A Brief History of HTML and the World Wide Web

IN THIS LESSON

A brief history of HTML and the World Wide Web

Visit to the first-ever HTML webpage

Comparison to a modern webpage

Who defines HTML standards today

HISTORY OF HTML & WORLD WIDE WEB

Tim Berners-Lee: Inventor of World Wide Web

Between 1989-1991: Created HTTP (HyperText Transmission Protocol) - rules for how web servers and browsers communicate

Also created HTML (HyperText Markup Language) - markup language for formatting hypertext documents; most basic building block of the Web

World Wide Web is NOT the Internet

Web is part of the Internet; the Internet originated in the 1960s

Internet = many communication protocols e.g. FTP (File Transfer Protocol), SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol), HTTP, others

HISTORY OF HTML & WORLD WIDE WEB

HyperText

Text containing hyperlinks to other documents, or another
part of the same document

Concept predates HTTP/HTML, Tim Berners-Lee did not invent hypertext idea

HTML only dealt with text initially - no graphics/multimedia

The very first HTML webpage is still online:

http://info.cern.ch/hypertext/WWW/TheProject.html

HTML

Used to mark up content for meaning and structure

HTML5: Current major version supported by modern browsers

Modern-day HTML standards overseen jointly by:

Web Hypertext Application Technology Working Group (WHATWG)
World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)

Technical specifications for HTML can be found on their websites

While learning, use online references such as w3schools.com
(see Additional Resources)