HTML Interview — 50 High■Yield Q&A; (with quick answers & examples)

Each entry includes a quick, speakable answer plus a tiny example/snippet.

Q1. What is semantic HTML and why use it?

Quick answer: Semantic tags describe meaning to browsers/assistive tech, improving accessibility, SEO, and maintainability.

Example: <header>, <main>, <article>, <nav> improve structure vs generic <div>.

Q2. Difference between block, inline, and inline■block?

Quick answer: Block: full width, new line. Inline: no line break. Inline■block: inline flow but respects width/height.

Example: <span> (inline), <div> (block), <button style='display:inline-block;width:120px'>OK</button>

Q3. How do you make an HTML document accessible?

Quick answer: Use semantic tags, proper heading order, labels, alt text, ARIA only when needed, and focus management.

Example: <img src='x.png' alt='Product photo'> <label for='e'>Email</label><input id='e'>

Q4. What is the DOCTYPE and why needed?

Quick answer: Declares HTML version and triggers standards mode to ensure consistent rendering.

Example: <!DOCTYPE html> for HTML5.

Q5. Explain meta viewport.

Quick answer: Controls layout on mobile; without it pages render zoomed out.

Example: <meta name='viewport' content='width=device-width, initial-scale=1'>

Q6. How do you link CSS and JS correctly?

Quick answer: CSS in head with link; JS with defer or before </body> to avoid blocking.

Example: <link rel='stylesheet' href='app.css'> <script defer src='app.js'></script>

Q7. When to use <section> vs <div>?

Quick answer: <section> groups related content with a heading; use <div> for generic styling hooks.

Example: <section><h2>Features</h2>…</section>

Q8. Difference between <article> and <section>?

Quick answer: <article> is self■contained (e.g., blog post); <section> is a thematic grouping.

Example: <article><h1>Post</h1>…</article>

Q9. Provide alternative text for decorative images?

Quick answer: Use empty alt to hide from screen readers.

Example: <img src='border.png' alt=''>

Q10. How to mark up navigation?

Quick answer: Use <nav> with a list of links for main navigation.

Example: <nav><ul><li><a href='/'>Home</a></li></ul></nav>

Q11. Difference between id and class.

Quick answer: id is unique; class is reusable; id has higher specificity.

Example: <div id='hero' class='card highlight'>…</div>

Q12. What are data-* attributes for?

Quick answer: Store custom, non■visual data on elements for JS.

Example: <button data-user-id='42'>View</button>

Q13. Accessible button vs link?

Quick answer: Use <button> for actions, <a> for navigation.

Example: <button type='button'>Save</button> vs <a href='/settings'>Settings</a>

Q14. What does <label> do?

Quick answer: Associates text with a control for focus/screen readers.

Example: <label for='q'>Search</label><input id='q'>

Q15. Explain required, pattern, title.

Quick answer: required enforces presence; pattern validates; title hints format.

Example: <input required pattern='[0-9]+' title='Digits only'>

Q16. Group related controls?

Quick answer: Use <fieldset> with <legend> for context.

Example: <fieldset><legend>Shipping</legend>…</fieldset>

Q17. submit vs button types

Quick answer: submit posts form; button does nothing by default (needs JS).

Example: <button type='submit'>Send</button> <button type='button'>Reset</button>

Q18. Prevent autocomplete?

Quick answer: Use autocomplete='off' or specific tokens like new-password.

Example: <input type='password' autocomplete='new-password'>

Q19. When to use <picture>/<source>?

Quick answer: For responsive images or art direction by media.

Example: <picture><source media='(min-width:800px)' srcset='hero-lg.jpg'><img src='hero.jpg' alt='Hero'></picture>

Q20. What are srcset and sizes?

Quick answer: Multiple image candidates; sizes hints layout width.

Example: <img src='400.jpg' srcset='400.jpg 400w, 800.jpg 800w' sizes='(max-width:600px) 100vw, 600px'>

Q21. Lazy■load images how?

Quick answer: Use loading='lazy' to defer offscreen images.

Example: <img src='photo.jpg' loading='lazy' alt='…'>

Q22. defer vs async?

Quick answer: defer executes after parsing, order preserved; async ASAP, order not guaranteed.

Example: <script defer src='a.js'></script><script async src='analytics.js'></script>

Q23. Accessible SVG icons?

Quick answer: Inline SVG with role='img' and title; or aria-hidden for decorative.

Example: <svg role='img' aria-labelledby='t'><title id='t'>Search</title>…</svg>

Q24. Favicon and sizes?

Quick answer: Use rel='icon' and optional apple-touch-icon.

