Anatomy of a CSS ruleset

Let's look at the above CSS in a bit more detail:

The whole structure is called a **rule set**(but often "rule" for short). Note also the names of the individual parts:

**Selector**

The HTML element name at the start of the rule set. It selects the element(s) to be styled (in this case, p elements). To style a different element, just change the selector.

**Declaration**

A single rule like color: red; specifying which of the element's **properties**you want to style.

**Properties**

Ways in which you can style a given HTML element. (In this case, color is a property of the p elements.) In CSS, you choose which properties you want to affect in your rule.

**Property value**

To the right of the property, after the colon, we have the **property value**, to choose one out of many possible appearances for a given property (there are many color values besides red).

Note the other important parts of the syntax:

* Each rule set (apart from the selector) must be wrapped in curly braces ({}).
* Within each declaration, you must use a colon (:) to separate the property from its values.
* Within each rule set, you must use a semicolon (;) to separate each declaration from the next one.