Shrinking text

For this section you can either download this essay outline, or type (or copy/paste) in the code from the examples below. The main content is an outline for an essay and it should look something like this:

```
<section>
  <h1>Essay Outline</h1>
  <ol>
    <li>Introduction

      <ol>
        <li>Introduce Subject

          <ul>

            <li>What is it?</li>

            <li>Why is it important?</li>

          </ul>

        </li>

        <li>Propose Thesis</li>

        <li>Outline</li>

      </ol>

    </li>

  </ol>

</section>
```

As with the cloud pictures, we want the listed items a bit smaller than the regular text, so we add this styling:

```
section {
  font-size: 24px;
}
section h1 {
```

```
    font-size: 28px;
  }
  li {

    font-size: 0.5em;

  }
```

Now we look at our resulting rendered page, and get this surprise:

The outermost level is fine, the next level is almost readable but the innermost level is ridiculously small. Back to the debugger to see what's wrong.

COMPUTED TAB

Looking into the style settings in the debugger, at first glance we don't see anything unusual. The font-size is .5em as expected. One odd thing is that below the user agent stylesheet panels is the over-ridden font-size setting identical to the current one, i.e. .5em on <li> elements.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
▼<html>
    <!--
    * Please see the included README.md
    file for license terms and conditions.
    -->
    ▶<head>…</head>
    ▼<body>
        <p>Essay Outline</p>
        ▼<ol>
            ▼<li>
                "Introduction
                             "
                ▼<ol>
                    ▼<li>
                        "Introduce Subject
                                          "
                        ▼<ul>
                            <li>What is it?</li>
                            <li>Why is it
                            important</li>
                        </ul>
                    </li>
                    <li>Propose Thesis</li>
                    <li>Outline</li>
                </ol>
            </li>
        </ol>
    </body>
</html>
```

| Styles | Computed | Event Listeners | » |

```
element.style {                    +  ▧
}
li {                        default.css:8
    font-size: .5em;
}
li {                  user agent stylesheet
    display: list-item;
    text-align: -webkit-match-parent;
}
```
Inherited from ul
```
ol ol ul, ol ul ul, user agent stylesheet
ul ol ul, ul ul ul {
    list-style-type: square;
}
ul ul, ol ul {        user agent stylesheet
    list-style-type: circle;
}
ul, menu, dir {       user agent stylesheet
    display: block;
    list-style-type: disc;
    -webkit-margin-before: 1em;
    -webkit-margin-after: 1em;
    -webkit-margin-start: 0px;
    -webkit-margin-end: 0px;
    -webkit-padding-start: 40px;
}
```
Inherited from li
```
li {                        default.css:8
    font-size: .5em;
}
li {                  user agent stylesheet
    display: list-item;
    text-align: -webkit-match-parent;
}
```
Inherited from ol
```
ol {                  user agent stylesheet
    display: block;
```

The styles panel doesn't tell us a lot about the actualy font-size in absolute terms. To determine that we can use the "Computed tab".

The 'computed' tab contains the values of all the CSS properties that apply to the current element. There are a lot of them, and they're listed in alphabetical order. Since the computer considers the character '-' as coming before 'a' in the alphabet, the first thing you'll see is a long list of properties starting with '-webkit'. We're going to scroll down past those to "font-size" which reveals this:

This tells us that the font-size on the innermost list item is only 3px. No wonder it's unreadable.

When we click on the triangle we can expand the details on font-size, which makes a little more clear what's going on. We see that the font-size on the body is 24px, but there are several repetitions of the li .5em.

If we look at the next outer list item, we see that the font-size is 6px, and the one outside of that is 12px. This doubling makes it clear what's happening. Each nested li element has a font-size 1/2 the size of its parent, because the em unit is relative measurement, depending on the current font-size.

Now that we know what's happening, we can fix it in a few different ways. We could use an absolute unit like px or pt, but a better solution would be rem. This would make the size relative to the html font-size (the default font-size for the page), not to it's surroundings.