JavaScript and DOM – Class notes – *Manipulating CSS*

JavaScript can used to change the inline css or changing the external css file for a page or element.

# Manipulating inline css

Once you have access to html element through JavaScript, you can access as well as manipulate the “style” attribute of that element. The javaScript code below will select the style attribute of the div1 element and change the background color to red. Notice that the background color property being set to red is the css property background-color. However when this property is referred to in javaScript, we remove the “-“ and make the name into camelcased. So background-color becomes backgroundColor (upper case c for color). This same rule applies to all css properties when referred to in javascript.

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| HTML |
| <div **id = “div1”**> |
| JavaScript : *to access the div1 div element and change it’s style attribute and set the background color* |
| var div1 = document.getElementById(“div1”);  div1.style.backgroundColor = “red”; |

# accessing embeded css

The Style object can be accessed from the head section of the document from JavaScript. Once accessed, we can edit the contents of the <style> element. To get access to the content between the <style> and </style> element, we can use innerHTML. Note that the contents of the style element changed by setting the innerHTML property through javaScript will change the css of the element the css applies to.

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| HTML |
| <head>  <style>  body {  background-color: yellow;  color: red;  }  </style>  </head> |
| JavaScript : *to access the div1 div element and change it’s style attribute and set the background color* |
| var x = document.getElementsByTagName("STYLE")[0];  console.log(x);  console.log(x.innerHTML) |

# Adding/removing external css file

JavaScript can be used to change the external css file by creating new link element or altering the attributes of an existing link element. If a new link element is created using document.createElement function, it has to be appended to the head element.

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| HTML |
| <head>  <title>externalStyle.html</title>  <link rel = "stylesheet"  type = "text/css"  href = "myStyle.css" />  </head> |
| JavaScript : *to access the link element and also add another link element* |
| //to access a the existing link element  var lnk = document.getElementsByTagName(“link”)[0];  lnk.setAttribute(“href,”newStyle.ss”);  var newLnk= document.createElement(“newLnk);  newLnk.setAttribute(“href,”newStyle2.ss”);  var head = document.getElementsByTagName(“head”)[0];  head.appendChild(newLnk); |