Putting on the style

intermediate web design and development

Week 3: Cascade and Text Formatting

Glenn Clarkson

Learning outcomes for tonight

- From last week

- Styling for others

- Style conflicts

- Cascade

- Inheritance

- Specificity

- Formatting text

Attribute selectors

`[class~="caution"]`

- Matches a class attribute containing a whitespace-separated list of words, one of which equals caution exactly.

  matches `<p class="caution">`
  and `<strong class="important caution">`
  and `<div class="caution highlight">`,
  but not `<p class="my-caution">`
  or `<ul class="cautions">`

Viewing your examples

- Some of the examples you will work on during the course <u>do not preview accurately</u> in Dreamweaver's Design view, you really should view them in Firefox

- Explorer 8/9 does not have the capability to render all of the CSS3 and HTML 5 features

- To quickly switch from Dreamweaver to Firefox (once you have both running) use the Alt+Tab key combination

- To refresh the page you are viewing in a browser use F5 and it will show the updated version

- Ctrl+S will save the currently selected open file in DW without you having to select Save with the mouse

CSS reference

- sitepoint® has created a first class CSS reference facility at:

  http://reference.sitepoint.com/css

- There is also an HTML reference of equally high quality at:

  http://reference.sitepoint.com/html

- The site also publishes regular newsletters on a variety of web related subjects the newsletters are listed at:

  http://www.sitepoint.com/newsletter/

Writing CSS For Others

Title of an article from *Smashing Magazine*, major points:

- 'comments, comments, comments'

Writing CSS For Others

Title of an article from *Smashing Magazine*, major points:

- 'comments, comments, comments'
- Multi-line CSS
- Ordering CSS properties

```css
h1 {
    font:bold 1.5em Verdana, Geneva, sans-serif;
    color:#FFF;
    background-color:#F00;
    margin:0 -10px 10px;
    padding:6px 14px;
}
```

Writing CSS For Others

Title of an article from *Smashing Magazine*, major points:

- 'comments, comments, comments'
- Multi-line CSS
- Ordering CSS properties
- Ordering CSS files

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    color:#FFF;
    background-color:#F00;
    margin:0 -10px 10px;
    padding:6px 14px;
}
```

```css
/**************/
/*    Typo    */
/**************/

h1 {}

/**************/
/*   Layout   */
/**************/

#header {}

/**************/
/*    Form    */
/**************/

input {}
```

Style conflicts

- What do we mean by style conflicts?

- When two or more style rules target the same element on the page, e.g.:

```css
p {
  font-size:90%;
}
p {
  font-size:20px;
}
```

- The initial setting of font-size would be 90% of the default style.

- The displayed size would be 20px

Not what you would purposefully do in any real life application, just shown here for demonstration purposes

Style conflicts

- Style rule (unintended) conflicts usually occur when sites grow and become complex
- Conflicts are not always wrong, they can be built into a site's design
- Complex sites sometimes use multiple style sheets depending on the various needs of a particular page
- Style rules targeted on specific descendent selectors are often used to overrule the main style, e.g.:

```
p {
   color:red;
}
blockquote p {
   color:green;
}
```

The Cascade

- The order in which the style rule is encountered determines its relevant precedence, i.e. the last style rule wins

- Generally the order of precedence is:
  - User agent stylesheets (the browser)
  - User stylesheets (user changes/preferences in the browser)
  - External style sheet
  - Embedded style sheet
  - Inline style

- There is one exception – the `!important` rule

```
p {
  color:red !important;
}
p {
  color:green;
}
```

Not what you would purposefully do in any real life application, just shown here for demonstration purposes

The Cascade

- If the detail of a rule for an element is declared in the external style sheet only - it will be applied

- If the detail of the same rule for the same element is declared in the embedded style sheet - that will be applied

- The detail of the same rule for the same element is declared inline then that is the rule that will apply

- Remember: the last rule wins   (usually!)

The Cascade

```css
@charset "utf-8";
/* CSS Document */

p {
    color:red;
}
```

```html
<!DOCTYPE HTML>
<html>
<head>
<meta charset="utf-8">
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="ex1wk3.css">
<title>Untitled Document</title>
</head>

<body>
<p>Text in the paragraph.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

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<style type="text/css">
p {
    color:blue;
}
</style>
</head>

<body>
<p>Text in the paragraph.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

