Semantic Elements

What are semantic elements?

- A semantic element clearly describes its meaning to both the browser and the developer.

- Examples of **non-semantic** elements: <div> and <span> - Tells nothing about its content.

- Examples of **semantic** elements: <form>, <table>, and <img> - Clearly defines its content.

div

- The <div> tag defines a division or a section in an HTML document.
- The <div> tag is used to group block-elements to format them with CSS.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>

<p>This is some text.</p>

<div style="color:#0000FF">
  <h3>This is a heading in a div element</h3>
  <p>This is some text in a div element.</p>
</div>

<p>This is some text.</p>

</body>
</html>
```

This is some text.
This is a heading in a div element
This is some text in a div element.
This is some text.

Span

The <span> tag is used to group inline-elements in a document.

The <span> tag provides a way to add a hook to a part of a text or a part of a document.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>

<p>My mother has <span style="color:blue;font-weight:bold">blue</span> eyes and my father has <span style="color:darkolivegreen;font-weight:bold">dark green</span> eyes.</p>

</body>
</html>
```
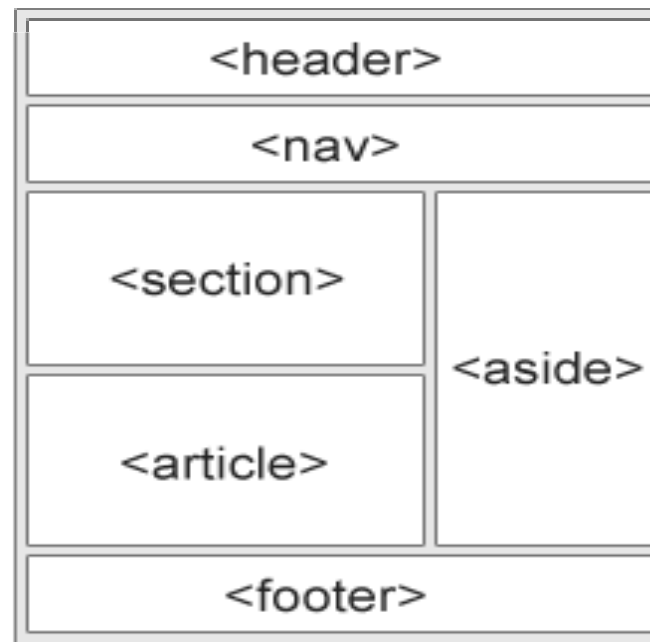
My mother has **blue** eyes and my father has **dark green** eyes.

Example Website

- Many web sites contain HTML code like: <div id="nav"> <div class="header"> <div id="footer"> to indicate navigation, header, and footer.

Semantic Elements

HTML5 offers new semantic elements to define different parts of a web page:

- <section>
- <article>
- <aside>
- <figcaption>
- <figure>
- <header>
- <footer>
- <nav>

HTML5- section Element

- A Web site's home page could be split into sections for introduction, content, and contact information
- A section is grouping of content, typically with a heading
- The <section> element defines a section in a document

Example

```
<section>
  <h1>WWF</h1>
  <p>The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is....</p>
</section>
```

HTML5 – article element

- An article should make sense on its own, and it should be possible to read it independently from the rest of the web site

Example

- Newspaper: The sports **articles** in the sports **section**, have a technical **section** in each **article**

- <article> element defines a complete, self-contained block of related elements

```
<article>
  <h1>What Does WWF Do?</h1>
  <p>
    WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of our planet's
    natural environment, and build a future in which humans live in
    harmony with nature.
  </p>
</article>
```

HTML5 – header element

- The <header> element specifies a header for a document or section
- The <header> element should be used as a container for introductory content
- <article>
  <header>
    <h1>What Does WWF Do?</h1>
    <p>WWF's mission:</p>
  </header>

  <p>
      WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of our
      planet's natural environment, nature.
  </p>
</article>

HTML5 – footer element

- A footer typically contains the author of the document, copyright information, links to terms of use, contact information, etc.
- The <footer> element specifies a footer for a document or section.

```
<footer>
   <p>Posted by: Hege Refsnes</p>
   <p>Contact  Information:
        <a href="mailto:someone@example.com">
    someone@example.com</a>.
   </p>
</footer>
```

HTML – nav element

- he <nav> element defines a set of navigation links.

Example

```
<nav>
    <a href="/html/">HTML</a> |
    <a href="/css/">CSS</a> |
    <a href="/js/">JavaScript</a> |
    <a href="/jquery/">jQuery</a>
</nav>
```

HTML5 – aside element

- The <aside> element defines some content aside from the content it is placed in (like a sidebar)

Example

<aside>
    <h4>Epcot Center</h4>
    <p>The Epcot Center is a theme park in Disney World, </p>
</aside>

HTML5 – figure, figcaption

- In books and newspapers, it is common to have captions with images

Example

```
<figure>
    <img src="pic_mountain.jpg" width="304" height="228">
    <figcaption>Fig1. - The Pulpit Rock, Norway.</figcaption>
</figure>
```