

## Introduction

In this project, you'll create a mystery letter that looks like each word has been cut from a different newspaper, magazine, comic or other source.



## Step 1: Choose Your Message

Mystery letters are used in films and books to send secret messages.

### ✓ Activity Checklist

- ☐ Think of a mystery message; 12 words is about the right length. If you can't think of a message you can use the example: 'Your next clue is in the safe. The code is 65536.'
- ☐ Either make a note of your message or remember it.

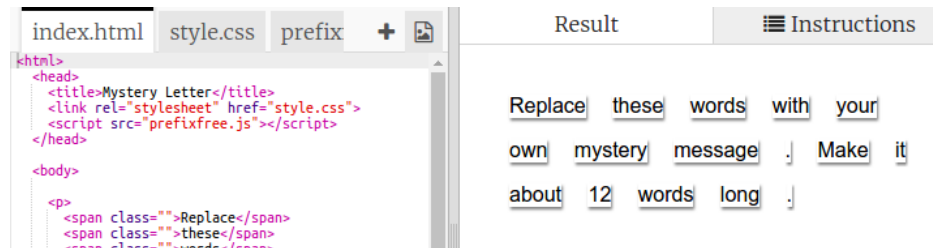
## Step 2: Editing Your Message

Let's get your message onto a webpage.

### ✓ Activity Checklist

- ☐ Open this trinket: [jump.to/cc/web-letter](http://jump.to/cc/web-letter).

The project should look like this:



- ☐ The `<p>` paragraph tag is introduced in the 'Happy Birthday' project. The `<span>` tag is used to group smaller pieces of text inside a paragraph so that we can style them.

```
<body>
  <p>
    <span class="">Replace</span>
    <span class="">these</span>
    <span class="">words</span>
    <span class="">with</span>
    <span class="">your</span>
    <span class="">own</span>
    <span class="">mystery</span>
    <span class="">message</span>
    <span class="">.</span>
    <span class="">Make</span>
    <span class="">it</span>
    <span class="">about</span>
    <span class="">12</span>
    <span class="">words</span>
    <span class="">long</span>
    <span class="">.</span>
  </p>
</body>
```

## ✓ Activity Checklist

- ☐ Change the words to your message by putting one word in each `<span>`. You will need to add or remove `<span>` tags if your message is a different length.

```
<p>
  <span class="">Your</span>
  <span class="">next</span>
  <span class="">clue</span>
  <span class="">is</span>
  <span class="">in</span>
  <span class="">the</span>
  <span class="">safe</span>
  <span class="">.</span>
  <span class="">The</span>
  <span class="">code</span>
  <span class="">is</span>
  <span class="">6</span>
  <span class="">5</span>
  <span class="">5</span>
  <span class="">3</span>
  <span class="">6</span>
  <span class="">.</span>
</p>
```

Your next clue is in the safe .  
The code is 6 5 5 3 6 .

## ✓ Activity Checklist

- ☐ Click the Run button to test your trinket.

If you look at the words, you can see that they've been styled to look like they've been stuck onto the page.

## Step 3: Using Class Styles

## ✓ Activity Checklist

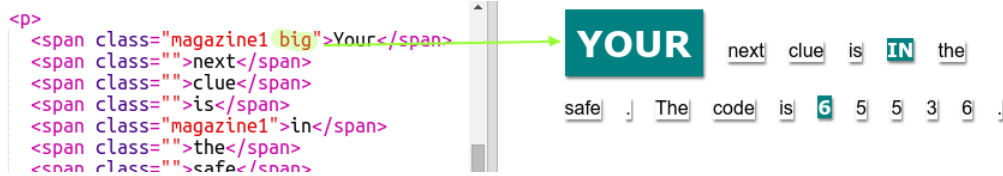
- ☐ Did you notice the `class=""` in the `<span>` tags? You can use this to style more than one thing in the same way.
- ☐ Add the `magazine1` class to a few of your `<span>` tags and test your webpage.

```
<p>
  <span class="magazine1">Your</span>
  <span class="">next</span>
  <span class="">clue</span>
  <span class="">is</span>
  <span class="magazine1">in</span>
  <span class="">the</span>
  <span class="">safe</span>
  <span class="">.</span>
  <span class="">The</span>
  <span class="">code</span>
  <span class="">is</span>
  <span class="magazine1">6</span>
  <span class="">5</span>
  <span class="">5</span>
  <span class="">3</span>
  <span class="">6</span>
  <span class="">.</span>
</p>
```

**YOUR** next clue is **IN** the safe .  
The code is **6** 5 5 3 6 .

## ✓ Activity Checklist

- ☐ You can add more than one class to an element. Just leave a space in between. Add the `big` class to one of your `<span>` tags. Test your page.