The Cascade

```
@charset "utf-8";
/* CSS Document */


p {
    color:red;
}
```
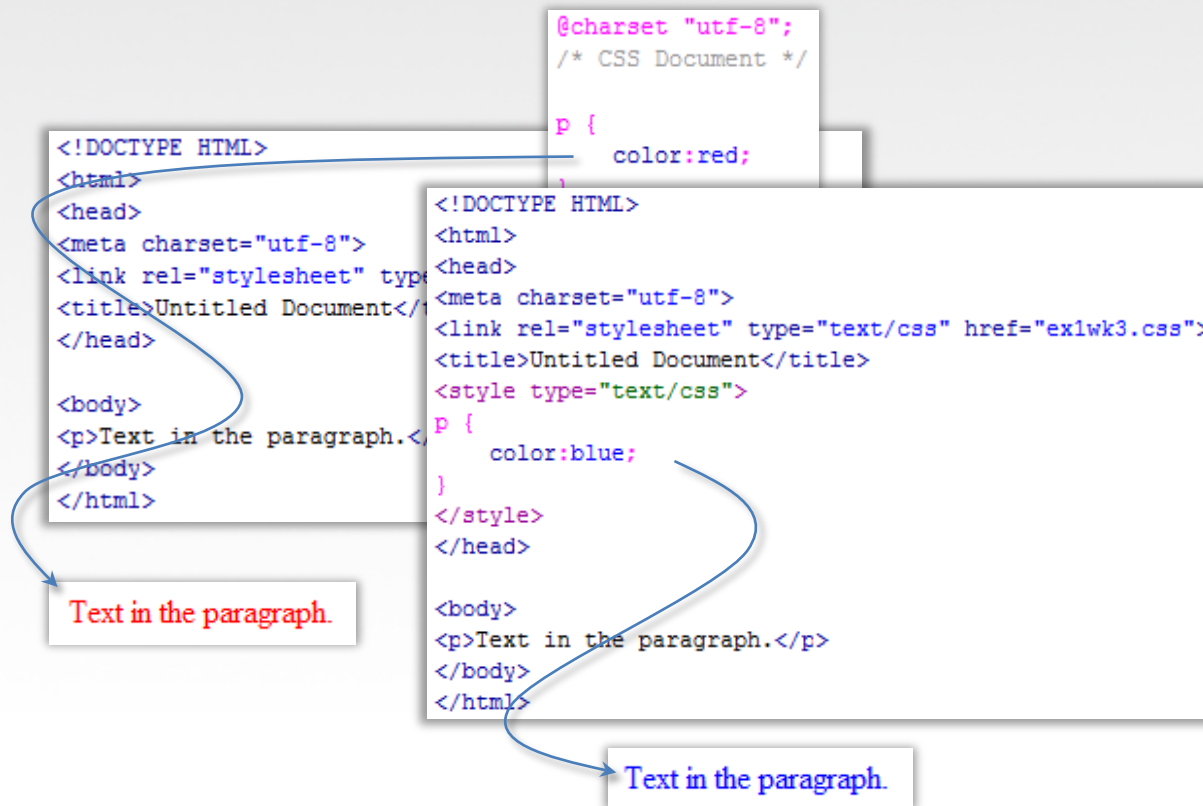
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```
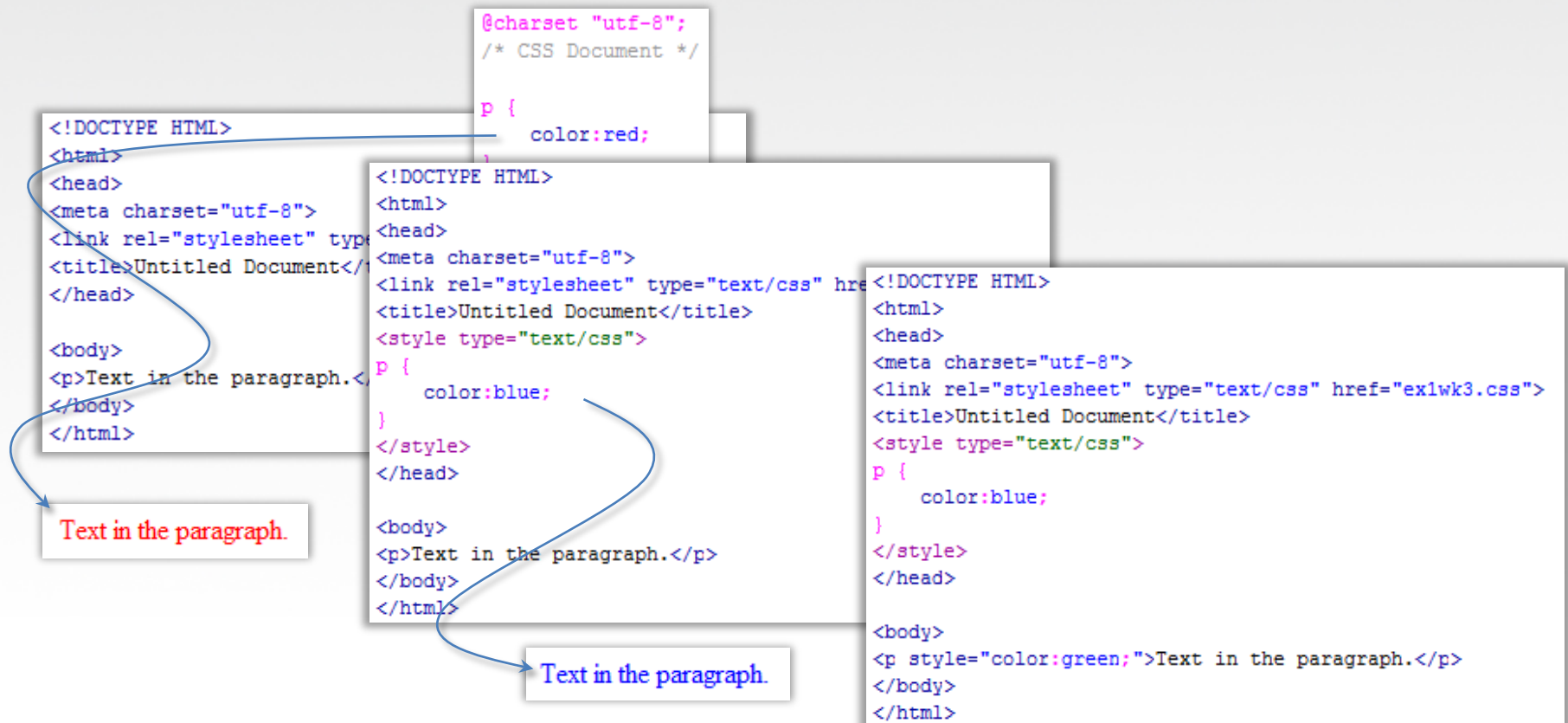
