Day 2: Traditional vs Modern Coding Standards, CSS Fundamentals, and Practical Tasks

Contents Covered:

Traditional vs Modern Coding Standards:

The second day of training began with a discussion on the evolution of coding standards from traditional methods to modern practices. Traditional coding often involved verbose and less optimized code structures, whereas modern coding emphasizes streamlined, efficient, and performance-oriented approaches. The importance of adopting modern coding standards was highlighted to ensure scalability, maintainability, and better performance of web applications.

Design Thumb Rule:

A key takeaway from the session was the thumb rule of design: prioritizing good look and feel, followed by speed and performance. Aesthetics play a crucial role in user engagement and satisfaction, but without optimized speed and performance, even the most visually appealing websites can suffer in user experience.

Introduction to CSS:

Following the design principles, participants were introduced to CSS (Cascading Style Sheets), a powerful tool for enhancing the presentation of web pages. The session covered the three types of CSS:

- **Inline CSS:** Applied directly within an HTML element using the style attribute.
- **Internal CSS:** Defined within a `<style>` tag inside the HTML document's head section.
- **External CSS:** Linked through an external file, providing the most efficient and maintainable approach.

External CSS was identified as the most efficient method, allowing for consistent styling across multiple pages and reducing redundancy.

Browser Caching and Speed:

The discussion also touched upon browser caching, explaining how CSS affects the loading speed of web pages. By leveraging browser caching, repeated requests for CSS files are minimized, thus enhancing the overall speed and performance of a website.

Tasks:

Dividing Web Page into Sections:

The practical segment involved using `div` elements to divide the web page into various sections, simulating rows and columns. This exercise was helpful in understanding the structuring of web pages using CSS for layout purposes.

In this task, images with color-coded sections representing content areas were recreated using only div tags. Basic CSS techniques, such as setting dimensions, height, width were applied to align and space the sections correctly. This exercise reinforced core layout principles and built a strong

foundation for structuring webpages with semantic HTML, preparing for more advanced methods like Flexbox or Grid.

Tools Utilized:

Visual Studio Code (VSCode):

The practical exercises were facilitated using Visual Studio Code (VSCode), a versatile and user-friendly code editor renowned for its robust features and seamless integration with various programming languages.

Summary:

Day 2 of the training provided a comprehensive understanding of traditional versus modern coding standards, the importance of design aesthetics, and CSS fundamentals. Participants learned about the different types of CSS, browser caching, and applied these concepts in practical tasks, such as structuring web pages using `div` elements. The use of external CSS and browser caching were emphasised to optimise the performance of web designs.