## Save Your Project

### Challenge: Style Your Message

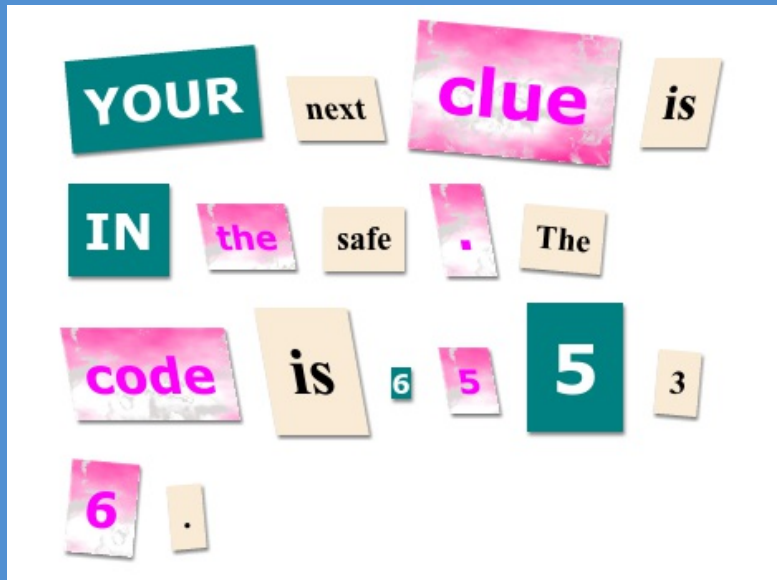
Use the provided styles to make your message look like a mystery letter.

Add these classes to your `<span>` tags:

- ☐ newspaper , magazine1 , magazine2
- ☐ medium , big , reallybig
- ☐ rotateleft , rotateright
- ☐ skewleft , skewright

Don't add more than one from each line to a particular `<span>`.

This is how your letter could look:



## Save Your Project

### Step 4: Editing Classes

#### ✓ Activity Checklist

- ☐ Click on the 'style.css' tab. Find the style for the `newspaper` CSS class that you have been using.

```
.newspaper {  
    background-color: antiquewhite;  
    font-family: "Times New Roman";  
    font-weight: bold;  
}
```

- ☐ Notice that there's a dot (full stop) '.' before the name of the class in the CSS file but not in the `<span>` tag in your HTML document.
- ☐ Now look at the other CSS classes that you used to style your mystery letter. Can you find:

- How the `magazine1` style changes the text to all uppercase (capital) letters.
- How the `magazine2` style puts an image behind the text.

```
.magazine1 {
  background-color: teal;
  color:white;
  font-family: Verdana;
  font-weight: 900;
  text-transform: uppercase;
}

.magazine2 {
  background-image: url('pink-pattern.png');
  color: fuchsia;
  font-family: Verdana;
  font-weight: 900;
}
```

- ☐ What happens if you change the `background-image` for `magazine2` to `canvas.png`? If you prefer `pink-pattern.png` you can change it back.

You can also change the colours in the magazine styles if you like.

- ☐ Find the CSS used to rotate and skew (tilt) your words:

```
.rotateleft {
  transform: rotate(-5deg);
}

.rotateright {
  transform: rotate(5deg);
}

.skewleft {
  transform: skewX(10deg);
}

.skewright {
  transform: skewX(-10deg);
}
```

Try changing the numbers to create different effects and then testing your page.

## Step 5: Create a New Class

Let's create a style that looks like it has been cut from a Comic. [jump.to/cc/web-fonts](http://jump.to/cc/web-fonts) provides loads of fonts that are free to use.

### ✓ Activity Checklist

- ☐ Add a `comic` class in the `style.css` file. After `magazine2` is a good place. Don't forget the dot in front of the class name.

```
.magazine2 {  
    background-image: url('pink-pattern.png');  
    color: fuchsia;  
    font-family: Verdana;  
    font-weight: 900;  
}  
  
.comic {
```

Don't worry if you get a warning saying that 'The Rule is empty'; you'll fix that next.

- ☐ Now add some CSS to the comic CSS class. You can use different colours if you like. There's a list of loads of colours at [jump.to/cc/colours](http://jump.to/cc/colours).

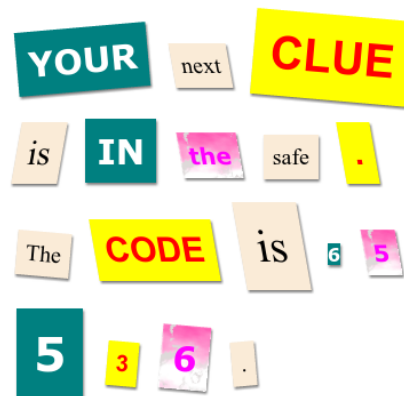
```
.comic {  
    background-color: yellow;  
    color: red;  
    font-weight: bold;  
}
```

- ☐ Use the comic style in some of the `<span>` tags in your HTML document and test your page:

