**Entity References**

* Some characters have a special meaning in XML
* If you place a character like “<” inside an XML element, it will generate an error because it represents the start of a new element

EX: <message>salary < 1000 </message>

* To avoid this error, we can replace the “<” character with an “entity reference” as shown below

<message>salary &lt; 1000</message>

* There are 5 pre-defined entity references in XML:

&lt; < less than

&gt; > greater than

&amp; & ampersand

&apos; ‘ apostrophe

&quot; “ quotation mark