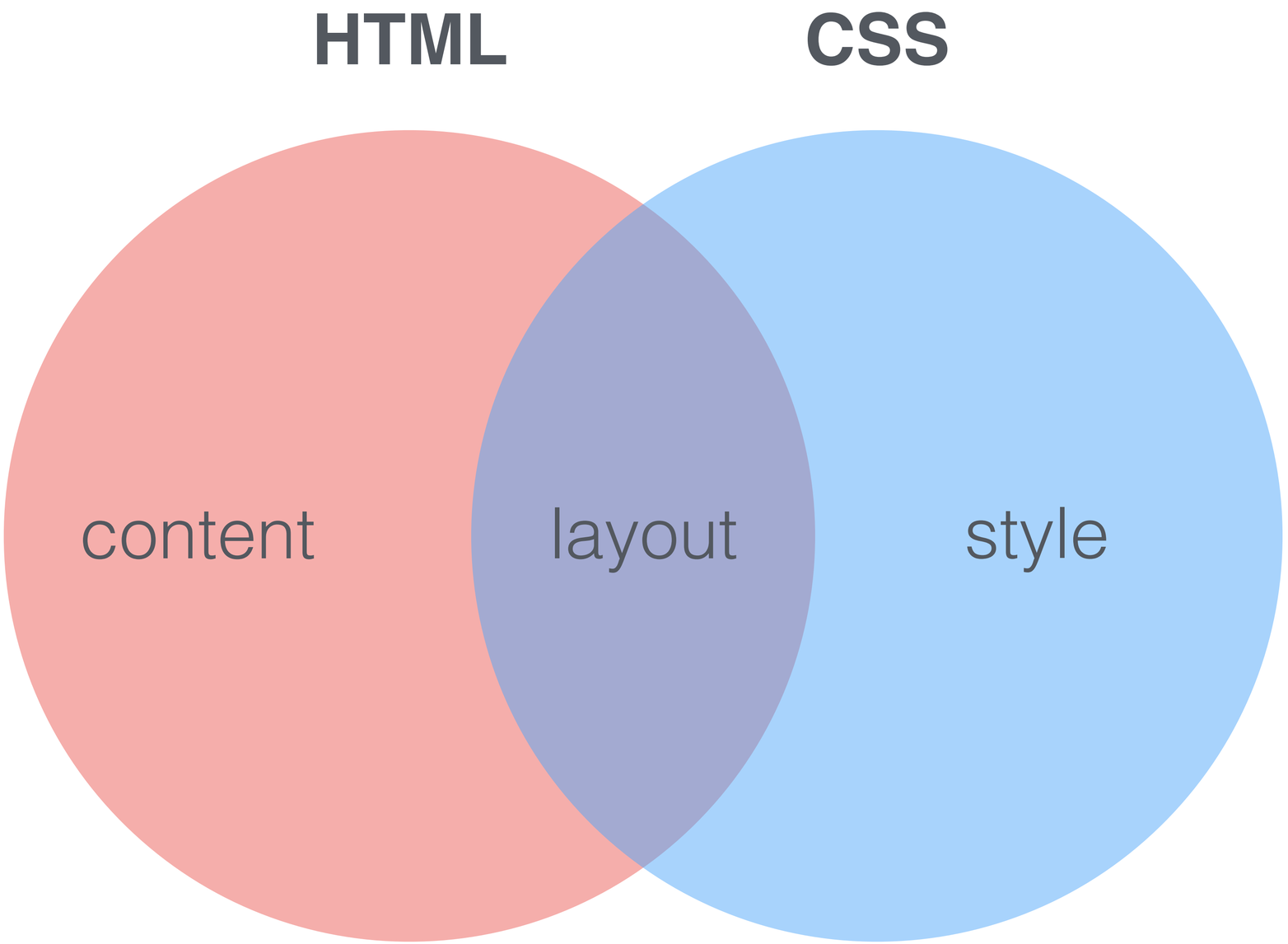
