

From Skeleton to Skin: The Art of Digital Styling

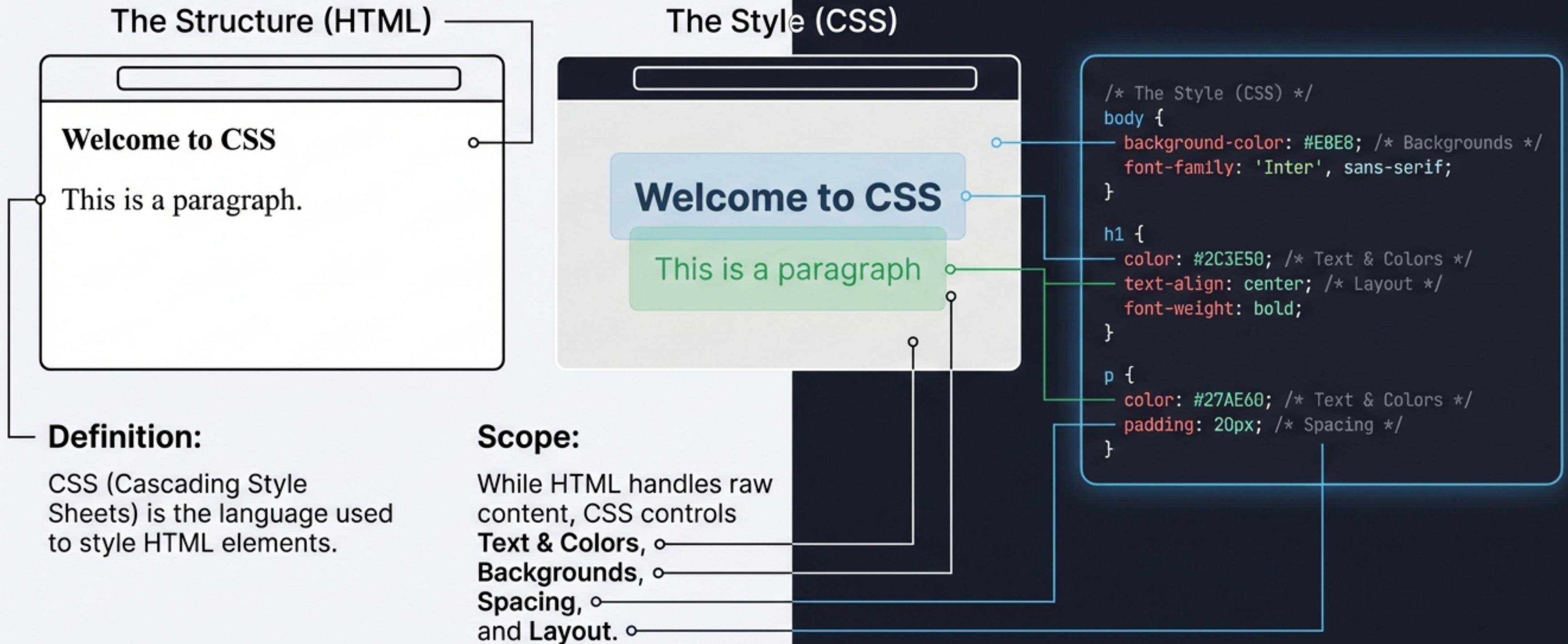
A foundational guide to Cascading Style Sheets
(CSS) for web developers.