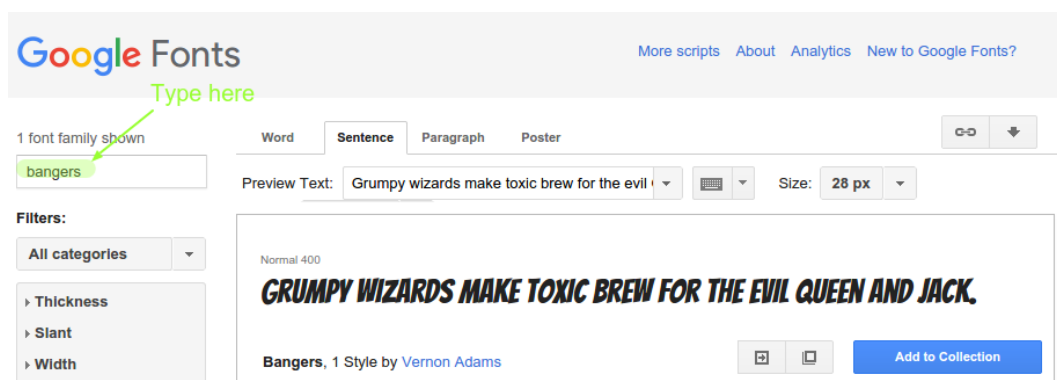
```

<p>
<span class="magazine1 big rotateleft">Your</span>
<span class="newspaper medium skewleft">next</span>
<span class="comic reallybig rotateright">clue</span>
<span class="newspaper big skewright">is</span>
<span class="magazine1 big">in</span>
<span class="magazine2 medium skewleft">the</span>
<span class="newspaper medium">safe</span>
<span class="comic big skewleft">.</span>
<span class="newspaper medium rotateright">The</span>
<span class="comic big skewleft">code</span>
<span class="newspaper reallybig skewleft">is</span>
<span class="magazine1">6</span>
<span class="magazine2 medium skewleft">5</span>
<span class="magazine1 reallybig">5</span>
<span class="comic medium rotateright">3</span>
<span class="magazine2 big rotateright">6</span>
<span class="newspaper medium rotateleft">.</span>
</p>

```



- ☐ Now you can add a fun font. Open a new browser tab or window. Go to [jump.to/cc/web-fonts](http://jump.to/cc/web-fonts) and search for ‘bangers’:



- ☐ Click on the Quick-use button:



- ☐ A new page will load. Scroll down until you see:





and copy the highlighted code.

- ☐ Paste the `<link>` code that you just copied from Google fonts into the `<head>` of your webpage:

```
<head>
<title>Mystery Letter</title>
<link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css">
<link href='https://fonts.googleapis.com/css?family=Bangers' rel='stylesheet' type='text/css'>
```

This allows you to use the Bangers font in your webpage.

- ☐ Return to Google fonts and scroll further down the page and copy the font-family code:

#### 4. Integrate the fonts into your CSS:

The Google Fonts API will generate the necessary browser-specific CSS to use the fonts. All you need to do is add the font name to your CSS styles. For example:

```
font-family: 'Bangers', cursive;
```

- ☐ Now go back to your `'style.css'` file in trinket and paste the font-family code into the comic style:

```
.comic {
  background-color: yellow;
  color: red;
  font-weight: bold;
  font-family: 'Bangers', cursive;
}
```



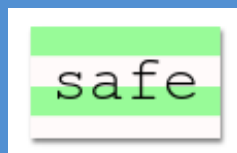
Test your webpage. The result should look something like this:



**Save Your Project**

## Challenge: Create A Computer Printout Style

Create an old-fashioned computer printout style and apply it to some of the words:



You will need:



The **VT323** font family from [jump.to/cc/web-fonts](http://jump.to/cc/web-fonts). Look

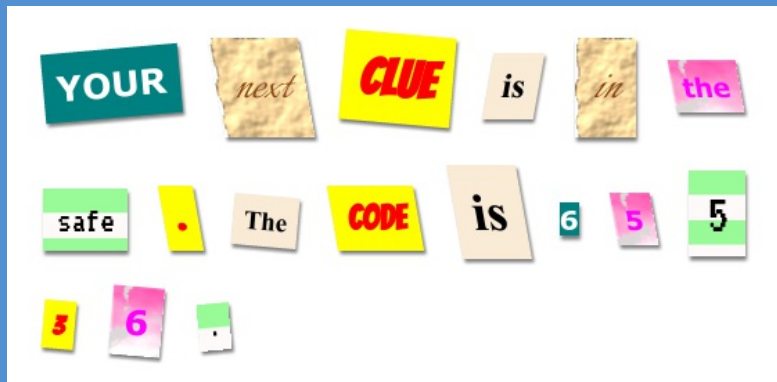
back at Step 5 if you need a reminder on using Google fonts.

- ☐ The `computer-printout-paper.png` background image. Look back at Step 4 if you need a reminder on using background images.

## Challenge: Create Your Own Styles

Now create your own class styles and make your mystery letter even more interesting. Use the CSS that you have learnt in previous projects and look at the examples in **style.css** for ideas.

Here's an example:



You can see the images that are available to use by clicking on the Images tab in trinket. Try setting image backgrounds using one of the included images:

- ☐ `rough-paper.png`
- ☐ `canvas.png`

If you have a trinket account, you can upload images of your own as you did in the 'Tell a Story' Project.

Find fonts that you like on [jump.to/cc/web-fonts](http://jump.to/cc/web-fonts) and copy their `<link>` and CSS code into your trinket to use them.

**Save Your Project**