

# **Day4 Locators**

## **getText getAttribute.**

## **How many total locators we have?**

Selenium has total of 8 locators.

- id
- name
- className
- linkText
- partialLinkText
- tagName
- cssSelector
- xpath

# cssSelector

- cssSelector is one of 8 locators of Selenium.
- It allows users/us to create custom locators using attributes and values.
- It does not limit us using only class, id, name attributes.
- We can use ANY attribute and their values.
- It has its own syntax that we must follow to create cssSelector.
- Using cssSelector we can go from parent to child element.
- To go from parent to child we use ">" sign.  
syntax: tagName[attribute='value'] > childTagName
- Using cssSelector we cannot go from child to parent.

# Why do we need to move from parent to child?

Ex: Locating "Forgot password" header from  
[http://practice.cydeo.com/forgot\\_password](http://practice.cydeo.com/forgot_password)

- `<div class="example">`  
    `<h2>Forgot Password</h2>`
- `div[class='example'] > h2`
- Sometimes the web element we are trying to locate does not have a unique attribute/value.
- In this scenario, we can locate one of the parents that has a unique attribute value and move down to child web element we are trying to locate.
- We CANNOT go from CHILD TO PARENT using cssSelector.

# There are two different types of syntaxes for cssSelector.

## #1.syntax: tagName[attribute='value']

```
<a href="https://www.tesla.com" id="uh7" name="bb95"> TESLA </a>
```

1- locate above link with cssSelector using id:

```
a[id='uh7']
```

2- locate above link with cssSelector using name:

```
a[name='bb95']
```

3- locate above link with cssSelector using href:

```
a[href='https://www.tesla.com']
```

NOTE: If you want to be less specific, you don't have to pass tagName with this locator.

```
[attribute='value']
```

```
[id='uh7']
```

```
[name='bb95']
```

## #2.syntax: Second syntax is limited to use with "id" and "class" only.

- tagName#idValue
- tagName.classValue

# ---> stands for id attribute

. ---> stands for class attribute

```
<a href="https://tesla.com" name="uh68" class="ff58" id="bb22"> TESLA  
CYBERTRUCK </a>
```

tagName.classValue --> a.ff58

tagName#idValue --> a#bb22

# **XPATH LOCATOR**

- xpath is one of 8 locators of Selenium
- xpath allows us to create custom locators using provided attributes and their values
- we can also use the text of the provided web element to create
- XPATH has 2 different types

\*\*\*Interview question: What is the difference between absolute xpath and relative xpath?

# ABSOLUTE XPATH

- Absolute xpath starts with single slash "/"
- It starts looking in html from the root/parent element : html element
- It starts from html tag, and it goes down 1 by 1 until we reach to the web element we are looking for
- This is not good way of locating a web element.
- It will break with any minimal change in the html code.

`/html/body/table/tbody/tr[2]/td/div/div/form/div[4]/button`



# RELATIVE XPATH

- Relative xpath starts with double slash "//"
- "/" means you can start from anywhere in the HTML code
- Since we are allowed to start from anywhere in the HTML code, relative xpath is very dependable
- We will use relative xpath, not absolute xpath
- The only time your relative xpath is breaking (not working) is when/if the developer is specifically changing the attribute value we used

MAIN SYNTAX: //tagName[@attribute='value']

**Ex:**

**<a href="https://tesla.com" name="uh68" class="ff58" id="bb22"> TESLA  
CYBERTRUCK </a>**

- `//tagName[@attribute='value']`
- locate above <a> tag using relative xpath locator with different attributes.
  - using name attribute : `//a[@name='uh68']`
  - using class attribute : `//a[@class='ff58']`
  - using id attribute : `//a[@id='bb22']`
- We are NOT limited with id, name, class, or href attributes.
- We can use any custom attribute and their value with XPATH locator.

## COMMONLY USED XPATH SYNTAXES:

1. `//tagName[@attribute='value']`
2. `//tagName[contains(@attribute, 'value')]`
3. `//tagName[.='text']` same as `//tagName[text()='text']`  
    . --> stands for text in xpath
4. `//*[@attribute='value']`
  - \* --> is used when we do not want to search by a tagName.
  - If we want to be less specific, we pass \*, and it will only match and return whatever attribute and value is provided.

## HOW TO GO FROM CHILD TO PARENT and PARENT TO CHILD IN XPATH?

- We go from parent to child using "/"
- We use "../" this goes from child to parent
- We use "/following-sibling::tagname" this goes to the next sibling.
- We use "/preceding-sibling::tagname" this goes to previous sibling.

# CSS vs XPATH

- Css is slightly faster than xpath on IE, other browsers it is negligible.
  - Css is easier to read and write
1. css cannot locate using text of web elements
    - xpath://\*["Don't Click!"]
    - css: NA
  2. It cannot find from matches base on index (different parent)
    - xpath:--> (xpathFormula)[indexNumber]
    - css: NA
  3. child to parent NA
    - //button/./ --> goes back to parent
    - CSS : NA
- xpath can do more than css, but it is little bit complex

## **.findElement(By.locator("STRING"))**

- Finds and returns a single web element.
- It accepts locator parameter as String.
- Return type is WebElement comes from Selenium library.
- It will throw NoSuchElementException if it cannot somehow find given web element.

**\*\*What happens when exception is thrown in Selenium code execution? Is it going to execute the rest of the lines**

- Once it throws the exception, the rest of the lines will not be executed UNLESS we handle it.

- When do we have NoSuchElementException?

#1- Wrong locator provided

#2- Synchronization: when browser driver and browser are not on the same page, driver will try to find a web element that is not loaded yet. If this happens, it will throw NoSuchElementException.

## **.click();**

- It clicks to the given web element.
- it doesn't accept any argument
- syntax: `driver.findElement(locator).click();`

## **.sendKeys();**

- It will pass the provided string into given WebElement.
- It accepts String argument.
- We can pass Keys. commands into `sendKeys()` method as well.
- **Keys.ENTER:**
- This piece of code will imitate user pressing ENTER from keyboard.

## **.getText();**

- It will get the content from in between the opening tag and closing tag
- Return type is String
- it doesn't accept any argument

--> We cannot say `driver.getText();`

syntax: `driver.findElement(locator).getText();` --> it will return the text of given web element

--> Ex: `<a href="https://tesla.com" name="uh68" class="ff58" id="bb22"> TESLA CYBERTRUCK </a>`

syntax: `driver.findElement(By.name("uh68")).getText()` --> TESLA CYBERTRUCK



## **.getAttribute();**

- It will accept an attribute and return its value.
- It accepts a String argument
- Return type is String

--> Ex: <a href="https://tesla.com" name="uh68" class="ff58" id="bb22"> TESLA  
CYBERTRUCK </a>

- syntax: driver.findElement(By.name("uh68")).getAttribute("href") --> https://tesla.com
- syntax: driver.findElement(By.name("uh68")).getAttribute("name") --> uh68
- syntax: driver.findElement(By.name("uh68")).getAttribute("class") --> ff58
- syntax: driver.findElement(By.name("uh68")).getAttribute("id") --> bb22

## **.isDisplayed():**

- It returns boolean value on a given web element.
- If web element is displayed, it will return "true"  
If web element is not displayed, it will return "false"
- It does not accept any argument.
  - syntax: `driver.findElement(locator).isDisplayed();` --> true, if displayed
  - syntax: `driver.findElement(locator).isDisplayed();` --> false, if not displayed