Here’s your sentence-by-sentence professional study note breakdown — all details preserved, explained, and formatted for Word without excessive spacing.

**Extensions and Plug-ins – Detailed Study Notes**

1. **Lesson Focus**
   * Covers the use of extensions and plugins in web browsers.
   * Emphasizes understanding terminology, functionality, and safe usage practices.
2. **Terminology Variations Across Browsers**
   * **Microsoft Edge:** Uses “extensions” and “add-ins” interchangeably, no mention of “plugins.”
   * **Google Chrome:** Uses “extensions” and “themes,” minimal reference to “plugins.”
   * **Mozilla Firefox:** Uses both “extensions” and “plugins” as distinct terms.
3. **Key Terms Defined (Using Firefox as Example)**
   * **Extensions:** Small programs embedded into a browser to alter features or functions via API calls.
   * **Plugins:** Add backend capabilities to the browser (e.g., media playback support).
   * **Apps:** Web-based applications that can run within the browser, sometimes with offline capabilities.
   * **Search Providers:** Services used for online search within the browser (e.g., Google, Bing).
   * **Themes:** Custom images or color schemes that modify browser appearance.
4. **Managing Extensions in Firefox**
   * Access via menu → Add-ons and Themes.
   * Example: “Video DownloadHelper” allows downloading videos from platforms that normally block downloads.
   * Example: “Color Picker” or “ColorFish” used by web developers to obtain HEX, RGB, and HSL color codes from any element on a page.
   * Extensions can enhance workflow and add specific capabilities tailored to user needs.
5. **Searching and Installing Extensions**
   * Search via Add-on Manager within browser.
   * Browse results similar to an app store.
   * Click to install, confirm addition, and access via browser toolbar.
6. **Plugins Overview**
   * Work in the background to provide added technical capabilities.
   * Examples:
     + **OpenH264 Video Codec:** Enables real-time video conferencing by encoding/decoding video streams.
     + **Encrypted Media Extension (by Google):** Allows playback of DRM-protected content.
   * Manage via Add-ons interface — options to keep active, disable, or remove.
7. **Themes**
   * Modify browser visual style.
   * Options include light mode, dark mode, and custom color schemes.
   * Example: Switching from plain gray interface to “Alpine Glow” theme or enabling dark mode.
   * System theme option changes automatically based on OS settings/time of day.
8. **Search Providers**
   * Found in Firefox settings under “Search.”
   * Default providers vary by browser (e.g., Google for Chrome/Firefox, Bing for Edge).
   * Options in Firefox include Google, Amazon, Bing, DuckDuckGo, eBay, Wikipedia.
   * Users can select preferred provider.
9. **Browser Applications (Apps)**
   * Many apps now run entirely in browsers (e.g., Google Docs, Sheets).
   * Some support offline usage with special extensions.
   * Example: Google Docs Offline extension in Chrome/Edge allows document editing without internet.
   * Stores local copies for use during travel or no internet access.
10. **Security Practices for Extensions and Plugins**
    * Only install from official extension stores/marketplaces for each browser.
    * Avoid third-party websites to prevent malware, spyware, or malicious add-ons.
    * Regularly review and manage installed extensions/plugins to maintain security and performance.
11. **Summary of Categories**
    * **Extensions:** Alter browser behavior or add new features.
    * **Plugins:** Enable background functions, often related to multimedia.
    * **Themes:** Change browser appearance and layout.
    * **Search Providers:** Define where browser searches are sent.
    * **Apps:** Browser-based applications, sometimes with offline capabilities.