

HTML Text Formatting Tags : by Gagan Baghel

Overview

HTML provides **special tags to format text** semantically. These tags improve readability, indicate importance, and preserve the intended meaning of content.

Interview Focus:

- Difference between `` and ``, `<i>` and ``
- Semantic meaning vs visual effect
- Preformatted text and inline code usage
- Abbreviations, quotations, and inserted/deleted text

1. Bold and Important Text

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code></code>	Bold text (visual only)	<code>Important</code> → Important
<code></code>	Important text (semantic + bold)	<code>Critical Notice</code> → Critical Notice

Tip:

- Use `` when conveying **semantic importance**.
- `` is purely **visual**.

2. Italics and Emphasis

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code><i></code>	Italic text (visual only)	<code><i>Note</i></code> → <i>Note</i>
<code></code>	Emphasized text (semantic + italic)	<code>Warning</code> → <i>Warning</i>

Tip:

- Use `` for content that needs **emphasis in meaning**, not just style.

3. Highlighted and Small Text

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code><mark></code>	Marked/highlighted text	<code><mark>Important</mark></code> → Important
<code><small></code>	Smaller text	<code><small>Terms & Conditions</small></code> → <i>Terms & Conditions</i>

4. Inserted and Deleted Text

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code></code>	Deleted text → indicates removed/unavailable content	<code>Old Price</code> → Old Price
<code><s></code>	Strikethrough → shows irrelevant or outdated content	<code><s>Old price</s> \$19.99</code> → Old price \$19.99
<code><ins></code>	Inserted text → indicates new content	<code><ins>New Content</ins></code> → New Content

Tip:

- `` implies **content is removed**, `<s>` indicates **irrelevant content**, and `<ins>` shows **added content**.

Example Scenario:

```
<p>
MRP: <s>1999/-</s>
SP: <ins>1599/-</ins> after discount
</p>
```

5. Preformatted Text

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code><pre></code>	Preserves whitespace and line breaks; uses monospace font	

```

<pre>
Line 1
  Line 2 indented
Line 3
</pre>

```

Output:

```

Line 1
  Line 2 indented
Line 3

```

6. Subscript and Superscript

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code><sub></code>	Subscript text	<code>H<sub>2</sub>O</code> → H ₂ O
<code><sup></code>	Superscript text	<code>x<sup>2</sup></code> → x ²

7. Quotations

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code><q></code>	Short inline quote	<code><q>To be or not to be</q></code> → "To be or not to be"
<code><blockquote></code>	Long block quote	

```

<blockquote>
  "The only limit to our realization of tomorrow is our doubts of today."
</blockquote>

```

8. Code and Keyboard Input

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code><code></code>	Inline code	<code><code>console.log('Hello');</code></code> → console.log('Hello');
<code><kbd></code>	Keyboard input	<code><kbd>Ctrl</kbd> + <kbd>C</kbd></code> → Ctrl + C

9. Abbreviations

Tag	Purpose	Example
<code><abbr></code>	Defines abbreviation; shows full text on hover	

```
<abbr title="Hypertext Markup Language">HTML</abbr>
```

- Displays **HTML**, hover shows **Hypertext Markup Language**

Extended Example:

```
<p>  
<abbr title="World Health Organization">WHO</abbr> was founded in 1948.  
</p>
```

10. Practice Questions (HTML Only)

1. Write a paragraph containing **bold**, *italic*, and **emphasized text**.
2. Show **old price** and **discounted price** using `` and `<ins>`.
3. Create a **chemical formula** like H₂O using `<sub>` and a math formula like x² using `<sup>`.
4. Write a **short quote** using `<q>` and a **long quote** using `<blockquote>`.
5. Show **keyboard instructions** like Ctrl + C using `<kbd>`.
6. Display an abbreviation and full form using `<abbr>` (e.g., HTML, CSS, JS).
7. Write **preformatted text** showing code with indentation preserved.

✓ Key Takeaways

- `` / `` → bold vs important (semantic)
- `<i>` / `` → italic vs emphasized (semantic)
- `` / `<s>` / `<ins>` → deleted, irrelevant, inserted text
- `<pre>` → preserves formatting
- `<sub>` / `<sup>` → subscript / superscript
- `<q>` / `<blockquote>` → quotations
- `<code>` / `<kbd>` → inline code / keyboard input
- `<abbr>` → abbreviation with hover text

11. Summary :

- `` : Bold text.
- `` : Important text.
- `<i>` : Italic text.
- `` : Emphasized text.
- `<mark>` : Marked text (highlighted).
- `<small>` : Smaller text.
- `` : Deleted text. → it shows that the content is not available in the webpage
- `<s>` : Strikethrough text. Similar to ``, but without implying that the text is deleted. basically It shows that this content is not relevant or no longer available.
 - Example: `<s>Old price</s> $19.99`

for example :

mrp : 1999/- :

sp : 1599/- after some discount

- `<ins>` : Inserted text. → it tells to the browser that it is a inserted content
- `<pre>` : Preformatted text. Preserves whitespace and displays text in monospace font.
- `<sub>` : Subscript text.
- `<sup>` : Superscript text.
- `<q>` : Short quotation (inline).
- `<blockquote>` : Block quote (for long quotations).
- `<code>` : Inline code (monospace font).
- `<kbd>` : Keyboard input. Example: `<kbd>Ctrl</kbd> + <kbd>C</kbd>` .
- `<abbr>` : Abbreviation. Example: `<abbr title="Hypertext Markup Language">HTML</abbr>` .

```
<p>
  <abbr
    title="in title we are writing the text that we want to display
    when the user take the cursor in the text that is written
    between the opening and closing tag of abbr tag "
  >
    shortcut text / mini text
  </abbr>
</p>
```