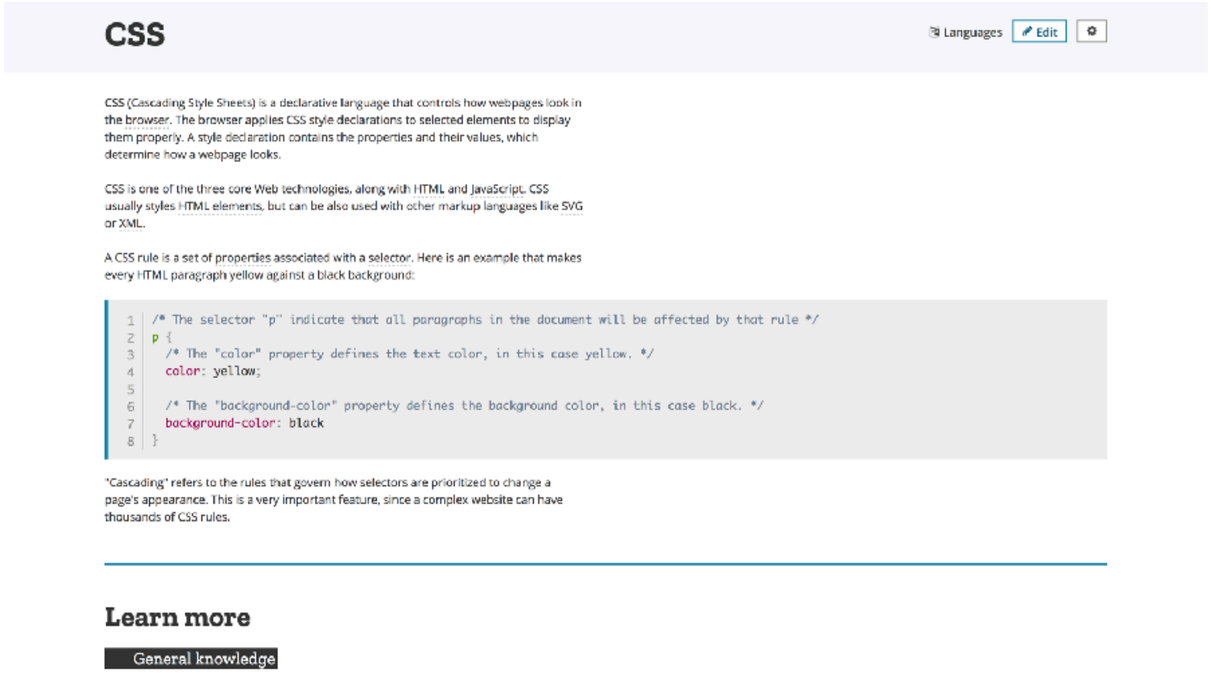
HTML & CSS