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p {
    color:blue;
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</style>
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<body>
<p style="color:green;">Text in the paragraph.</p>
</body>
</html>
```

The Cascade

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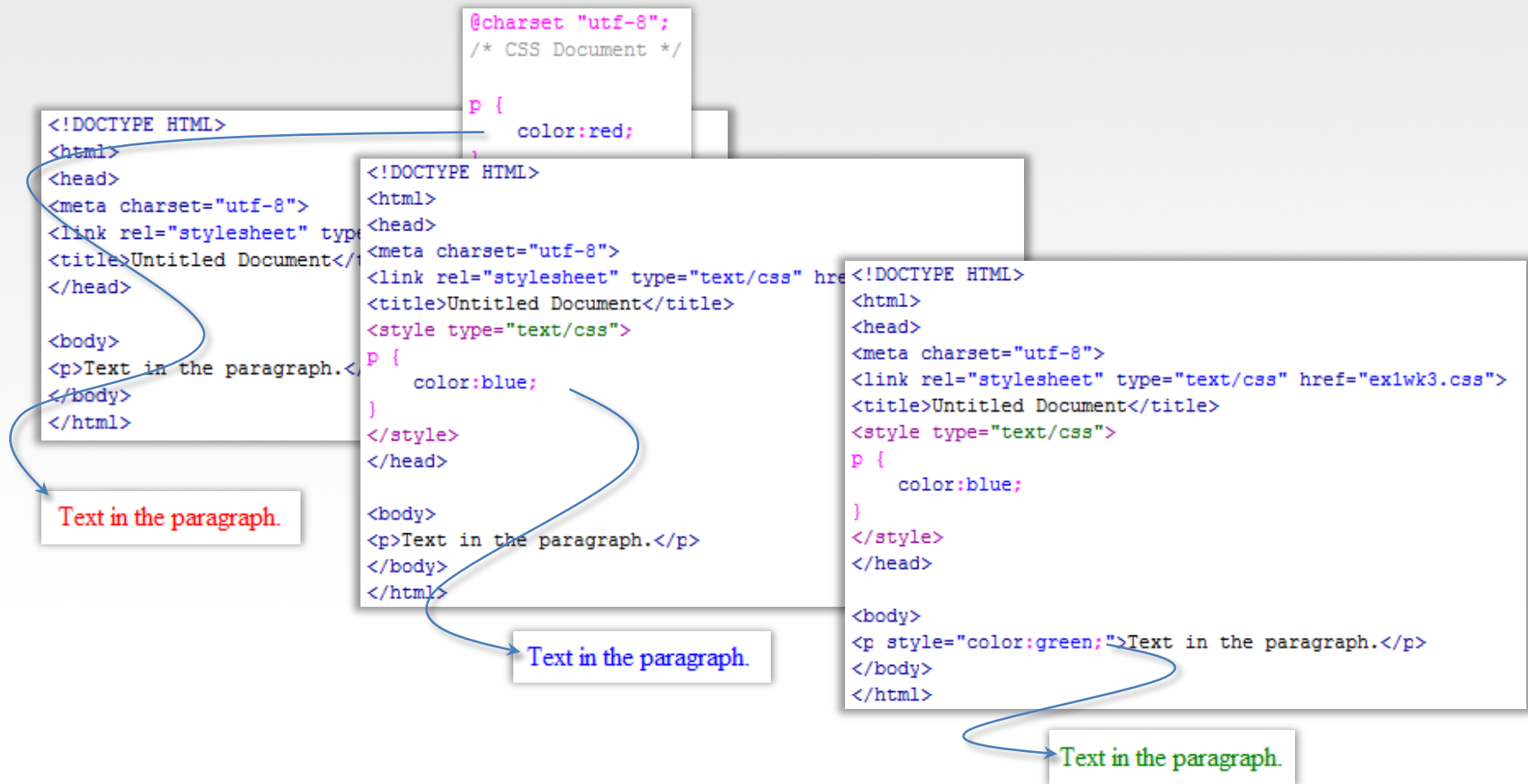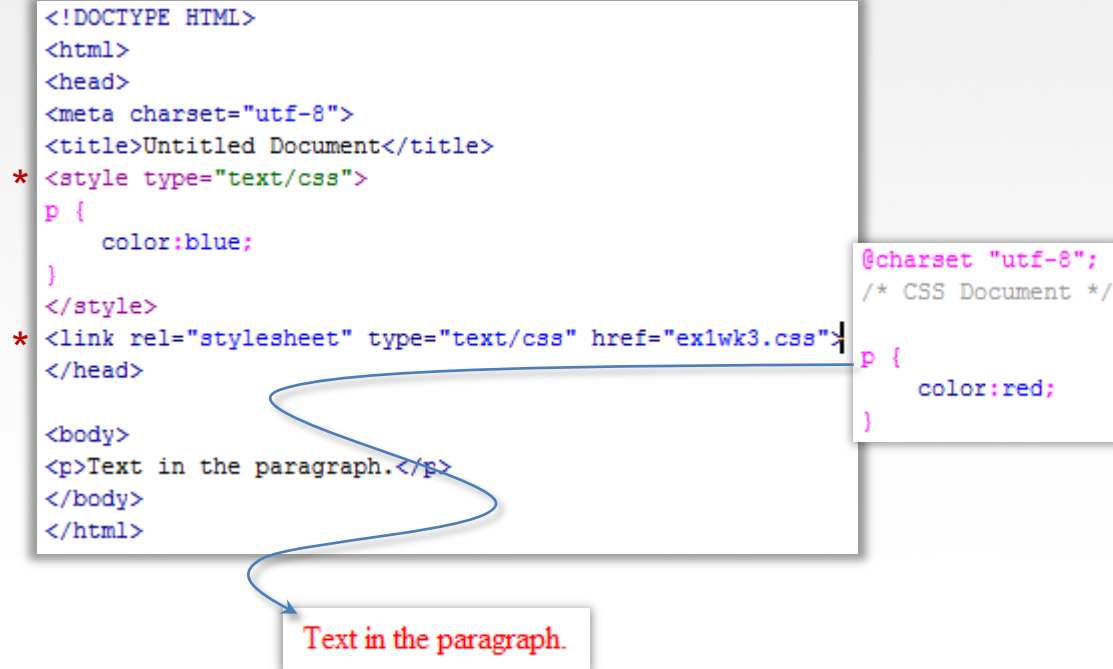
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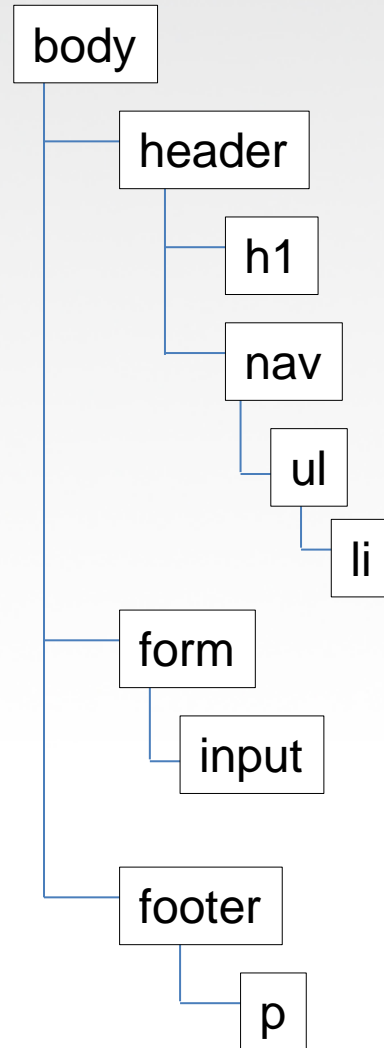
