

1. How did you find the exercises? What did you find easy? What was a bit challenging? What made each so?

I found it time-consuming to go through all the materials before jumping into the exercises. I can't put in all the new terms and syntax in a single reading, so I need to see the codes in action for better appreciation, and that takes time.

When my mind was a clean slate, I found the HTML easy to understand. When CSS came along, I got a bit confused on when to use quotation marks and colons. When I jumped to JS, I can't grasp the whys of the syntaxes, with curly braces and angled brackets coming into play.

Going through the "vocabulary" of the language is a tough one if I don't create something out of it. The probability of me not remembering the codes is high. I need to practice coding so that retention will be better.

2. How would you explain how the internet works to a lola?

The internet is like the postman who delivers our letter to our beloved ones in the province and sends us back their response. For Mr. Postman to deliver our letter, he needs the address of our recipient; likewise, the internet needs the address of our target recipient or the server, which has its own internet protocol (IP) address. For Mr. Postman to deliver us the response of our server, he would also need our specific IP address.

Hence, the internet is just a quicker and more efficient way of transferring our messages or information from various servers.

3. What might be a metaphor or analogy for what HTML, CSS and JS are and how they work together?

HTML is like the human body structure. Generally, humans have the same physical structure, such as tissues and organs. CSS is like our fashion style. We may have different taste of how we would style our hair, or how we dress ourselves. JS is how we react on certain triggers. When someone tells us how we are, not all will respond they are fine or not all will say thank you and ask the same question back.

Similarly, websites have the same structure, HTML, styled differently via CSS, and can have different actions via JS.

4. What were some of the most interesting learnings you had while working on this?

I'm amazed that websites are just structured through HTML only. I really thought they were like powerpoint slides designed in a canvas, that I can add shapes change colors through buttons in a software. I find it exciting to translate the visuals and express what I want to happen through codes.

5. Could you teach what you've learned to someone else easily? Why or why not?

By now, I'm not yet ready to teach it. The exercises allowed me to read or understand the codes presented to me, and "guess" what goes to each blank, but if given a blank paper and start coding on my own, I probably would be lost. For me to teach something, I need to gain confidence that I can do something from scratch.

6. How can you use the skills that you just learned to create something of value?

I'm already imagining a website that would be a solution to the records management system and documents routing and approval issues of my existing company, and likely problems for several medium-scale enterprises. Given the pandemic, I find it inefficient that we're doing things through our email, which gets full easily. Audits would be a nightmare, when documents get missing somewhere and we can't find them. I think this is something I can explore developing during my bootcamp that will put forth value.

7. What would you do differently if you were to work on this again?

I need to understand the depth and breadth of the material so that I can properly pace myself. Focus time is also important, as this was a challenge since I still have a full-time job while I am doing the exercises. I really look forward to my four months study leave just focusing on coding.

8. What would you like to improve on?

I tend to skip reading long explanation because my mind wants faster results. Perhaps, this is a result of being in the age when we get information fast and we don't want to wait. Learning really requires patience; I need to improve on that.

9. How do you think you learn best and most effective?

Projects and practice, I think. I can't appreciate the codes if I'm not applying them to something.