Modern CSS Techniques Assignments

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# Exercise 1 - Browser Developer Tools

## Overview

This exercise is designed to give you practice using either Chrome Developer Tools or Firebug.

## Objectives

At the conclusion of this exercise, you should:

* Be able to select, view, modify/edit various CSS elements on a page

## Step 1. Open Your Developer Tools

Open either a Chrome Browser or Firefox Browser. Browse to ESPN.com (it will redirect you, that's okay).

Press F12 (or CTRL-SHIFT-I will also work in Chrome) to bring up Firebug or Chrome Developer Tools.

Note: If you do not have Firebug installed, you may either: 1) install it from getfirebug.com, or 2) switch to Chrome. Optionally, you may also use Firefox Developer Tools.

## Step 2. Locate Elements

On the ESPN.com page, locate the menu bar that looks like the following:



Use the inspector tool in Chrome or Firebug to select the MLB item. At its innermost level, what kind of element is this?

[Des] - span

Mouse over the parent element (the anchor) in the HTML source tree at the bottom in the developer tools. It should highlight in the page up above.

What color(s) do you see when it highlights in the page above?

[Des] - Yellow/Green and Blue (Padding and content)

You should see 2 colors. In Firebug these will be light blue, purple (there is also yellow--not present in this case).

In Chrome these colors are light blue, green(ish) (and orange, not present in this case).

What do these colors mean?

[Des] Padding (Yellow/Green), Blue Content

## Step 3. Obtain Element Information

With the MLB anchor still selected, add a margin-right property to the first selector. Change it to 10px and note the effect in the page.

What is the value of the padding?

[Des] - 10 and 10 (left and right)

Why are there 2 values?

[Des] - 10 (right) 10 (left)

Add a font-size property to the first selector. Give it a value of 150%.

[Des] - font-size: 150%;

In the HTML source, select the <li> element (parent) that contains the anchor.

Turn off the float: left property associated with it. What happens? (floating is discussed later).

[Des] - Menu chages from horizontal allignment to vertical allignment

Turn the floating back on.

With the <li> still selected, view the Style(s) Tab opposite the HTML source in your developer tools.

In the Style(s) Tab, you should see CSS selectors that contain rules for the <li>. Find the selector that sets the float: left and line-height: 50px.

A selector is a shorthand notation for identifying one or more nodes. What selector did you see?

[Des] - #global-nav>ul>li, :not(.alt-format) #global-nav-secondary .global-nav-container>ul>li

What does the # (hash) mean?

[Des] - identifier

What does the . (period) indicate?

[Des] - class

You should have answered an id attribute for the hash (#) and a class attribute for the period (.). Selectors will be discussed shortly.

Verify in the HTML source that the element does indeed match the selector by checking the id and class attributes.

## Step 4. The Logo: A Last Task

Using the inspector tool, select the ESPN logo at the top of the page. What kind of element did you find?

[Des] - a (anchor element)

The element should be an anchor <a> with the text of ESPN. Three questions:

1. Why don't we see this text (instead we see an image)? Where is the text? Hint: look at the CSS properties.

[Des] - color set to transparent. font set to 2/0 a;

1. Why did they hide this text this way?

[Des] - Text is a fallback and the image is preferred, or

[Presenter] - It is not intended to be seen the screen. It is there so that devices and machines (including screen readers) can understand the content.

1. Why did they wrap it inside of an <h1> ?

[Des] - Semantics. A text logo is typically the most important text. So, semantically, they want devices to understand what the most important text is on their page.

Also, note: the <h1> has a transform property. Turn this off. What happens?

[Des] - the diagonal ribbon is changed to vertical

Answers to the previous questions:

1. Check the color(transparent)and font property(0px).
2. It is not intended to be seen the screen. It is there so that  devices and machines (including screen readers) can  understand the content.
3. Semantics. A text logo is typically the most important text. So,  semantically, they want devices to understand what the most important text is on their page.

The logo is represented using an image. Yet there is no <img> tag here.

Where is the logo image?

[Des] - background-image: url("../assets/img/logos/logo-espn-82x20.png");

Can you find it?

[Des] - http://a.espncdn.com/redesign/v.257b/assets/img/logos/logo-espn-82x20.png

Hints:

- Look for background-images on the anchor

This concludes our Browser Developer Tools exercise. Feel free to use these newfound skills to explore further this page or other pages.

As you progress through this course, you should rely more and more on help from these tools and less on help from your instructor. Therefore, proper continued practice using these tools is essential!