**Workshop 4: Guided Tour on DOM Scripting**

The basic idea in DOM scripting is to first find a reference to an element which you want to manipulate. After that you set the desired attributes or change the content of that element and voila, you can see the page change on the fly.

*Use the lecture-material as a reference guide side by side these exercises.*

## Intro

**Open home.html in a browser and in an editor. Study the structure of the page.**

It is important to understand what kind of classes and id’s are being used in the web page we want to script. You can use Developer Toolbars Elements-tab to do this, or press Ctrl+U in order to view the source for entire page. Note that with Ctrl+F you can also search the source code. By typing “id=” to the search field, it is easy to see which id’s are being used in the code.

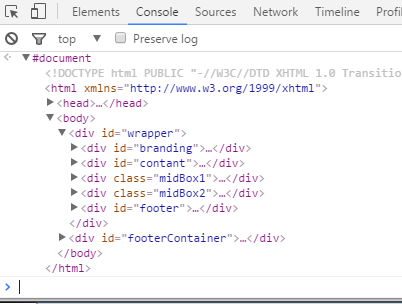
Id’s found:

* Wrapper
* Branding
* Contant
* Quotebar
* Footer
* Footercontainer

Classes found:

* topNavLast
* clear
* contant\_1
* contant\_1\_left
* clear bottomClear
* quoteBar
* sidebar
* sideBarListBox
* sideBarItem
* cat002
* cat003
* clear
* midBox1
* midBox1Top
* midBox1Bottom
* midBox2
* midBox2L
* footerorm
* footerFormR
* footerInputArea
* footertextarea
* footerSubmit

JavaScript also lets you explore the structure of the page. Typing ‘document’ in the console and hitting enter will return you the root node of the page. You can browse onward from this node using the mouse, just like in the inspector view.



## 1. Traversing in the DOM

If we want to modify the web page using JavaScript, we need to be able to move up/down along the DOM-tree and select items from it. Try fetching a reference to all H3 - elements on the page by typing:

document.getElementsByTagName('h3');



You can see the results in console. Try hovering the mouse on the results, and you will see a highlighted elements on the actual web page.

The command returned an array of elements. If you want to utilize one, you need to specify which item in the array you mean. Try this:

// Returns the element from index 2

document.getElementsByTagName('h3')[2];

As you can see you selected then second [2] item in the array of H3 – heading items.

// Change the content of the tag, we will talk more on this

document.getElementsByTagName(‘h3’)[2].innerHTML = "New heading";

## 2. Utilizing variables

It makes scripting easier, if you save a reference to a new variable:

// Returns the element from index 0 and saves the reference to a variable targetHeading

var targetHeading = document.getElementsByTagName('h3')[0];

**// We don’t need to use document.getElementsByTagName again.**

targetHeading.innerHTML;

## 3. Finding items based on class name

Finding items based on HTML-tags but usually they return a lot of results to choose from. If we want to narrow down the results we can search using class names.

Try finding items base on class name. Note that these are also arrays with multiple items.

document.getElementsByClassName('cat003');



You can get a reference to the entire sideBar with the following:

// Note this is an array, getElementsByClassName always returns array  
document.getElementsByClassName('sideBarItem');

// Try this:   
document.getElementsByClassName('sideBarItem')[0];

var myVar = document.getElementsByClassName('sideBarItem');

myVar[0];

myVar[0].innerHTML = “Write something here”;

## 4. Finding items based on id

Finding items based on their id makes targeting specific items the most accurate. Unlike other functions, document.getElementById - function returns only one result. Try these:

document.getElementById('contant');

document.getElementById('footer');

## 5. Basic DOM Manipulations: Content

Like mentioned in the lecture, there are many ways to manipulate the content of an HTML-element. Let’s look at a few.

Previously we used the following line of code to get the reference to it. After that, changing the content of the tag is easy.

// Returns the element from index 0 and saves the reference to a variable targetHeading

var targetHeading = document.getElementsByTagName('h3')[0];

// Change the content of the tag

targetHeading.innerHTML = "New heading";

// Same thing but without using the variable could be achieved like this

document.getElementsByTagName('h3')[0].innerHTML = "New heading";

// Setting the innerHTML –field always overwrites the previous content. However, we can add text as well using the “+=” notation:

targetHeading.innerHTML += "Add this to the end of Heading";   
  
// You can also use HTML tags  
document.getElementsByTagName('h3')[0].innerHTML = "<em>New heading</em>";

## Adding style

Typical DOM scripting tasks include adding or removing style attributes to page elements. Try out the following:

//Changing the paragraphs styles of the page

var p = document.getElementsByTagName('p');

p[0].style.color = "green";

// Hiding items

p[2].style.display = "none";

1. Creating content with functions

// First create a new element and set any attributes to it

var uusi = document.createElement('p')  
​uusi.innerHTML = "New content!";  
uusi.setAttribute('id','newData');

// This results to a following tag

<p id=​"newData">​New content!​</p>​

// Finally attach the new element to the bottom of the page   
document.body.appendChild(uusi);

// OR to a desired place on page  
var newPlace = document.getElementsByTagName('p');  
newPlace[1].appendChild(uusi);

1. Creating table-content with functions

var table = document.createElement('table');

table.setAttribute('border','1');

for (var i = 1; i < 4; i++){

var tr = document.createElement('tr');

var td1 = document.createElement('td');

var td2 = document.createElement('td');

var text1 = document.createTextNode('Text1');

var text2 = document.createTextNode('Text2');

td1.appendChild(text1);

td2.appendChild(text2);

tr.appendChild(td1);

tr.appendChild(td2);

table.appendChild(tr);

}

document.body.appendChild(table);