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@charset "utf-8";
/* CSS Document */

p {
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}
```
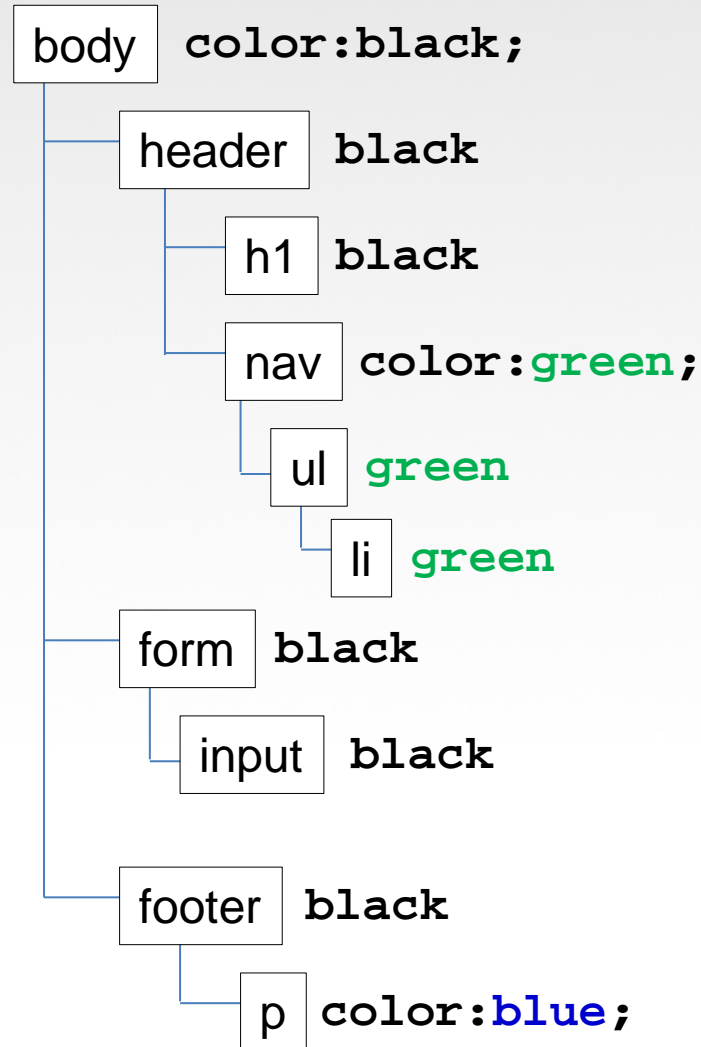
Text in the paragraph.

