CSS Notes

1. What is CSS?

- Controls web page design and appearance.

- Styles HTML elements (e.g., background, font).

2. How CSS Works

- Each HTML element is treated as a box.

- Rules: **Selectors** (target elements) + **Declarations** (properties & values).

- Example: `p { font-family:  Arial; }`.

3. Key Concepts

- **Block Elements**: New line (e.g., `<h1>`, `<p>`).

- **Inline Elements**: Within text (e.g., `<b>`, `<span>`).

- **Box Model**: Width, height, borders, background, position.

- **Text Styling**: Typeface, size, color, bold, italics.

4. CSS Rule Structure

- **Selector**: Targets elements (e.g., `h1,  h2`).

- **Declaration**: Property (e.g., `color`) + value (e.g., `yellow`).

- Example: `h1, h2 { color:  yellow; font-family:  Arial; }`.

5. Applying CSS

- **External CSS**: `<link href="css/styles.css" type="text/css" rel="stylesheet">`.
  - Shared styles, faster loading, easy updates.

- **Internal CSS**: `<style>` in `<head>` for page-specific styles.

- **Inline CSS**: `style` attribute (avoid).

6. CSS Selectors

- **Universal**: `*` (all elements).

- **Type**: `h1`, `p`.

- **Class**: `.note`.

- **ID**: `#intro`.

- **Descendant/Child/Sibling**: Nested or related elements.

7. Cascading Rules

- **Last Rule**: Later rule overrides identical selectors.

- **Specificity**: Specific selectors win (e.g., `p#intro > p`).

- **Important**: `!important` prioritizes.

- **Inheritance**: Properties like `font-family` pass to children; use `inherit`.

8. Why External CSS?

- Shared styles, smaller HTML, easy maintenance.

- Internal CSS for single pages; avoid inline.

9. CSS Versions & Browser Quirks

- CSS1 (1996), CSS2 (1998), CSS3 (ongoing).

- Test across browsers (e.g., BrowserCam).

- Fix quirks with resources (e.g., PositionIsEverything.net).

10. Summary

- Styles HTML elements as boxes.

- Selectors target; declarations style.

- Use external CSS for multi-page sites.