Before we go deeper in the world of WWW, HTTP, URL and HTML, first, let’s have a general overview of how these four 4 big words are related.

In order for a communication to take place among humans, there should be a message, a sender and a receiver. However, for computers, two more factors are necessary and these are addresses(point to ip and mac address) and a protocol.

**Internet**

Network is a connection of computers that can be obtained using wire medium (e.g cables) or wireless medium (e.g. satellite). Computers in a network can communicate with one another if configured properly.

Internet (internetworks) is a worldwide collection of interconnected networks. Computers usually connect to the Internet though an Internet Service Provider. What the IS provider does is to assign the computer an IP address.

**Addresses - IP Addresses and MAC Addresses**

Computers that are connected in the Internet can communicate with one another successfully because of IP addresses and MAC addresses.IP addresses are used to locate the computer in a network (similar to the home address of the person who will receive the message) while MAC addresses is used to determine the specific computer to whom the message is for (person who will receive the message)

**Protocol - HTTP**

Applications (e.g web browsers, web servers, proxies, gateways) of computers in a network communicate with other applications using a protocol - the http.

For example:

In order for you(the client) to access websites like Youtube, Facebook, Twitter or CNN, you need a web browser where you can enter the URL of the site you want to visit. What the browser does is to connect to the server of the website and send a request message after a connection with the server has been established. When the server receives the request message, it will try to interpret the message and send a response message containing the HTML file of the site you want to visit. The browser will then interpret the response message and try to display the html file in your browser. When the request has been serviced, the connection between the client and server will be terminated. The response message may contain links to other files which needs to be accessed in order for the website to properly render, this connection must be maintained even after the first request has been serviced. (Persistent connection will be discussed here in detail)

**URL - Uniform Resource Locator**

The URL is a unique address that is associated to each web resources. This are used to identify the resources on the web. It is used by browsers as part of the request message.

**HTML - Hypertext Markup Language**

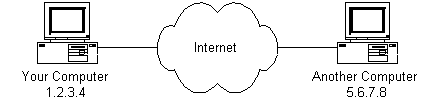
The HTML is a markup language that is used by developers to write the content of a website. The html files is usually part of the response message when web browsers and servers communicate with one another.

**WWW - The World Wide Web**

WWW is a collection of web resources and application which allows you to access resources via the Internet.

* Web resources - hypertext or hypermedia
* Application - like browsers, web servers, applications servers
* Internet (link to internet above)

**SUMMARY**

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(Diagram 1 from : 2002, 2005 Rus Shuler, all rights reserved)

Computer 1 (C1) and Computer 2 (C2) are connected through the Internet and they have their own IP address. Computer 1 wants to access the site being hosted by Computer 2 so C1 will send a request message to C2 using the url or the website and http. C2 will send a response message using http and this message contain the html files of the website C1 asked for. The collection of Internet, the computer applications and the web resources is the WWW.