COMP 1017

Day 06

Document Structure Sectioning Elements

HTML5 has a number of sectioning elements to help us organise our documents.

They are considered semantic elements.

Today, we're going to learn three: `<header>`, `<main>`, and `<footer>`.

<header>

A \<header\> generally belongs at the top of a page.

It will usually contain things like a logo, top-level heading, and some sort of navigation.

However, <header> can also be placed *within* another sectioning element.

For example, when placed inside an <article>, it might contain things like the headline, byline, and the time of publication.

We'll learn more about <article> later.

<main>

The `<main>` element marks up the central topic or content of the document.

As a rule of thumb, <main> should contain content unique to that page.

This means it should not contain content that is repeated across pages (ex. logos, navigation, etc.).

The <main> element is especially important for screen readers because it helps them skip to the most important content right away.

Otherwise, your user might get stuck listening to the entire website's menu over and over again.

<footer>

A <footer> often belongs at the bottom of a page.

It contains information that might be repeated or consistent throughout the website.

It can include things like copyright information, legal notices, licenses, publication date, and sometimes additional links or navigation.

<head> vs <header> vs headings

The <head> is where your instructions to the browser go. No content belongs here.

A \<header\> is a sectioning element. It is often placed at the top of a page.

<h1>, <h2>, <h3>, <h4>, <h5>, <h6>

Finally, headings are words, phrases, or sentences at the beginning of a section that give us an idea of what it's about.