3-4 paras

Chapter 1 and the first week of this class provided a brief introduction on the things we will be learning in this class. The chapter started of with a brief history of the Internet and how it was used. After that it described the World Wide Web; and how browsers communicate with servers using HTTP. Finally the chapter wraps up with a brief overview of the programming languages and tools that will be taught in this course.

The first thing the chapter overview is that the Internet was created long before the World Wide Web. One thing I didn’t realize is that there was a time when there were a few isolated networks of computers and not one giant one like we have today. These computers relied heavily on different protocols such as FTP and telnet. Latter CERN devised a protocol called WWW, which created what we today use in our everyday lives. The WWW allowed you to search and view hypertext documents over the Internet.

The next thing the chapter touched on was how browsers and servers work. The browser is a piece of software that can render the document that you are retrieving over the Internet. The browser sends out an HTTP request, which tells the server what the client wants it to do. The server can also sends response messages, which tell the client a multitude of things from whether or not there was an error on the client’s side or server side.

Lastly it gave a brief overview of the languages and tools we will be learning in this course. It went over things I am a familiar with like JavaScript, AJAX, and flash; and other thing I have heard of but didn’t know to much about. The first was Ruby, which is an object oriented scripting language, and how it works with Rails to create an MVC. One thing I didn’t know about was the use of Java on the server side and more specifically servlets. It will be interesting learning about these things in more detail in the near future.