**CSS Basic Selector**

The language that we use to style an HTML document is CSS.

CSS specifies how HTML elements should appear. CSS specifies how elements should appear on a screen, on paper, in speech, or in other forms of media.

**Selectors**

CSS Selectors

A CSS selector selects the HTML element(s) you want to style.

CSS selectors are used to "find" (or select) the HTML elements you want to style.

**We can divide CSS selectors into five categories:**

* Simple selectors (select elements based on name, id, class)
* Combinator selectors (select elements based on a specific relationship between them)
* Pseudo-class selectors (select elements based on a certain state)
* Pseudo-elements selectors (select and style a part of an element)
* Attribute selectors (select elements based on an attribute or attribute value)

**1.The CSS element Selector**

The element selector selects HTML elements based on the element name.

**Example**

Here, all <p> elements on the page will be center-aligned, with a red text color:

p {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}

**2.The CSS id Selector**

The id selector uses the id attribute of an HTML element to select a specific element.

The id of an element is unique within a page, so the id selector is used to select one unique element!

To select an element with a specific id, write a hash (#) character, followed by the id of the element.

**Example**

The CSS rule below will be applied to the HTML element with id="para1":

#para1 {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}

**3.The CSS class Selector**

The class selector selects HTML elements with a specific class attribute.

To select elements with a specific class, write a period (.) character, followed by the class name.

**Example**

In this example all HTML elements with class="center" will be red and center-aligned:

.center {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}

You can also specify that only specific HTML elements should be affected by a class.

**Example**

In this example only <p> elements with class="center" will be red and center-aligned:

p.center {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}

**HTML elements can also refer to more than one class.**

**Example**

In this example the <p> element will be styled according to class="center" and to class="large":

<p class="center large">This paragraph refers to two classes.</p>

**4.The CSS Universal Selector**

The universal selector (\*) selects all HTML elements on the page.

**Example**

The CSS rule below will affect every HTML element on the page:

\* {

text-align: center;

color: blue;

}

**5.The CSS Grouping Selector**

The grouping selector selects all the HTML elements with the same style definitions.

Look at the following CSS code (the h1, h2, and p elements have the same style definitions):

h1 {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}

h2 {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}

p {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}

It will be better to group the selectors, to minimize the code.

To group selectors, separate each selector with a comma.

**In this example we have grouped the selectors from the code above:**

h1, h2, p {

text-align: center;

color: red;

}