1 What did you find most interesting about the history of CSS?

In February 1997, CSS got its own working group inside W3C and the new group set out to work on the features which CSS1 didn't address. The group was chaired by Chris Lilley, a Scotsman recruited to W3C from the University of Manchester. CSS level 2 became a Recommendation in May 1998. Since then, the group has worked in parallel on new CSS modules and errata for CSS 2.

The CSS saga isn't only about Web browsers. Many people outside of the few that program Web browsers have made important contributions to CSS over the past years.

It is difficult to count how widely CSS is used, but the number of HTML pages that does not use CSS is probably not more than a few percent. Many people make their living as CSS designers or from CSS conferences. And the number of books written about CSS can no longer be counted.

Some day CSS will be replaced by something else. But before that, CSS will have time to celebrate its 21st birthday…

Cascading Style Sheet(CSS) is used to set the style in web pages which contain HTML elements. It sets the background color, font-size, font-family, color, … etc property of elements in a web pages.  
There are three types of CSS which are given below:

* Inline CSS
* Internal or Embedded CSS
* External CSS

1. Inline CSS styling overwrites by default the rules defined in a stylesheet. This means that you'll have a hard time to style the content according to your requirements through the stylesheet itself, and it would require to **constantly switch from stylesheet to the tool which let you customize the auto-generated code**.
2. **Auto-generated code is [mostly] always stupid.** And by stupid, I mean... totally, horribly stupid. If you have three buttons on a web page and you change the text color of those buttons, instead of writing one line of code, the auto-gen tool will write three lines. **More buttons → more lines → more nightmare and performance issues**

First, the style sheet can be **embedded** in the head of an HTML document. We will look at how this is done shortly, but before that, let's look at why this mightn't be the best approach.

We have made much of the site management capabilities of style sheets. We saw how a single style sheet can affect whole sites, and how changes to that style sheet affect every page linked to the style sheet. If we go and embed the style sheet in the head of the web document, we lose all of these advantages. We haven't really separated appearance from content much at all.

The second way, and as you can probably tell, the preferred way of associating web pages with style sheets is to place a **link** in the head of the HTML file to the style sheet.

With this link, when the browser begins reading the page, it sees the style sheet link, and downloads the style sheet, then uses the style sheet to draw the page.

You can in fact place links to several style sheets in an HTML file. This does not mean that a browser uses each of them, as though they imported one another. Rather, the browser chooses one of these as the style sheet to use (theoretically, the browser should ask the user which style sheet to use).

### Embedding style sheets

#### Browser support

Get browser support information for embedding in the [**downloadable version of this guide**](http://www.westciv.com/courses/course_info/complete_css_guide/index.html) or our [**browser support tables**](http://www.westciv.com/style_master/academy/browser_support/index.html).

Style sheets can be embedded into the <head> element of HTML documents. Quite simply, the style sheet itself is placed inside a <style> element like this:

<style type="text/css"> </style>