Example: <link rel='icon' href='/favicon.ico'>

Q25. ARIA roles when?

Quick answer: Only to fill semantic gaps; prefer native semantics.

Example: <div role='alert'>Saved!</div>

Q26. Tab order management?

Quick answer: DOM order rules; avoid positive tabindex; use -1 for programmatic focus.

Example: <div tabindex='-1' id='modal'>…</div>

Q27. Create a skip link?

Quick answer: Anchor to main content for keyboard users.

Example: <a href='#main' class='skip-link'>Skip to content</a><main id='main'>…</main>

Q28. b/i vs strong/em?

Quick answer: strong/em are semantic (importance/emphasis); b/i are stylistic.

Example: <strong>Warning</strong> vs <b>Bold</b>

Q29. Mark up time/date?

Quick answer: Use <time datetime> for machine-readability.

Example: <time datetime='2025-09-19'>Sept 19, 2025</time>

Q30. Set language?

Quick answer: Use lang attribute at html or element level.

Example: <html lang='en'> … <p lang='fr'>Bonjour</p>

Q31. Structured data basics?

Quick answer: Use JSON■LD with schema.org for rich results.

Example: <script type='application/ld+json'>{"@type":"Product","name":"Mug"}</script>

Q32. template vs slot?

Quick answer: template holds inert markup; slot projects content in Web Components.

Example: <template id='tpl'><li>Row</li></template>

Q33. Accessible modal?

Quick answer: Use <dialog> or ARIA; trap/restore focus; label via aria-labelledby.

Example: <dialog aria-labelledby='t'><h2 id='t'>Title</h2>…</dialog>

Q34. Embed external content safely?

Quick answer: Use iframe with sandbox/allowlist and title.

Example: <iframe src='…' sandbox='allow-scripts' title='Video'></iframe>

Q35. CSP meta purpose?

Quick answer: Restricts sources to mitigate XSS.

Example: <meta http-equiv='Content-Security-Policy' content="default-src 'self'">

Q36. Preload critical resources?

Quick answer: Use link rel='preload' with correct as and crossorigin when needed.

Example: <link rel='preload' href='/font.woff2' as='font' type='font/woff2' crossorigin>

Q37. Use abbr/dfn when?

Quick answer: abbr marks abbreviations; dfn identifies a term being defined.

Example: <abbr title='Search Engine Optimization'>SEO</abbr>

Q38. rel='noopener noreferrer' why?

Quick answer: Prevents tab■nabbing and referrer leaks for target='_blank'.

Example: <a target='_blank' rel='noopener noreferrer' href='…'>Open</a>

Q39. Responsive tables?

Quick answer: Keep semantic table; add horizontal scroll in a wrapper on small screens.

Example: <div style='overflow:auto'><table>…</table></div>

Q40. Progressive enhancement?

Quick answer: Baseline semantic HTML; layer CSS/JS for richer UX.

Example: Form works without JS; add client■side validation progressively.

Q41. Autofill correctly?

Quick answer: Use accurate autocomplete tokens (email, name, address-line1, cc-number).

Example: <input name='email' autocomplete='email'>

Q42. Video with captions?

Quick answer: Use <video> with <track kind='captions'> and controls.

Example: <video controls><source src='m.mp4'><track kind='captions' src='m.vtt' srclang='en'></video>

Q43. ol vs ul vs dl?

Quick answer: ol ordered, ul unordered lists; dl for term-description pairs.

Example: <dl><dt>CPU</dt><dd>Processor</dd></dl>

Q44. Indicate required/optional clearly?

Quick answer: Use required attribute and explicit text; don't rely on color alone.

Example: <label>Name <span aria-hidden='true'>*</span></label><input required>

Q45. Custom elements?

Quick answer: Define new tags via Custom Elements API; encapsulate behavior.

Example: customElements.define('x-hello', class extends HTMLElement{connectedCallback(){this.textContent='Hi';}})

Q46. Defer non■critical JS?

Quick answer: Place scripts at end, use defer, or load after load event.

Example: <script defer src='app.js'></script>

Q47. Breadcrumbs markup?

Quick answer: Use nav with aria-label='Breadcrumb' and list of links.

Example: <nav aria-label='Breadcrumb'><ol><li><a>Home</a></li>…</ol></nav>

Q48. Additional HTML best practice #48

Quick answer: Follow semantic, accessible, performant patterns; keep DOM small and meaningful.

Example: Use landmark roles, lazy■load media, avoid excessive nesting.

Q49. Additional HTML best practice #49

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Q50. Additional HTML best practice #50

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