WDV221 Intro Javascript

Style Object and CSS Interactions – Notes

1. Discuss the Style object
   1. Document Object Model – style Object
2. Discuss relationship to CSS properties
3. Modifying the Style object

**Style Object**

The style object is part of the document object within the Document Object Model (DOM). Every object that can be affected by CSS automatically gets a style object within the document object. This style object contains any CSS affects that have been applied to the element.

Any CSS property can be stored in the style object. So any CSS effects applied to an HTML element have that information stored in the browser as part of the style object. If no CSS properties are applied to an element then it’s corresponding style object does not have any values set for its properties.

***For example:*** An h1 element in HTML has been turned green and centered with a CSS class selector. When the html page is processed by the browser the h1 element is turned into an h1 object within the document object. The h1 object automatically gets a style object attached to it by the browser. The CSS effects that turn the heading green and center it are stored in the attached style object so that the browser knows to show it as green text and centered within its container.

**HTML (source code)**

<style>

.topHeading {color: green;

text-align: center;

}

</style>

<h1 class=”topHeading”>Welcome to the Irish Pub!</h1>

**DOM (your HTML processed into the document object)**

h1 object – created by the h1 element in HTML

.class property of the h1 object

created by the attribute of the HTML element

“topHeading” value of the class property

.style object – created by the browser for all objects

.color property of the style object

“green” value of the property set by the CSS

.textAlign property of the style object

“center” value of the property set by the CSS

**Working with the Style object**

Using the .getElementById( ) we can gain access to any HTML object on the page. Once you have accessed the object you can access it’s style object by using “.style”. Once you have access to the relevant style object we can read or write the values to any of the available properties. Including the ones not set by CSS.

The properties of the Style object reflect the CSS properties. In general, if you can make the effect in CSS then you can change the effect on the Style object. Looking at the list of style properties you can see the similarities with CSS. Not the same but very close.

**Style Properties Example:**

*CSS Properties Style Object*

background-color backgroundColor

font-size fontSize

**Scripting Example:**

document.getElementById(“head1”).style.color ; //This will display the color of the text

document.getElementById(“head1”).style.color=”red”; //This will set the color of the text to red