Layout laid out


HTML
CSS
content
layout
style

WITH CSS



CSS

Languages Edit

CSS (Cascading Style Sheets) is a declarative language that controls how webpages look in the browser. The browser applies CSS style declarations to selected elements to display them properly. A style declaration contains the properties and their values, which determine how a webpage looks.

CSS is one of the three core Web technologies, along with HTML and JavaScript. CSS usually styles HTML elements, but can be also used with other markup languages like SVG or XML.

A CSS rule is a set of properties associated with a selector. Here is an example that makes every HTML paragraph yellow against a black background:

```
/* The selector "p" indicate that all paragraphs in the document will be affected by that rule */
p {
  /* The "color" property defines the text color, in this case yellow. */
  color: yellow;

  /* The "background-color" property defines the background color, in this case black. */
  background-color: black
}
```

"Cascading" refers to the rules that govern how selectors are prioritized to change a page's appearance. This is a very important feature, since a complex website can have thousands of CSS rules.

Learn more

General knowledge

WITHOUT CSS

CSS

Jump to:

1. Learn more

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Learn more

General knowledge

- Learn CSS
- CSS on Wikipedia

Technical reference

- The CSS documentation on MDN
- The CSS Working Group current work

Learn about CSS

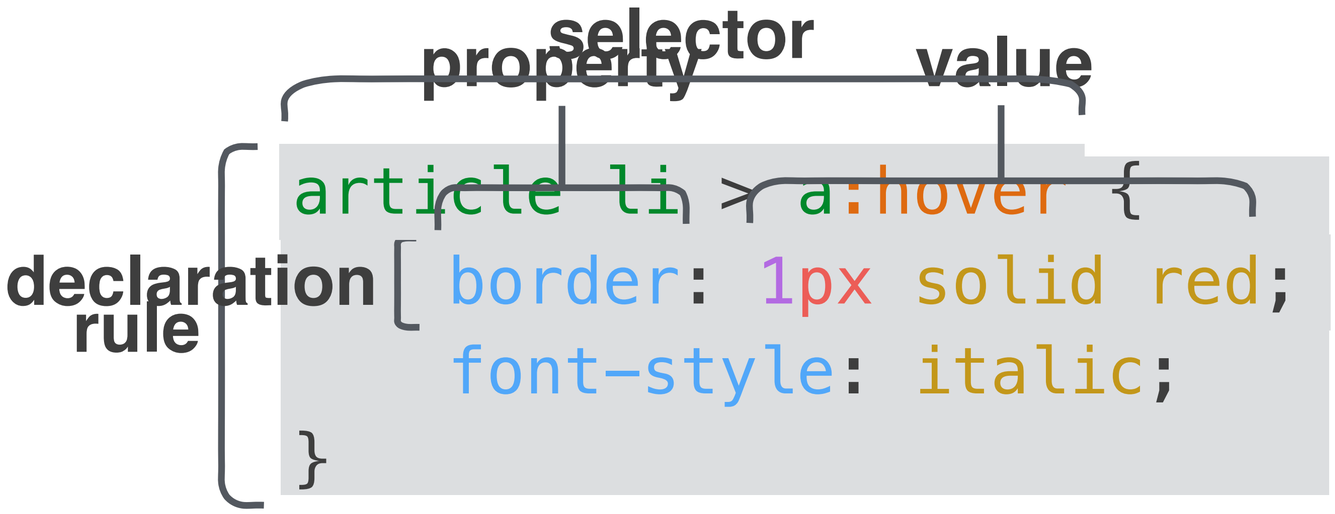
- The web course on codecademy.com

Document Tags and Contributors

Tags:

- CodingScripting
- CSS
- Glossary
- l10npriority
- Web

TERMS


selector
property
value
declaration
rule
article li > a:hover {
border: 1px solid red;
font-style: italic;
}

RULE EXAMPLE

SELECTORS

tag	`input`
class	`.btn`
id	`#upload`
attribute	`[type="file"]`
pseudo-element	`::after`
pseudo-class	`:hover`
*	*

COMBINATORS

`tag.class`	element with BOTH `tag` AND `.class`
`tag .class`	element with `.class` whose ANCESTOR matches `tag`
`tag,.class`	element with EITHER `tag` OR `.class`
`tag>.class`	element with `.class` whose PARENT matches `tag`

CASCADING STYLE SHEETS

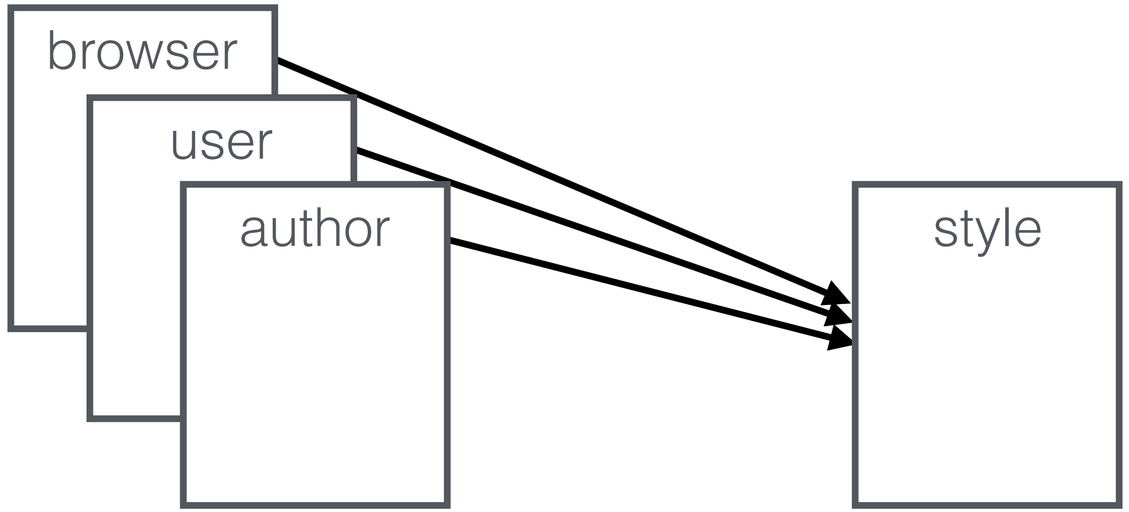
CASCADING

In ~1994... *CSS had one feature that distinguished it from all the [competing style languages]: it took into account that on the Web the style of a document couldn't be designed by either the author or the reader on their own, but that their wishes had to be combined, or "cascaded," in some way.*

