

# HTML5 structural elements

Aka Semantic Elements



# Semantic Elements in HTML5

Tag	Description
<u><a href="#">&lt;article&gt;</a></u>	Defines an article
<u><a href="#">&lt;aside&gt;</a></u>	Defines content aside from the page content
<u><a href="#">&lt;details&gt;</a></u>	Defines additional details that the user can view or hide
<u><a href="#">&lt;figcaption&gt;</a></u>	Defines a caption for a <figure> element
<u><a href="#">&lt;figure&gt;</a></u>	Picture, drawing, code listings, etc.
<u><a href="#">&lt;footer&gt;</a></u>	Defines a footer for a document or section
<u><a href="#">&lt;header&gt;</a></u>	Specifies a header for a document or section
<u><a href="#">&lt;main&gt;</a></u>	Specifies the main content of a document
<u><a href="#">&lt;mark&gt;</a></u>	Defines marked/highlighted text
<u><a href="#">&lt;nav&gt;</a></u>	Defines navigation links
<u><a href="#">&lt;section&gt;</a></u>	Defines a section in a document
<u><a href="#">&lt;summary&gt;</a></u>	Defines a heading for a <details> element
<u><a href="#">&lt;time&gt;</a></u>	Defines a date/time

# main

- New HTML **5.1** Element!
- main is intended to contain the central content of a web page
  - as such, there can be only one main tag per page!
- main cannot be a child element of header, footer, article, aside or nav
- The tag should employ an ARIA role of main for long-term compatibility with accessibility devices

```
...  
</header>  
<main role="main">  
  <p>some text and other stuff.</p>  
</main>  
<footer>  
...
```

# header

- Contains the headings of either a web page document or an area in the document such as a section or article
- The <header> element should be used as a container for introductory content

```
<header>
  <h1>Lighthouse&nbsp;Island&nbsp;Bistro</h1>
  <h2>the best coffee on the coast</h2>
</header>
```

*If you want to add a subtitle in your HTML pages, you can use a snippet like this, as recommended in the spec:*

```
<header>
  <h1>
    5 deprecated features of HTML5
    <span>Sometimes specifications are changed
    and you need to refactor your code</span>
  </h1>
  <p>In this article we'll discuss...</p>
</header>
```



# footer

- Contains the footer content of a web page or specific area in the document such as a section or article
- A <footer> element should contain information about its containing element

```
< footer>  
    <p>Copyright &copy; 2015 Acme International Inc.</p>  
</ footer>
```

# nav

- Contains a section of navigation hyperlinks
  - a menu
- Does NOT change style
  - You must still use CSS to style the links as a menu

```
<nav>  
<a href="/item1.html">Item 1</a> <br>  
<a href="/item2.html">Item 2</a> <br>  
<a href="/item3.html">Item 3</a> <br>  
<a href="/item4.html">Item 4</a> <br>  
</nav>
```



# aside

- Contains a part of the page that's tangentially related to the content around the aside element
  - Such as a sidebar, a note, or other tangential content



```
<p>The February special sandwich ...  
February only.</p>
```

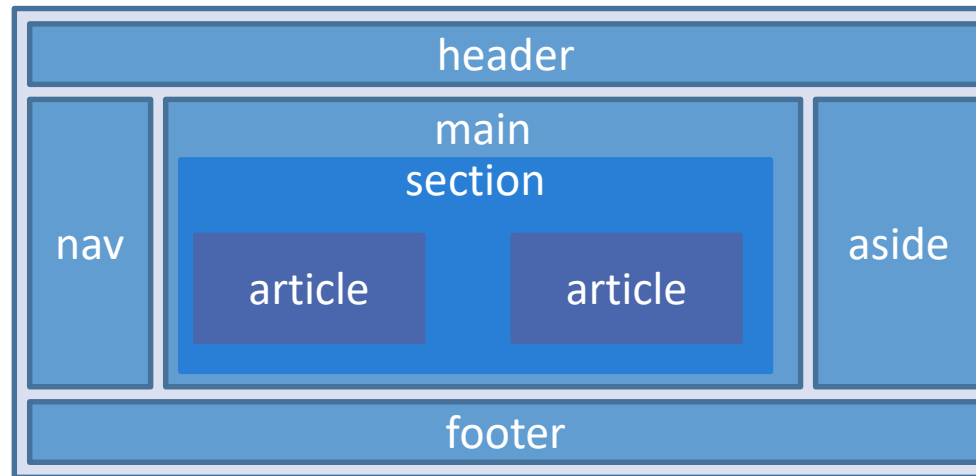
```
<aside>
```

```
    <p>Watch for the March Madness Wrap next month!</p>  
</aside>
```

OBS:  
Needs CSS3 styling (float property) to  
achieve the desired layout

# section and article

- Section Element
  - Contains a “section” of a document, such as a chapter or topic
  - Has semantic meaning - it implies that the content it contains is related in some way
- Article Element
  - contains an independent entry, such as a blog posting, comment, or article that could stand on its own



Just one possible structure using semantic elements



# div

- Is a structural element that configures a structural block area on a web page with empty space above and below without any semantic meaning
- Use div where none of the semantic elements is suitable