LESSON 1: INTRODUCTION TO CSS

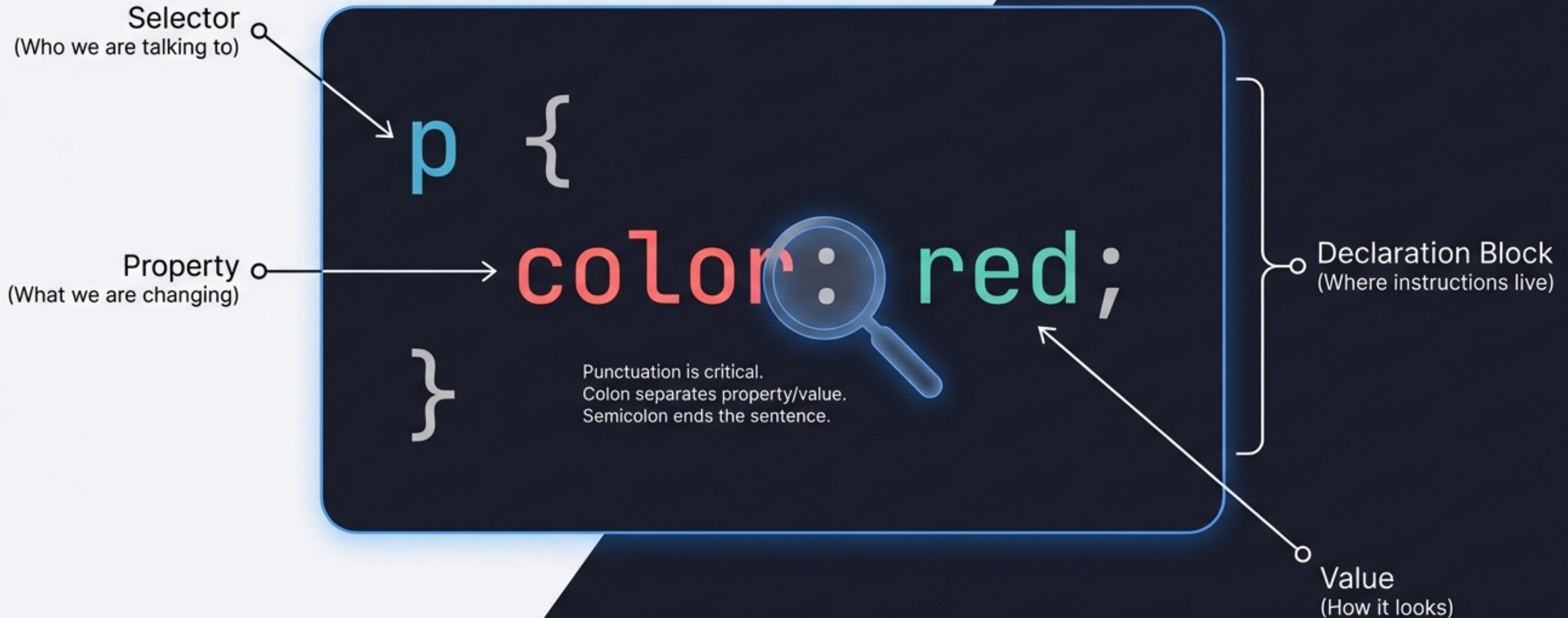


Helvetica Now Display

HTML Builds the Structure. CSS Creates the Experience.