Inheritance

- Inheritance is the process by which properties are passed from parent to child elements even though those properties have not been explicitly defined by other means

- Inheritance applies to the Document Object Model (DOM) tree and is separate from the Cascade

- However, style rules targeting an element via the cascade can be inherited by that element's child elements

Inheritance

Inheritance

```
body  color:black;

    header  black

        h1  black

        nav  color:green;

            ul  green

                li  green

    form  black

        input  black

    footer  black

        p  color:blue;
```

Inheritance

- Not all css properties are inherited e.g. margins and paddings are non-inherited properties

- Elements will use the browser default style rules until and unless you over-ride them

- You can always override the inheritance by assigning a property to an element – but beware; style changes are cumulative with each child inheriting from its parent

- Declare the basic style rules at the highest element level and reserve lower level declarations to be minor changes

Specificity

- Determines which CSS rule is applied by the browsers

- Usually the reason why your CSS-rules don't apply to some elements, although you think they should

- Every selector has its place in the specificity hierarchy

- If two selectors apply to the same element, the one with higher specificity wins.

- Defined by four distinct categories of selectors: inline styles, IDs, classes+attributes and elements

- When selectors have an equal specificity value, the latest rule is the one that counts.

- When selectors have an unequal specificity value, the more specific rule is the one that counts.

Specificity

- Rules with more specific selectors have a greater specificity

- The last rule defined overrides any previous, conflicting rules

- The embedded style sheet has a greater specificity than other rules

- ID selectors have a higher specificity than attribute selectors

- A class selector beats any number of element selectors.

- The universal selector and inherited selectors have a specificity of 0, 0, 0

- You can calculate CSS specificity with CSS Specificity Calculator.

CSS Specificity Calculator

- A selector's specificity is calculated as follows:
  - count the number of ID selectors in the selector (= a)
  - count the number of class selectors, attributes selectors, and pseudo-classes in the selector (= b)
  - count the number of type selectors & pseudo-elements in the selector (= c)
  - ignore the universal selector

- Concatenating the three numbers a-b-c gives the specificity

```
*                 a=0 b=0 c=0     specificity =    0
LI                a=0 b=0 c=1     specificity =    1
UL LI             a=0 b=0 c=2     specificity =    2
UL OL+LI          a=0 b=0 c=3     specificity =    3
H1 + *[REL=up]    a=0 b=1 c=1     specificity =   11
UL OL LI.red      a=0 b=1 c=3     specificity =   13
LI.red.level      a=0 b=2 c=1     specificity =   21
#x34y             a=1 b=0 c=0     specificity =  100
#s12:not(FOO)     a=1 b=0 c=1     specificity =  101
```

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```

Formatting text

- Formatting of text achieved through values of:

  ```
  color: ....
  font: ....
  font-xxx: ....
  text-xxx: ....
  letter-spacing: ....
  word-spacing: ....
  ```

- **color** changes the colour of the text

- **font:** allows for shorthand declaration:

  font:*weight style variant size/line-height font-family;*

  ```
  also system font keywords:
  caption | icon | menu | message-box | small-caption | status-bar |
  ```

Formatting text

- **`font-..`** changes:

  `family`: *family name,...*| `inherit;`

  `size`: *absolute-size |relative-size |*
  length | percentage | `inherit;`

  `style`: `italic | normal | oblique /`
  `inherit;`

  `variant`: `normal | small-caps / inherit;`

  `weight`: `100 | 200 | 300 | 400 | 500 | 600 | 700 |`
  `800 | 900 | bold / bolder / lighter/`
  `normal/ inherit;`

Formatting text

- **font-..** changes:

  family: *family name,…*| **inherit**;

  size: *absolute-size* |*relative-size* |
  length | *percentage* | **inherit**;

  style: **italic | normal | oblique /
  inherit**;

  variant: **normal | small-caps / inherit**;

  weight: **100 | 200 | 300 | 400 | 500 | 600 | 700 |
  800 | 900 | bold / bolder / lighter/
  normal/ inherit**;

absolute sizes:
xx-small, x-small, small, medium, large, x-large, xx-large

relative sizes:
smaller, larger

lengths:
em, px, ex, in, cm, mm, pt, pc

Formatting text

- **`line-height:`** sets the line height and places the text vertically central within the available space (the line height)

- Refers to the typographical term 'leading', the distance between the baselines of successive lines of type

- Can be specified as a number, fixed length, or % which is the multiplied by the default line height for the font

`1`	1x default height
`0.5`	½ default height
`20px`	20px high
`200%`	2x default height

  Value cannot be minus

- Also set as **`normal`**, the default value for the current font

Formatting text

- **`text-..`** changes:

