HTML Comments & Whitespace

HTML Comments

1. Open Notepad++ and type in the following code:

```
1   <html>
2
3   <head>
4
5       <title> </title>
6
7   </head>
8
9   <body>
10
11      <p>Aston Villa won the European Cup in 1982</p>
12
13
14      <p>
15          Since that time Villa have won the League Cup
16          in 1994 and 1996.
17      </p>
18
19  </body>
20
21  <html>
```

   Save the file as **whitespace-and-comments.html**

2. Add plenty of empty lines between the paragraphs and test the page in a browser. What happens?

3. Update your code to look like the following:

```
1   <html>
2
3   <head>
4
5       <title> </title>
6
7   </head>
8   <body>
9
10      <p>Aston Villa won the European Cup in 1982</p>
11
12      <br />
13
14      <p>
15          Since that time Villa have won the League Cup
16          in 1994 and 1996.
17      </p>
18
19  </body>
20  <html>
21
```

HTML Comments

It is possible to leave comments and notes in your code (which a web browser will ignore) for others to read; update your code to the following and test in a browser:

```
 1  <html>
 2
 3  <head>
 4
 5      <!--Comments can be on one line -->
 6
 7      <title> </title>
 8
 9  </head>
10  <body>
11
12      <!--Comments can also
13          be used over
14          several lines -->
15
16      <p>Aston Villa won the European Cup in 1982</p>
17
18      <br />
19
20      <p>
21          Since that time Villa have won the League Cup
22          in 1994 and 1996.
23      </p>
24
25  </body>
26
27  <html>
```

Points to remember

- Web browsers ignore whitespace in html.
- Web designers use this fact to space out their code to make it more readable for humans.
- To display empty lines in a web browser use the line break rule tag -
- You will see the br tag written <BR> or <br> in older code. Modern web design recommends that tags should:
  - Be written in lowercase
  - If the element only consists of one tag, it should be closed, e.g.
    - Paragraph has two tags an opening and closing tag - <p> </p>
    - Line break only had one tag so should be closed -
- The horizontal rule - <hr /> - tag is similar to the line break element, but instead of an empty line is displays a horizontal line.
- Comments are very useful for documenting code in course work.