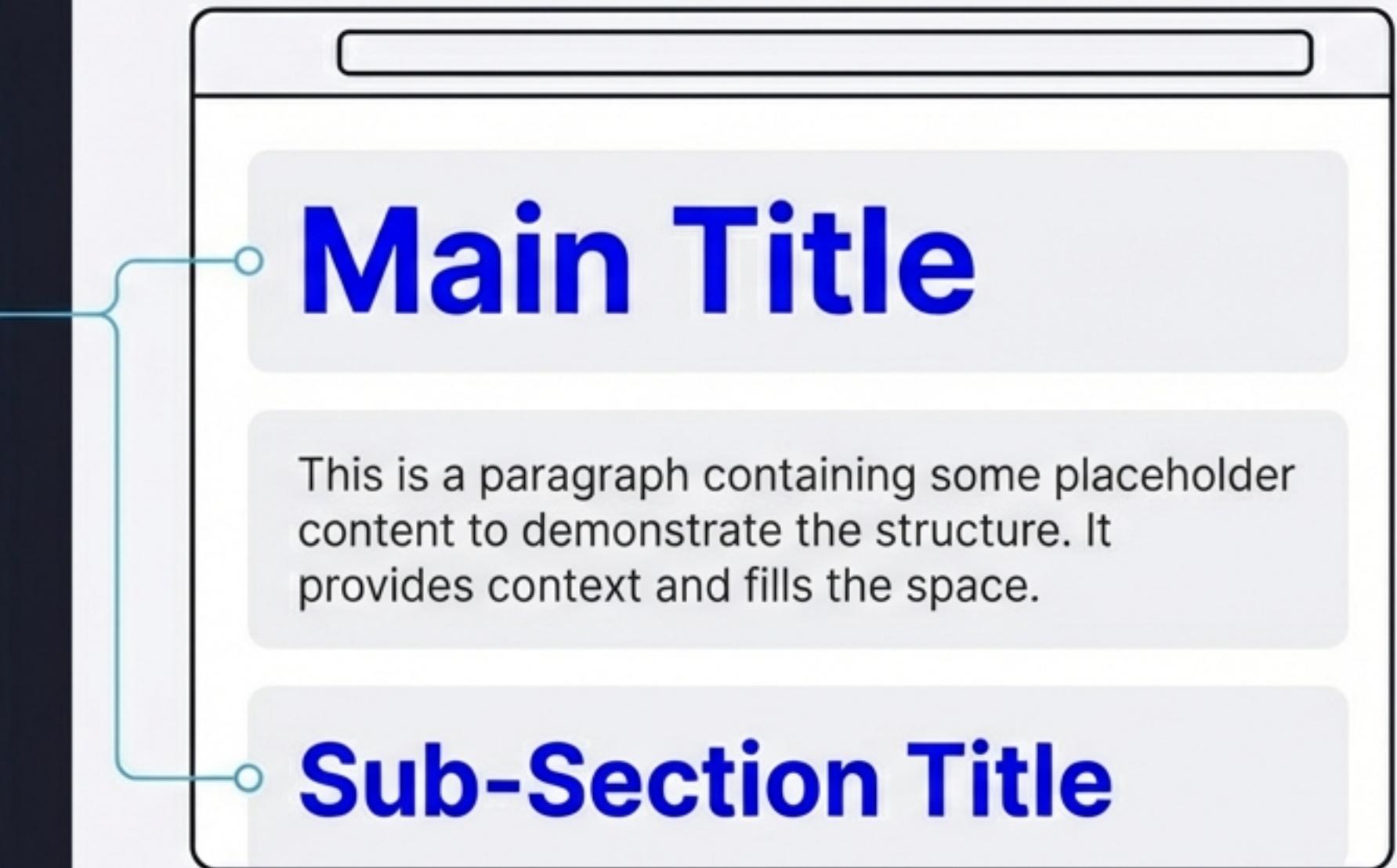


The Anatomy of a CSS Rule



The Selector: Targeting Your Elements

```
h1 {  
    color: blue;  
}
```



Writing “h1” once changes tn every <h1> on your website.
This is the power of cascading styles.

The Declaration Block: Grouping Instructions

You can stack multiple instructions inside the curly braces.

```
p {  
    color: darkgreen;  
    font-size: 18px;  
}
```

1. Identify all <p> tags.
2. Paint text dark green.
3. Set size to 18px.

Method 1: Inline CSS

The 'Quick but Rigid'
Approach

```
<p style="color: green;">  
    This is green text  
</p>
```

Analysis

- **How it works:** CSS is written directly inside the HTML opening tag using the 'style' attribute.
- **The Verdict:** Use sparingly. It mixes content with style, making it hard to maintain.

Method 2: Internal CSS

The “Single Page”
Solution

```
<head>
  <head>
    <style>
      body { background-color: lightgray; }
    </style>
  </head>
</body>
```

