UNDERSTANDING HTML ELEMENTS

IN THIS LESSON

What comprises an HTML element

Start tags and end tags (a.k.a. opening/closing tags)

Attributes and values

Boolean attributes

Void elements (self-closing tags)

ELEMENTS

TAGS

ATTRIBUTES

ELEMENTS & TAGS
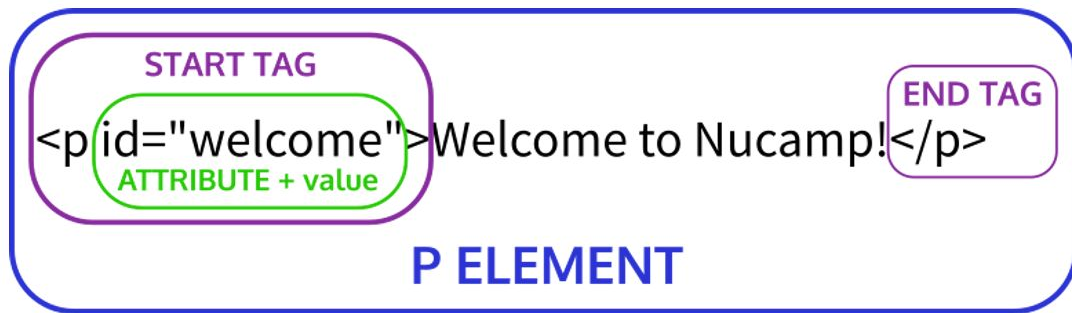
All content in an HTML document is contained within an element.
Ex.: the paragraph/<p> element is typically used to contain text:

START TAG
END TAG
<p>Welcome to Nucamp!</p>
P ELEMENT

Elements typically have start & end tags (opening & closing tags)
These and the content inside them compose the entire element

ATTRIBUTES

A start tag can hold extra information using attributes

START TAG
END TAG
`<p id="welcome">Welcome to Nucamp!</p>`
ATTRIBUTE + value
P ELEMENT

Element & attribute names are pre-defined, you do not define them

Most attributes have a name & value, separated by a **=** sign, with value in quotes (single/double); allowed content depends on attribute

Example: id attribute's value must be a single, user-defined word, no spaces. It must start with a letter, and underscores and hyphens are allowed.

BOOLEAN ATTRIBUTES

Some attributes use only the name, with no value.

Example: the hidden attribute will hide an element from view

You do not have to add hidden="true" or hidden="yes" - if the attribute name is present in the start tag, that implies a value of "true"
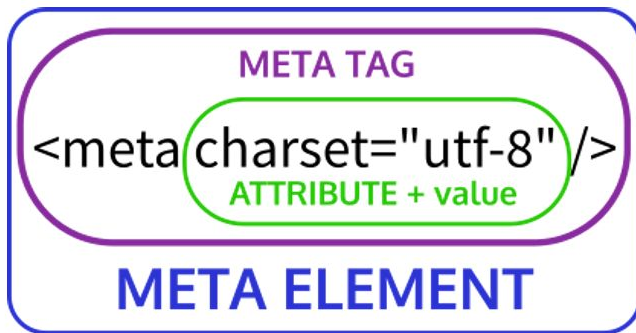
This is called a Boolean attribute, named after a branch of logic

MULTIPLE ATTRIBUTES

Multiple attributes can be added to an element, separated by spaces

ATTRIBUTE   ATTRIBUTE

`<p id="welcome" hidden>`

VOID ELEMENTS

META TAG

`<meta charset="utf-8"/>`

ATTRIBUTE + value

META ELEMENT

A void element does not have a start & end tag

It has a single, "self-closing" tag

Only a handful of elements in this category: <meta>, <img>, <br>, others

They can have attributes, as in the example shown above

The / at the end is optional in HTML