

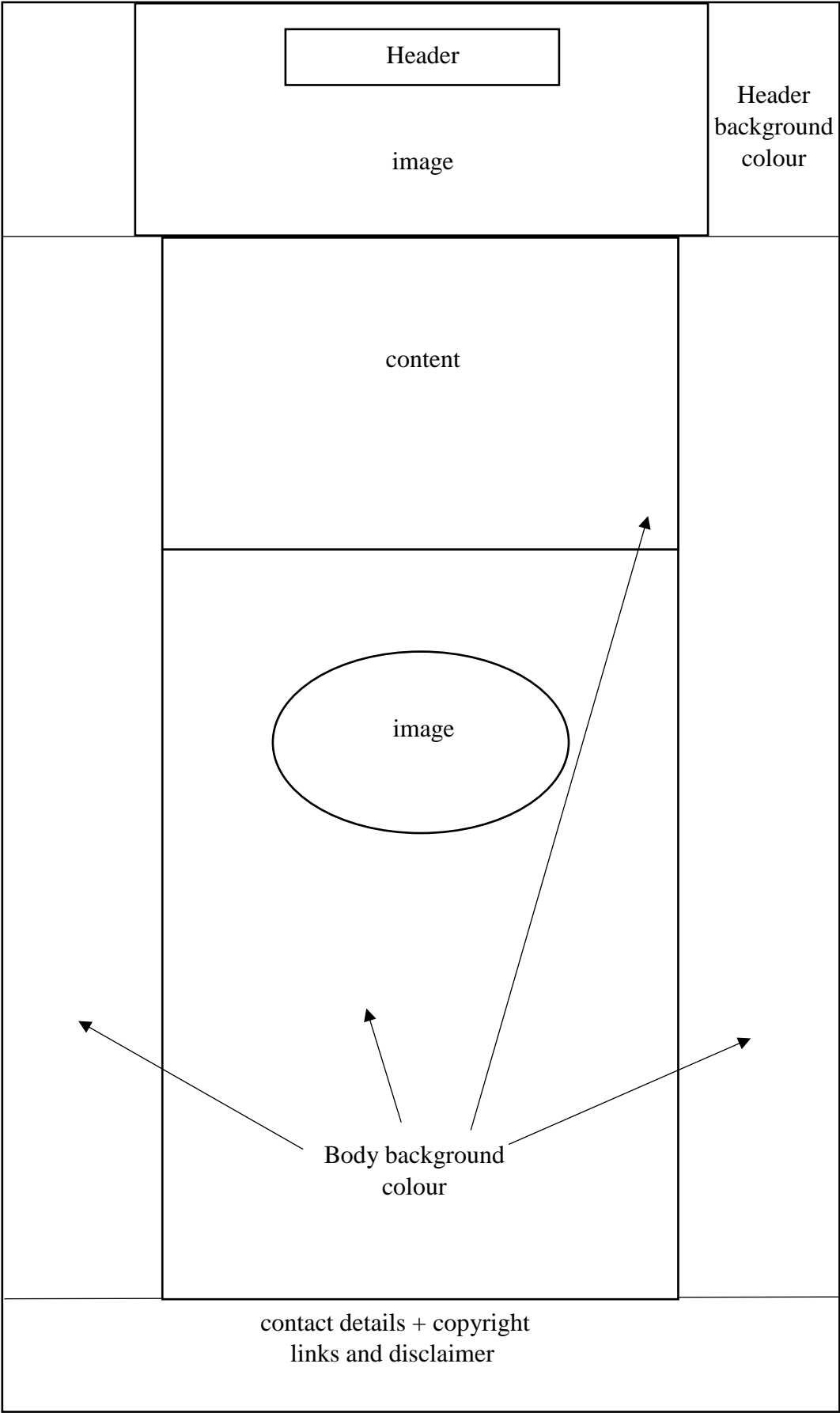
Design Document

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COMP1021 - Introduction to web technologies

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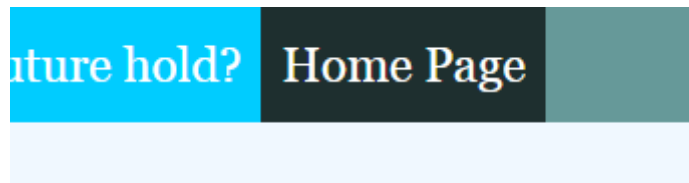


Colour scheme

The colour scheme of the website should be aesthetically pleasing to the eye but should not impede on the accessibility of the site or be too flashy and aggressive.