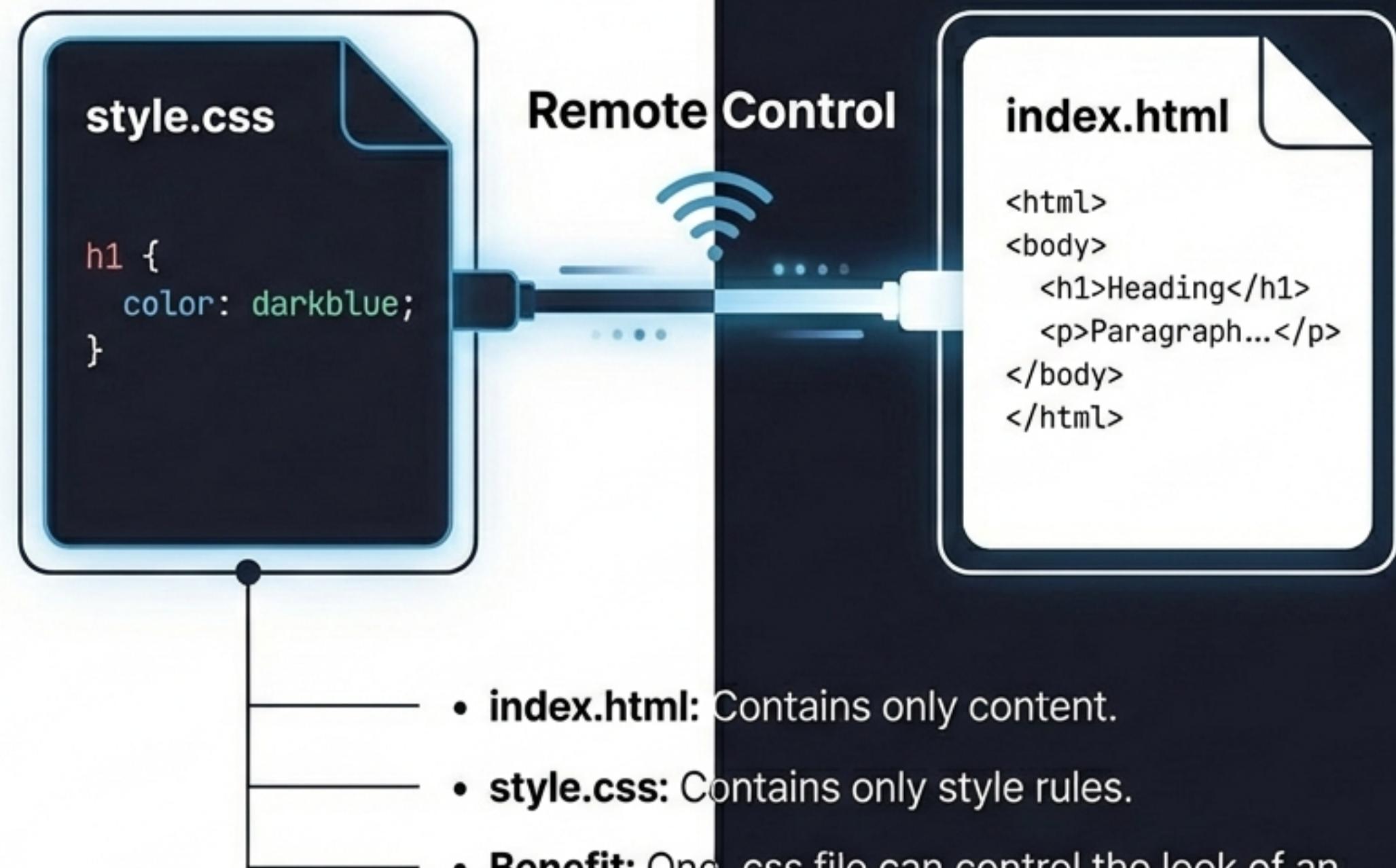
Analysis

How it works: CSS is nested within `<style>` tags inside the `<head>`.

The Verdict: Good for single-page projects, but does not share styles across multiple pages.

Method 3: External CSS (Reco mmended)

The “Professional”
Standard



Connecting the Files

For External CSS to work, the HTML file must know the CSS file exists. We create this link in the HTML <head>.

```
<link rel="stylesheet"  
      href="style.css">
```

Tells browser: "This
is a styling file"

Tells browser:
"File is located here"

Property: Color

Changes the foreground color of text.

```
p {  
  color: red;  
}
```

This text has been
painted red.

Property: Background Color

Paints the background area of an element or page.

```
body {  
background-color: lightgray;  
}
```

The canvas is now gray.