CASCADING STYLE SHEETS, DESIGNING FOR THE WEB, BY HÅKON WIUM LIE AND BERT BOS (1999) - CHAPTER 20

CASCADING

An element's style is a merge of every rule whose selector matches



index.html

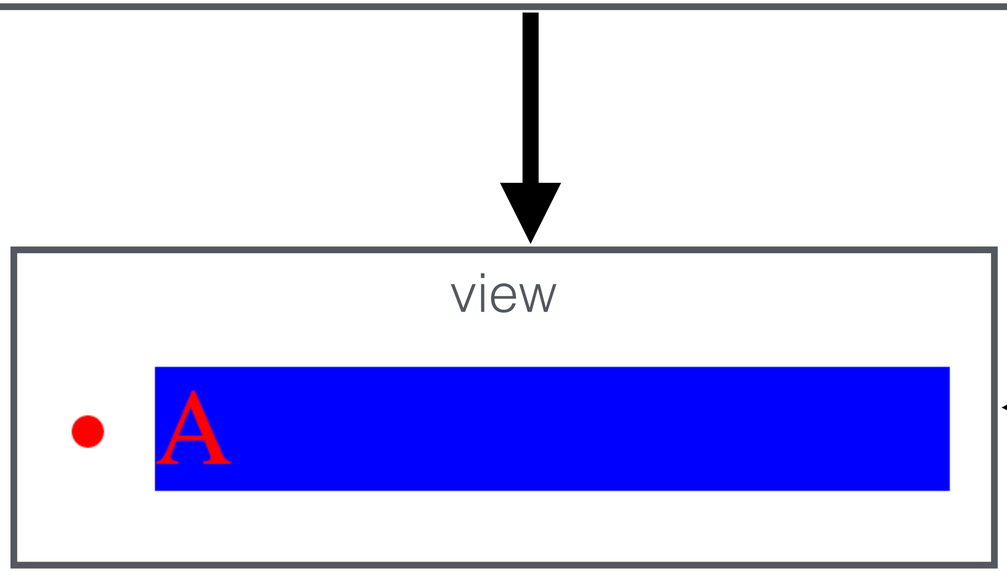
```
<head>
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="styles-B.css" />
  <link rel="stylesheet" href="styles-A.css" />
</head>
<body>
  <ul>
    <li style="background-color:blue;">A</li>
  </ul>
</body>
```

styles-A.css

```
li {
  color: red;
}
```

styles-B.css

```
li {
  font-size: 40px;
}
```



style

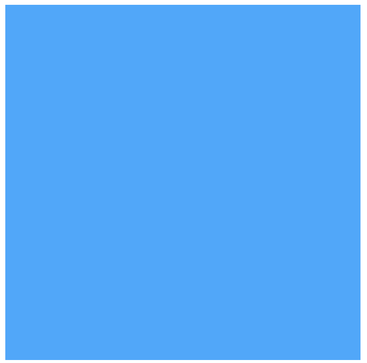
```
element.style {
  background-color: blue;
}

li {                                    styles-A.css:1
  color: red;
}

li {                                    styles-B.css:1
  font-size: 40px;
}

li {                                    user agent stylesheet
  display: list-item;
  text-align: -webkit-match-parent;
}
```

What happens when declarations conflict?

```
<div id="thing"></div>
```

```
div {
  background: red;
}
```


```
#thing {
  background: blue;
}
```



