COMP 1017

Day 06 Part A
Sectioning Markup

As per usual, let's kick things off with a quick review of last class.

<table>

<thead>

<tbody>

<tfoot>

`<th>`

`<td>`

<figure>

<figcaption>

`<blockquote cite="" ">`

Sectioning Markup

Any more of these elements and I feel
as if I might be sectioned in half.

HTML5 has a number of sectioning elements to help us organise our documents.

They are considered
semantic elements.

Remember that semantic elements help relay meaning to the browser, developer, reader, and any technology interpreting the document.

Sectioning elements group content with a similar theme, topic, or function together.

They ~~almost~~ always require a heading, followed by some sort of other supporting content.

That's to say that all sectioning elements need a heading <h1> to <h6> or it will show up in the outliner as untitled.

Today, we're going to learn three sectioning elements: `<header>`, `<main>`, and `<footer>`.

<header>

Don't mix this up with the <head> element... Although 2 heads are generally better than 1, right?

A <header> generally belongs at the top of a page within the <body> element.

It will usually contain things like a logo, top-level heading `<h1>`, and some sort of navigation.

However, <header> can also be placed *within* another sectioning element.

For example, when placed inside an `<article>`, it might contain things like the headline, byline, and the time of publication.

(We'll learn more about <article> later, in Day 07.)

`<main>`

And now, for our main event!

The <main> element marks up the central topic or content of the document.

As a rule of thumb, `<main>` should contain content unique to that page.

This means it should **not** contain content that is repeated across pages (ex. logos, navigation, etc.).

The <main> element is especially important for screen readers because it helps them skip to the most important content right away.

Otherwise, your user might get stuck listening to the entire website's menu over and over again.

<footer>

I tried googling 'feet' to come up with a joke for this slide. I am now deeply regretting this decision.

A `<footer>` often belongs at the bottom of a page.

It contains information that might be repeated or consistent throughout the website.

It can include things like copyright information, legal notices, licenses, publication date, addresses, social media links and sometimes additional links or navigation.

A Brief Aside

(Well, not an <aside>, but … we'll get there.)

Programmers are pretty lazy.
Usually, this makes our lives easier.

But, sometimes, it makes it tricky to remember the differences between elements.

Let's review some very similar-sounding ones now.

<head>

The <head> is where your instructions to the browser go. No content belongs here.

<header>

A <header> is a sectioning element. It is often placed at the top of a page.

<h1>, <h2>, <h3>, <h4>, <h5>, <h6>

Finally, headings are words, phrases, or sentences at the beginning of a section that give us an idea of what it's about.

In HTML, there are six (6) levels of headings, with <h1> being the most significant.

Remember: <h1> is like Highlander, in that *there can only be one* [per page].