Property: Font Size

Precision control over text size.

```
h1 {  
    font-size: 40px;  
}
```

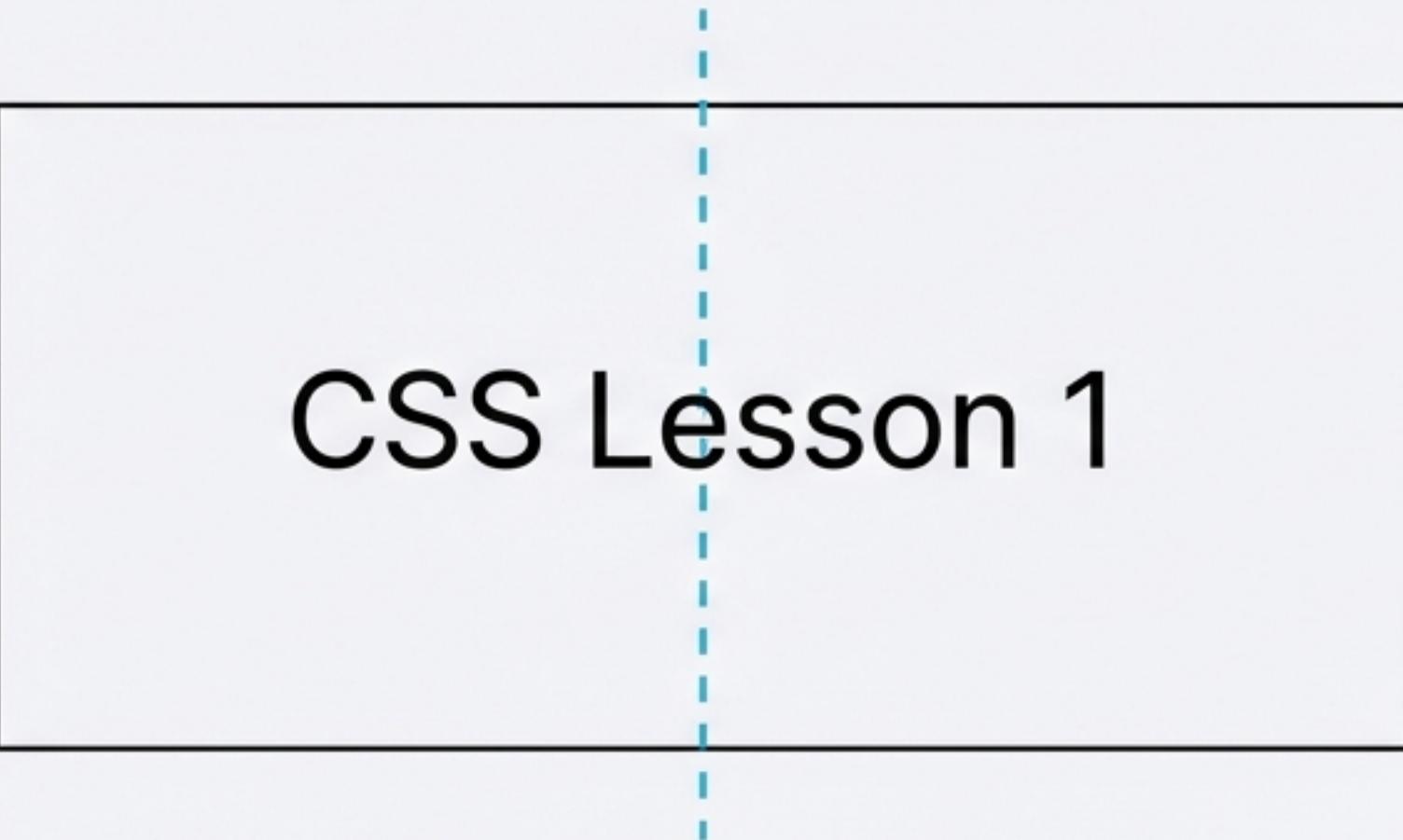
Welcome
to CSS

Default
Size
(16px)

Property: Text Alignment

Controls horizontal alignment within the container.

```
h1 {  
    text-align: center;  
}
```



CSS Lesson 1

Efficiency: Grouping Selectors

Target two different elements with the same rule by using a comma.

```
h1, p {  
    font-family: Arial;  
}
```

<h1>This is a Title
<p> This is a paragraph

Shared Style
Inter Regular

The CSS Foundation: A Recap

THE GOLDEN RULE

Selector — { Property : Value }

The diagram illustrates the structure of a CSS rule. It starts with a 'Selector' on the left, followed by a brace '}'. A horizontal line extends from the brace to the right, with three arrows pointing down to the colon ':'. The first arrow is labeled 'Targets Element' and points to the 'Selector'. The second arrow is labeled 'What to change' and points to the 'Property'. The third arrow is labeled 'How to change' and points to the 'Value'.

THE STRUCTURE

index.html + style.css = The Modern Web

(Structure)

(Style)

Roboto

QUOTE

HTML builds the house.
CSS paints the walls.

Inter Regular

```
h1 {  
    color: blue;  
}
```

```
/* style.css */  
body {  
    font-family: Inter;  
}
```

```
/* CSS paints the walls */  
.house {  
    background-color: #FF6B6B;  
}
```