Lesson 16

Form elements

When we create HTML forms, beside of <form> start and </form> end tag, we use HTML elements that website users use to enter data in that HTML form (input text fields, input password fields, radio buttons, checkboxes, buttons etc.). HTML elements that we use to create HTML forms represent form elements.

The most common form elements are <input>, <select>, <textarea>, <button>, and <datalist>.

<input> element is HTML element that we use to create various types of form elements like text field, password field, submit button, reset button, radio buttons, checkboxes etc.
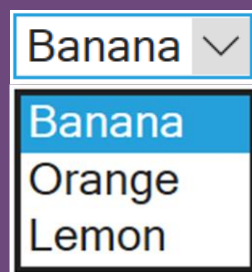
```
<input type="text" />
```

In example above, we have shown simple input text field. We will talk in detail about input type in next lesson where we will cover all input types.

<select> element is HTML element that we use to create drop-down list. Drop-down list represents form element that we can click, and list of predefined values will be displayed. We can choose one or more options from that list.

```
<select id="fruits" size="1" multiple>

        <option value="banana" selected>Banana</option>

        <option value="orange">Orange</option>

        <option value="lemon">Lemon</option>

</select>
```

Thank You for choosing us! ♡

Important HTML attributes that we use for <select> are id, value, size, multiple, and selected.

Id HTML attribute represents unique identifier for HTML element. We can use id to get selected value from drop-down list with JavaScript code:

document.getElementById("id").value =selected value
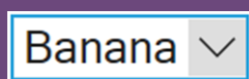
To get selected value from drop-down list, we just need to replace id with id value that we have defined in <select>, so for our example it would be:
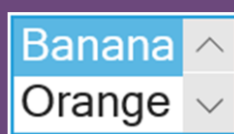
document.getElementById("fruits").value =banana

value HTML element represents value that is related with option from drop-down list. For selected option from drop-down list, value that we define in value attribute, represents value that will be sent to the server for server side data processing. So, label that we see in drop down (Banana) is just a label, and real value that we use with that option is value that we set for value HTML attribute (banana).

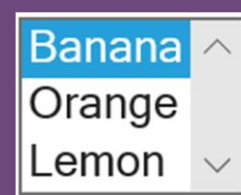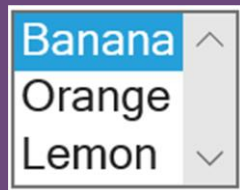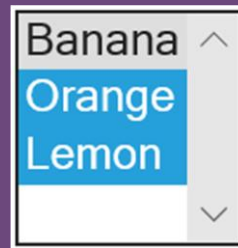size HTML attribute defines how many elements from drop down list will be visible when drop down is not opened.

Lesson 16

multiple HTML attribute defines can we select more than one options from drop-down list. By default, multiple attribute is omitted and, you can choose just one option from drop-down list. If we want to allow that user can chose more than one option, we need to add multiple HTML attribute.
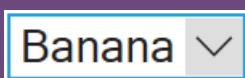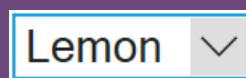
without multiple

with multiple

selected HTML attribute defines element from drop down list that will be initially selected.
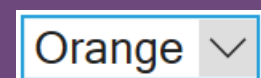
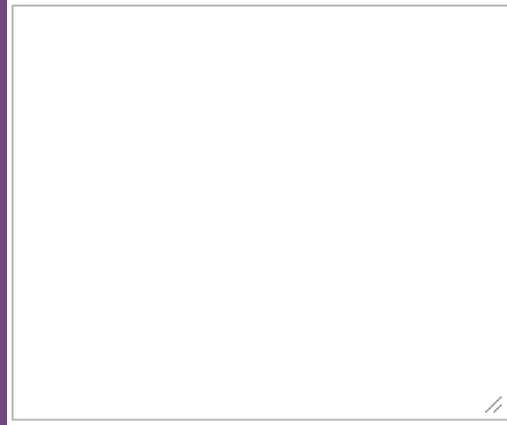value="banana" selected

value="lemon" selected

value="orange" selected

<textarea> element is HTML element that we use to create multiline input text field.

```
<textarea name="comment" rows="4" cols="4" ></textarea>
```

Lesson 16

Important attributes for textarea are name, rows, and cols.

name HTML attribute represents unique name for HTML element.

Name is important attribute for our elements in general because when we send our data from form to the server for server side data processing, value from element is sent to the server like key value pair, where key is name of element and value is value that we enter in that HTML element. For example, comment="Comment that we have entered" (comment is name that we set for element, Comment that we have entered is text that we have entered in that field.

rows HTML attribute defines how many rows your textarea will have (rows will basically define height of textarea)

cols HTML attribute defines how many columns your textarea will have (cols will basically define width of textarea)

<button> element is HTML element that we use to create clickable buttons.

```
<button type="button" onclick="someFunction()">BUTTON</button>
```

BUTTON

Important attributes for button are type and onclick.

type HTML attribute defines type of button. There are three predefined values button, submit, and reset.
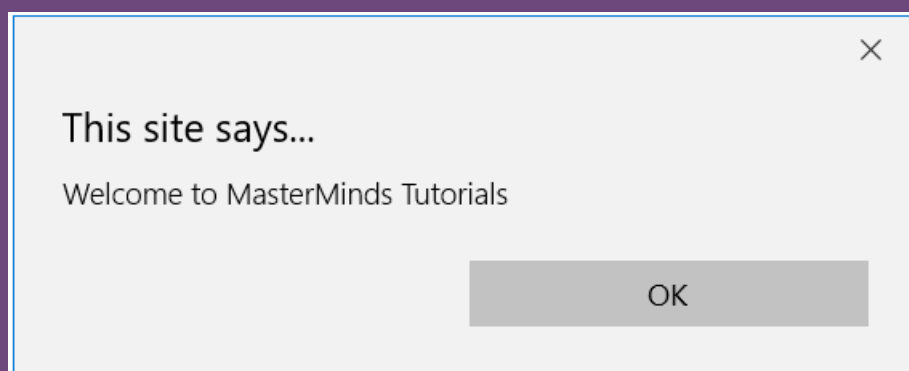
button type is type that will create button for which we need to define onclick attribute with JavaScript function (e.g. someFunction()) that will be called/executed when we click on that button.

submit type is type that will create submit button, that will take data from form when we click on it and send that data to the server for server side data processing.

reset type is type that will create reset button, that will clear all values from form when we click on it.

onclick HTML attribute is attribute where we set JavaScript function that will be executed when we click on our button. For example, we can create JavaScript function that will open pop up window with some welcome message for our users.

```
<button type="button" onclick="alert(Welcome to MasterMinds Tutorials)">
        BUTTON
</button>
```

This site says...

Welcome to MasterMinds Tutorials

OK

<datalist> element is HTML element that represents combined version of input text field and drop down-list.

```
<input list="colors">
<datalist id="colors">
        <option value="red">
        <option value="blue">
        <option value="yellow">
        <option value="green">
</datalist>
```

Basically we have drop-down list with predefined values like we have in regular drop-down, but also we can type text inside of input field, which is part of drop-down, and all values from drop-down list that contain text that we have entered, will be displayed like available options in drop-down list.

gr
green

Important attributes that we are using are list, id, and value.

list HTML attributes point on datalist that we want to connect with input field. (This value need to be the same as value that we have defined like a id for datalist)

id represents unique identifier for datalist.

value represents available option in drop-down list. For <datalist> drop-down, value and label for option is same. (for <select> drop-down, value and label can be different)