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Course > Modul... > 4.4 De... > Shrinki...
```

Shrinking text Shrinking text

For this section you can play with the <u>CodePen</u> below. The main content is an outline for an essay and it should look something like this:

```
EDIT ON
 HTML
           CSS
                                           Result
 1 <!DOCTYPE html>
 2 ▼ <html lang="en">
 4 ▼ <head>
       <meta charset="UTF-8">
       <title>Shrinking text</title>
   </head>
 9 ▼ <body>
       <section>
        <h1>Essay Outline</h1>
11 ▼
12
13 ▼
       Introduction
14 ▼
15 ▼
               <01>
                   Introduce Subject
16 ▼
17 ▼
                       <l
18 ▼
                           What is it?
```

As with the cloud pictures, we want the listed items a bit smaller than the regular text, so we add this styling:

```
1. section {
     font-size: 24px;
3. }
4. section h1 {
```

```
font-size: 28px;
6. }
7. li {
     font-size: 0.5em;
8.
9. }
```

The outermost level is fine, the next level is almost readable but the innermost level is ridiculously small. Let's check what's wrong in the debugger.

Computed tab

Looking into the style settings in the chrome browser debugger, at first glance we don't see anything unusual. The font-size is .5em as expected. One odd thing is that below the user agent stylesheet panels is the over-ridden font-size setting identical to the current one, i.e. .5em on > elements.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
                                          Styles Computed Event Listeners »
▼<html>
                                         element.style {
     * Please see the included README.md
   file for license terms and conditions.
                                         li {
                                                                    default.css:8
                                            font-size: .5em;
  ▶ <head>...</head>
▼ <body>
                                         li {
                                                            user agent stylesheet
     Essay Outline
                                            display: list-item;
   ▼<0l>
                                            text-align: -webkit-match-parent;
     ▼ >
        "Introduction
                                         Inherited from ul
       ▼<0l>
                                         ol ol ul, ol ul ul, user agent stylesheet
                                         ul ol ul, ul ul ul {
            "Introduce Subject
                                            list-style-type: square;
                                         }
                                         ul ul, ol ul { user agent stylesheet
                                            list style type: circle;
              Why is it
             important
            ul, menu, dir {
                                                            user agent stylesheet
          display: block;
          Propose Thesis
                                            list style type: disc;
          Outline
                                            -webkit-margin-before: 1em;
        -webkit-margin-after: 1em;
      -webkit-margin-start: 0px;
     -webkit-margin-end: 0px
   </body>
                                            -webkit-padding-start: 40px;
                                         1.
 </html>
                                         Inherited from li
                                         li {
                                                                    default.css:8
                                            font size: .5em;
                                         }
                                         li {
                                                            user agent stylesheet
                                            display: list-item;
                                            text align: webkit match parent;
                                         Inherited from ol
                                                            user agent stylesheet
                                           display: block:
```

The styles panel doesn't tell us a lot about the actually font-size in absolute terms. To determine that we can use the "Computed" tab.

The "Computed" tab contains the values of all the CSS properties that apply to the current element. There are a lot of them, and they're listed in alphabetical order. Since the computer considers the character '-' as coming before 'a' in the alphabet, the first thing you'll see is a long list of properties starting with '-webkit'. We're going to scroll down past those to "font-size" which reveals this:

```
Computed | Event Listeners
 rtood-cotor: rgb(0, 0, 0);
 flood-opacity: 1;
 font-family: 'Times New Roman';
 font-kerning: auto;
▶ font-size: 3px;
 font-stretch: normal;
 font-style: normal;
```

This tells us that the font-size on the innermost list item is only 3px. No wonder it's unreadable!

When we click on the triangle we can expand the details on font-size, which makes a little more clear what's going on. We see that the font-size on the body is 24px, but there are several repetitions of the li .5em.

```
Styles | Computed | Event Listeners >>>
 font-family: 'limes New Roman';
 font-kerning: auto;
▼ font-size: 3px;
       li - .5em
                             default.css:10
       <del>li .5em</del>
                             default.css:10
                             default.css:10
           <del>.5em</del>
                             _default.css:6
       section 24px
 font-stretch: normal;
 font-style: normal;
```

If we look at the next outer list item, we see that the font-size is 6px, and the one outside of that is 12px. This doubling makes it clear what's happening. Each nested > element has a font-size 1/2 the size of its parent, because the em unit is relative measurement, depending on the current font-size.

Now that we know what's happening, we can fix it in a few different ways. We could use an absolute unit like px or pt, but a better solution would be rem. This would make the size relative to the html font-size (the default font-size for the page), not to it's surroundings.

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