Dust

In this lab, you will transform a static HTML page into a Dust template.

# Objectives

In this lab, you will

* extract a model from a static HTML page,
* use Dust logic helpers and section tags to navigate your model,
* transform a static HTML page into a Dust template.

# Run Dust with Node

For this lab, we will be running Dust from start to finish in Node. In your lab directory you will see a file named rundust.js. This application will compile your template, load it into Dust, and render an HTML page into a file.

1. Open a shell, cd to the lab directory, and run npm install. This will install all of the necessary modules in the lab directory.
2. Execute the following command in the same shell:

node rundust quiz.dust

This will create a one-line html file, quiz.html. Rerun this command as needed as you are developing your template to see your results.

# Open your original, static HTML page

1. Open the file original-quiz.html in an editor. This is your starting point. Open it up in a browser also to see what it looks like rendered. This is a very simple page for gathering up students' answers to a set of assessment questions. Consider the pieces that should be taken out of this HTML so that the finished template can be used with any assessment.

# Open the template and model files

1. Open the file quiz.dust in an editor. This is where you will build your template
2. Open the file model.js in an editor. This is where you will build your model.

# Design your data model

This is an optional step for this lab. Feel free to copy the model over from the solution directory if you want to save time or skip designing the data model and copying content.

1. Design a data model and copy the content from the HTML page over into your model.

Perhaps the easiest way to start is to just copy the contents of the static HTML page into your template. Then look at the information in the HTML and begin designing your data model. You should wind up with three major types: the assessment as a whole, a question, and an answer. Shell out the model in your model file.

# Populate the model

1. Extract the information from the HTML that belongs in the model and not the page. Replace any values you want with placeholder tags using the property names from your model.

# Create the template logic

1. There are a number of places where you will want to use the easy iteration of arrays built into Dust sections. There's also a lot of similarity between a set of radio button inputs and a checkbox input. Consider using a logic helper.

There is no "right" solution to this lab. There is a tremendous amount of flexibility in Dust. Have fun coming up with surprises!

When you're finished page matches the original, this lab is complete!