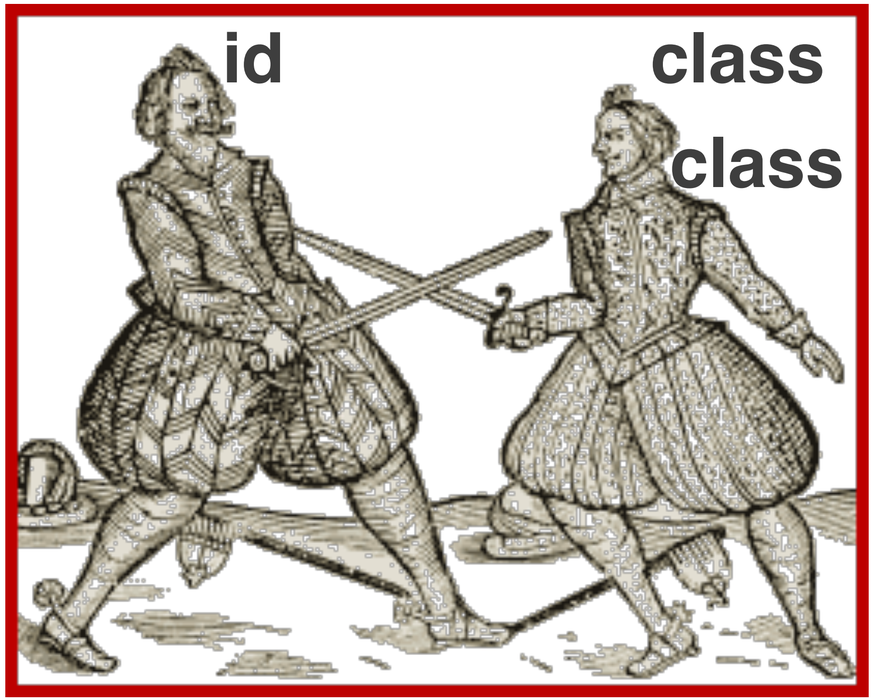
```
<div class="foo"></div>
```

```
div {
  background: red;
}
```


```
.foo {
  background: green;
}
```

```
<div id="thing" class="foo bar"></div>
```

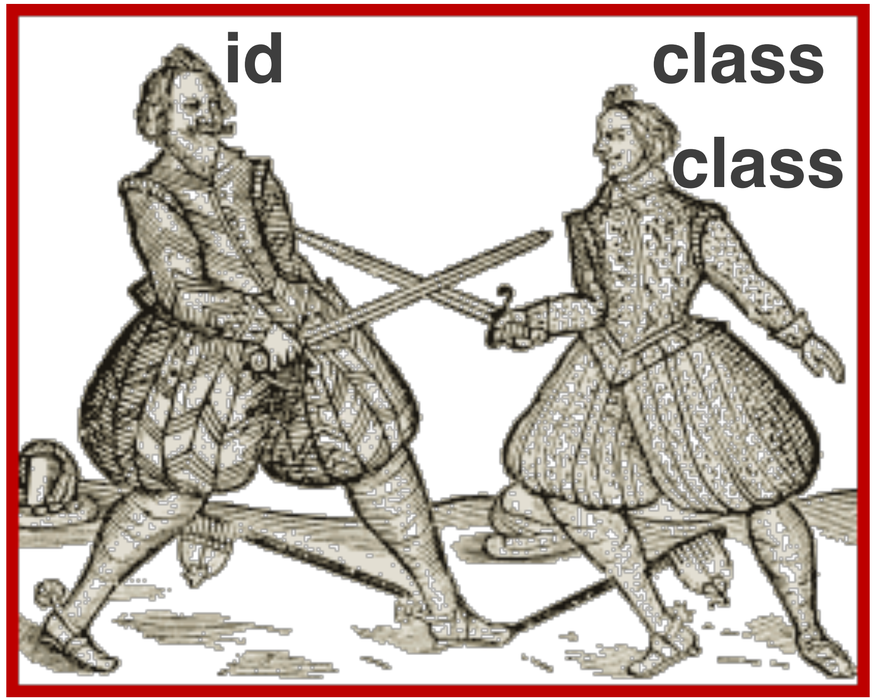
```
#thing {
  background: blue;
}
```




```
.foo.bar {
  background: green;
}
```

```
<div class="outer">
  <div id="thing" class="foo" style="background:orange;"></div>
</div>
```

```
#thing {
  background: blue;
}
```




```
.outer .foo {
  background: green;
}
```


CSS
Global
HD