HTML Boilerplate

What is a boilerplate?

Boilerplate code in HTML is required to set up the basic web page structure. This web page structure is the same for all web pages in general.

```
<html>

    <head>

        <title></title>

    </head>

    <body>

        Body Content

    </body>

</html>
```

Automatic boilerplate generation in different Text Editors

Text editors can produce HTML boilerplate for us. The basic boilerplate generated (as shown above) will always stay the same across all text editors.

Although different text editors may produce some extra code as well apart from the basic boilerplate as shown above. For example, boilerplate produced by Atom text editor is:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>

<html lang="en" dir="ltr">

    <head>

        <meta charset="utf-8">

        <title></title>

    </head>

    <body>
```

```
    </body>

</html>
```
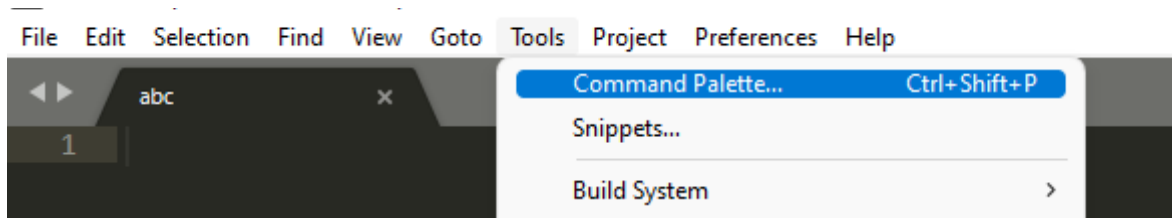
- **<!DOCTYPE html>** indicates the current version of HTML i.e., HTML5

- **<html lang="en" dir="ltr">**
    1. <u>**lang**</u> specifies the language of the content.
       lang="en" means language is English
            lang="es" means language is Spanish
            And so on.
            But we'll be using English.
            Usage of lang attribute helps the browser to display the text in the desired language.

    2. <u>**dir**</u> specifies the direction of text in which it'll be displayed
            dir="ltr" means left to right
            dir="rtl" means right to left

- **<meta charset="utf-8">**
            Declaring the "charset" as "UTF-8", tells the browser to use the UTF-8 character encoding, which is a method of converting the typed characters into machine-readable code.
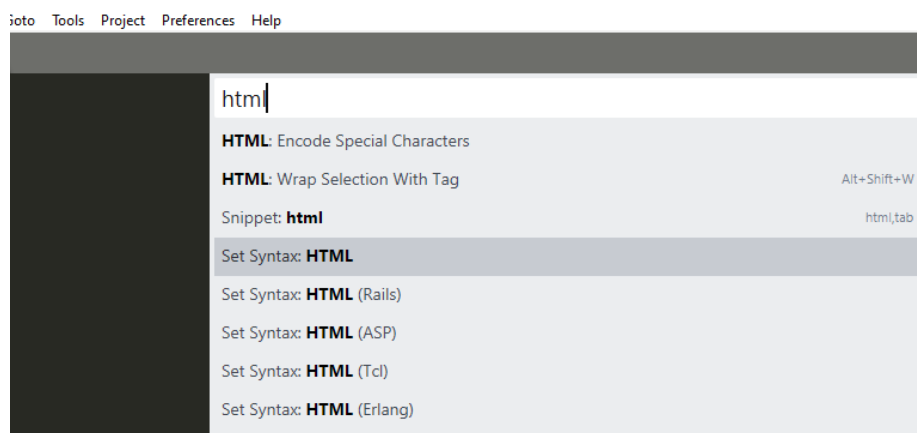
Notes:

- *You need NOT cram and learn these. But as a software developer, you should be aware of this kind of HTML code and its meaning.*
- *There are some attributes that browsers consider implicitly by default if you don't mention them explicitly. For example, the value of **dir** attribute is **"ltr"** (left to right) by default.*

Generating HTML Boilerplate in Sublime Text

1. go to Tools → Command Palette

2. Type 'HTML' then select 'Set Syntax: HTML'

3. Type in the text editor: <html

Then press enter and your boilerplate will be ready!