Assume you are expert in finding xpath and a good guide to explain to beginner to advance level then provide all the examples to find xpath like parent seach and also with how the html code looks like

Great! Let's dive deep into **XPath** from **beginner to advanced level** with **real HTML code examples** and explanations.



## What is XPath?

XPath (XML Path Language) is used to navigate through elements and attributes in XML/HTML documents. It's widely used in automation tools like Selenium, Cypress, and Playwright to locate web elements.

# Basic Syntax

//tagname[@attribute='value']

Example:

//input[@id='username']



# **Beginner Level**

### 1. Absolute XPath

Finds the element using the **full path** from the root.

HTML:

<html>

```
<br/>
<br/>
<br/>
<input type="text" id="username"/>
</div>
</body>
</html>
```

//html/body/div/input

Not recommended: Changes in DOM can break the path.

### 2. Relative XPath

Starts from anywhere using //.

HTML:

<input type="text" id="username"/>

XPath:

//input[@id='username']

More stable and commonly used.

# 3. Using Multiple Attributes

//input[@id='username' and @type='text']

# 4. Using contains()

Partial match of attribute values.

```
<input type="text" id="user-name-text"/>
```

//input[contains(@id, 'user')]

# 5. Using starts-with()

//input[starts-with(@id, 'user')]

# 6. Using text()

HTML:

<button>Submit</button>

XPath:

//button[text()='Submit']



# 7. Using parent Axis

HTML:

```
<div>
<label>Username</label>
<input id="uname" type="text"/>
</div>
```

XPath to go from input to parent div:

# 8. Using child Axis

HTML:

```
<div id="form">
<input id="email"/>
</div>
```

XPath:

//div[@id='form']/child::input

### 9. Using ancestor Axis

HTML:

```
<div id="outer">
  <div>
    <input id="searchBox"/>
    </div>
</div>
```

XPath to get div#outer from input:

//input[@id='searchBox']/ancestor::div[@id='outer']

# 10. Using following and preceding

```
<h1>Header</h1>
First paragraph
Second paragraph
```

### • XPath (get 2nd p after h1):

//h1/following::p[2]

# 11. Using following-sibling

HTML:

```
<div>
<label>Email</label>
<input type="text"/>
</div>
```

XPath:

//label[text()='Email']/following-sibling::input

# 12. Using preceding-sibling

HTML:

```
<div>
<label>Email</label>
<input type="text"/>
</div>
```

XPath:

//input[@type='text']/preceding-sibling::label



# Advanced Level

# 13. Indexing Elements

◆ HTML:	
<ul> <li>Home</li> <li>About</li> <li>Contact</li> <li><ul> <li>Home</li> <li>About</li> <li>Nontact</li> <li>Nontact</li></ul></li></ul>	
XPath for second item:	
//ul/li[2]	
14. Using last()	
XPath to get last list item:	
//ul/li[last()]	
15. XPath with and / or	
//input[@type='text' and @name='email']	
//input[@type='text' or @type='password']	
16. Wildcard *	
• Any tag with id 'login':	
//*[@id='login']	
17. Using normalize-space()	
Useful to trim whitespaces	

```
<button> Login </button>
```

//button[normalize-space(text())='Login']

# 18. Using Grouping ( ) in XPath

HTML:

```
<div class="btn">Save</div>
<div class="btn">Submit</div>
```

XPath:

//div[(text()='Save' or text()='Submit') and @class='btn']

### 19. Chained XPath

HTML:

```
Name
John
```

XPath for value "John":

//td[text()='Name']/following-sibling::td

# 20. Custom XPath for Dynamic IDs

```
<input id="user_12345" />
```

//input[starts-with(@id, 'user\_')]

# **19** Bonus Tip: Test XPath in Browser

• Press F12 → Console → Use:

\$x("//input[@id='username']")

Would you like a downloadable PDF or code snippet library with these examples?