  `align`: `center | justify | left | right | inherit;`

  `decoration`: `blink | line-through | overline |`
  `underline | inherit;`

  `indent` : *`length | percentage`* `| inherit;`

  `shadow` : *`color | length | length | length |`*
  `none | inherit;`

  Not IE9 or earlier

  `transform` : `capitalize | lowercase / none/`
  `uppercase / normal / inherit;`

Formatting text

- **text-..** changes:

  align: center | justify | left | right | inherit;

  decoration: blink | line-through | overline |
  underline | inherit;

  indent : *length* | *percentage* | inherit;

  horizontal, vertical, blur

  shadow : *color* | *length* | *length* | *length* |
  none | inherit;

  Not IE9 or earlier

  transform : capitalize | lowercase / none/
  uppercase / normal / inherit;

Formatting text

- **`letter-spacing`** sets extra spacing between characters in the text content of the element

  `letter-spacing``: `*`length`*` | `**`normal`**` | `**`inherit;`**

- **`word-spacing`** sets extra spacing between words in the text of the element

  `word-spacing``: `*`length`*` | `**`normal`**` | `**`inherit;`**

Tonight's exercises

Tablet Buying Guide

What are tablets?

Tablets are touchscreen devices that give you a great entertainment experience on the go. They're easy to use, easy to carry with you everywhere and full of possibilities.

What would I use a tablet for?

Loads of exciting things! You can browse the web and read books or magazines, download apps, watch movies and play games. Tablets can give you directions, play your favourite tunes and update with your email, Facebook™ and Twitter™ feeds. That's just the start.

APPLE IPAD 2 WITH WI-FI + 3G 16GB

iPad 2 is thinner, lighter, and faster, yet it has the same 10-hour battery life.1 With two cameras, you can make FaceTime video calls2 and record HD movies. And the iPad Smart Cover attaches magnetically and aligns perfectly to your iPad 2.3

iPad 2 features

- 9.7-inch (diagonal) LED-backlit display with IPS technology
- Dual-core A5 chip
- Front and back cameras
- Up to 10 hours of battery life
- 802.11a/b/g/n Wi-Fi
- Bluetooth 2.1 + EDR technology
- 3G data service on Wi-Fi + 3G models

The iPad Wi-Fi + 3G model you purchase is configured to work with a particular cellular network technology. Check with your carrier for compatibility and 3G data plan availability.

Standalone cost £499

BLACKBERRY PLAYBOOK 16GB

This month's special offer

The powerful, portable 16GB BlackBerry® PlayBook™ tablet is lightning-fast and flash enabled, with full web browsing, streamlined multi tasking and a secure connection to your BlackBerry® smartphone.

BlackBerry PlayBook features

- Internet the way it's meant to be, with Adobe Flash and HTML 5
- Fast, secure Bridging connection to your BlackBerry smartphone
- 16GB of built in memory for your apps, movies and games

Experience uncompromised, full-fidelity browsing, on a high-resolution 7" touchscreen that's optimised for Adobe® Flash® and HTML 5. Pinch to zoom, look up text and see the whole web, without restrictions.

Standalone cost £249

SAMSUNG GALAXY TAB WIFI

~~Get more out of life with the Samsung Galaxy Tab, a slim, light tablet with a beautiful 7" touchscreen and the power of Android™.~~ **Comes with FREE upgrade to 32GB memory**

Samsung Galaxy features

- ~~7" high resolution multi touch display, great for movies & games~~
- ~~Fast, full web browsing with support for Adobe Flash videos~~
- ~~Front facing video camera for live chats over Wi Fi~~

~~The Galaxy Tab is a brand new type of mobile device, with a beautiful 7inch screen that's perfectly proportioned for web browsing, gaming and movie watching on the move. This slimline tablet is so compact and lightweight that you can comfortably take it with you everywhere, and use it for web browsing, social networking, gaming and video calls - it's all you need when on the move.~~

~~Standalone cost £199~~

Key to the display

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Tonight's exercises

Tablet Buying Guide

What are tablets?

Tablets are touchscreen devices that give you a great entertainment experience on the go. They're easy to use, easy to carry with you everywhere and full of possibilities.

What would I use a tablet for?

Loads of exciting things! You can browse the web and read books or magazines, download apps, watch movies and play games. Tablets can give you directions, play your favourite tunes and update with your email, Facebook™ and Twitter™ feeds. That's just the start.

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