There will be a relatively consequential amount of text on this website. Therefore, it is necessary to choose a combination of light/dark for the text and the background to guarantee the legibility of the contents of the site.

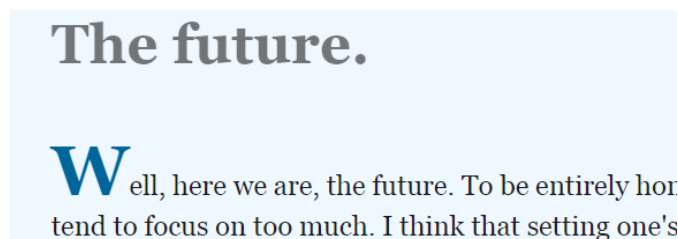
Blue and red excellent colours that work well together. For the background of the main body of the website, where all the text will be, a light colour with a slight blue tint contrasts well against a black text. The Navbar will also be of the colour blue, with the different variants of its elements, hover and active, being variations, dark and light respectively, of blue.



The main headers have a picture on the background, but the latter does not extend when the user modifies the browser window size. Consequently, we will use a dark red/maroon as an additional background colour that does not hurt the eye and offers an effective frame for the background picture.



The text is black for the content to contrast with the light background, whereas the main page header is white, to contrast with the images in the background.



There are cases where the white renders the text harder to read. The alternative is the darker red/maroon colour.

Font choice

The choice of the font was rather straightforward. To maximise the accessibility of the site, a default font was used: Georgia serif. This guarantees that any user will have a simple, aesthetic font, and avoids having to go through the hassle of downloading a new font.

Layout of the website

The issue with too elaborate layouts is that a user might very quickly and easily get lost. Hence, on this website a more traditional and simple approach has been used. This reflects the simple nature of the website. At the top is a main header area with a background image that changes for each topic and a main title. Under that is a simple horizontal navigation bar. In the middle is the main content area, where paragraphs, videos and pictures are located.

At the bottom is a footer with some basic contact details and a link to all the images that were found online and used on the header.

Evaluation

Overall, the layout of the webpages follows faithfully the same as the original design idea with the 4 main parts header, Navbar, content and footer implemented in the same way.

The only modification was to the Navbar. After a certain window size, the Navbar would collapse and be uneven on multiple lines, with margins sticking out for each element of the bar. To solve this problem, the Navbar now collapses automatically to a completely vertical Navbar after a certain size is reached via the @media query in CSS. This improves accessibility when the window is small and is perfect for users on smaller devices.

Via the recommendations of a friend, a new feature was added to the paragraph elements of the pages. They now start off with a minute decrease in their opacity and increase when they are hovered with a few seconds long delay. This gives the illusion that the text comes into focus and is much more aesthetically pleasing. The navbar elements also have a transition period from their different states, increasing the aesthetic appeal.

A sepia filter was applied to the “cheers” picture and the kitten, when hovered upon, they gain colour. This is purely aesthetic and adds a little feature to the website.

The cheers also flash red and black for no other reason than it catches the eye and is a little cute.

Testing

Testing was overall rather basic. The main issues came from the resizing of the window. Every time an html element was added, it was checked with a resizing of the window. Lastly, the compatibility of each feature was tested by using different browsers. The browsers this website was tested on were Google Chrome, Internet Explorer and Mozilla Firefox. All features except for the sepia fadeaway on the kitten and my profile pictures failed on explorer.

References

- (1) W3schools (2018) *html* Available from:
<https://www.w3schools.com/html/default.asp> [Accessed 9 march]