Element tag

- Useful for applying style to text within another HTML element.

- Use **SPARINGLY** – unlike \<h1> or \<p>, \<span> has no semantic meaning.

- Remember, HTML is for content and HTML tags are for describing that content to non-human or visually-impaired readers. \<span> is just used to make things "pretty."

<div> Element tag

- Useful for dividing parts of the page into sections.
- Creates a "box" with the following attributes:
  - margin
  - padding
  - border
  - height
  - width
  - (..and lots more)

- Primary element used for CSS Layouts
  (more information in CSS Layouts tutorial)

Color Properties

- **color:** specifies the text color.
- **background-color:** specifies the background color.

black; or #000000;
red; or #FF0000;
lime; or #00FF00;
blue; or #0000FF;
white; or #000000;

…and more see:
http://www.w3schools.com/css/css_colornames.asp

Colorzilla – Firefox Addon

- Easily find color values for elements in a document.

- http://www.iosart.com/firefox/colorzilla/

- Click on the eyedropper icon in the bottom-left of the browser and select any color in your browser window.

- Right-click on the eyedropper for more options.

Background Image Properties

- **background-image:** url(../location/of/image.jpg)
- **background-repeat:** tile image in background
- **background-position:** *vertical* (top, center, bottom, or *size*) *horizontal* (left, center, right, or *size*)
- **background-attachment**: (*scroll* or *fixed)*

Font Properties

- font-family: times, arial, **serif**, sans-serif, `monospace;`

- font-style: *italic;*

- font-weight: (**bold**, **bolder**, lighter, or 100 – **900;)**

- font-size: *size*;

  …or shorthand

- font: style weight *size* family;

Text Properties

- **text-indent:** indents first line of a paragraph according to size
- **text-align:** *right;* or *left;* or *center;* or *justify;*
- **text-decoration:** *none*; or *underline;*
- **text-transform:** *Capitalize;*
- **Line-height:** added vertical space to each line of text according to size

List Properties

- **list-style-type:** *none, disc, circle, square,* (other types available)
- **list-style-position**: *inside* or *outside*
- **list-style-image:** url(../path/to/image.jpg)

  …or shorthand
- **list-style:** type   position   image

Border Properties

- **border-width:** (thin, medium, thick, or *size)*
- **border-style:** (none, hidden, dotted, dashed, solid, double, groove, ridge, inset, or outset)
- **border-color:** *color*

…or shorthand

- **border(-top, -right, -left, -bottom):** width style color