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Creating your First Page in HTML



To create your first HTML file, do the following

- 1. Open Sublime Text
- 2. Go to **File** >> **Save** and save it in Desktop with an extension .html.
- 3. Copy paste the following code to the sublime text $% \left\{ 1,2,...,2,...\right\}$

4. Right Click and Select 'Open in Browser'

And Yayy!!! there's your first HTML page. It will look something like this.

My First Web Page

Welcome to Mashup! You are going to be awesome!

Your First HTML Page

The Basic HTML Page - Explanation of Tags

Please see the below video to get a basic idea of what we are about to explain.

0:00 / 0:36

Okay. So, we have seen how a basic html page looks like.

Let's try to understand what each html tags stand for.

Let's go through them one by one.

Doctype Declaration

```
~/Desktop/test.html - Sublime Text (U
File Edit Selection Find View Goto Tools Project Preferences Help
 ∢▶
      test.html
      <!DOCTYPE html>
      <head>
          <meta charset="utf-8">
          <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
          <title>My First Web page</title>
      </head>
          <h1>My First Web Page</h1>
          Welcome to Mashup! You are going to be awesome!
 11
      </body>
>12
      </html>
```

Doctype declaration for HTML 5

This is seen in most of the html pages. This is almost always the first sentence in the html pages.

This is called as **doctype declaration**. What does it actually mean?

There are different versions of html such as HTML4.2, HTML3.1, HTML 5 etc.

How does the browser know which version (format) of HTML document have you opened?

Imagine, the document is version 4.2 and browser tries to open it using HTML5 standards. Things can go wrong. Therefore, it is always recommended to declare the version of the document at the top of the page.

The doctype declaration <!DOCTYPE html> tells the browser that this document is of HTML 5 format

For example:-

if your document is **HTML 5**, it would read

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

COPY

if your document is HTML 4.1, it would read

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.01//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/html4/strict.dtd">
```

COPY

By seeing the string (called as doctype declaration), the browser can now understand the right version of our HTML document and can render it (open it) in the browser using the right HTML standards.

However, the page will work even if the doctype declaration is NOT provided.

This is because these days, all the browsers show the HTML pages by setting HTML5 as the default standard.

Html - Opening Tag

HTML - opening tag

Every html document begins with this tag. The entire page contents will be enclosed within this tag. It is **the root element of any html page**.

Head - Opening Tag

Head - opening tag

This tag contains additional information about the document. Additional information usually includes

- Title Tag
- Meta tags
- Internal and External CSS stylesheets
- Internal and External Javascript

There is a lot to explain about each of this. We will talk about this later.

Meta Tag for Character Encoding

Meta tag for character encoding

This tag is used to tell the browser that UTF-8 encoding needs to be used throughout the document. UTF8 is the default encoding standard in web.

Why do we need UTF8 ecoding?

If the whole world decide that only english language needs to be shown in website, it was enough to use the ASCII character set.

However, that is not enough. We have several languages today and we will need to show them in the websites.

It is because of UTF8 encoding (Unicode Transformation Format - 8bits encoding) that we are able to display other languages such as Malayalam, Tamil, Chinese, Japanese, Arabic etc.. in websites

Meta Tag for Viewport

Meta tag for viewport

Today there are multiple devices available such as large screen computers, normal laptops, tablets, mobile devices etc. Our website needs to show up correctly when viewed in any of these screens. In other words, the webiste should be shown properly irrespective of the device screen width. This is called as **responsive web design**

So, when the website is taken in a mobile phone, the content should automatically adjust to fit in a mobile and when the website is taken in a tablet or laptop, the content automatically adjusts to fit in the tablet/laptop

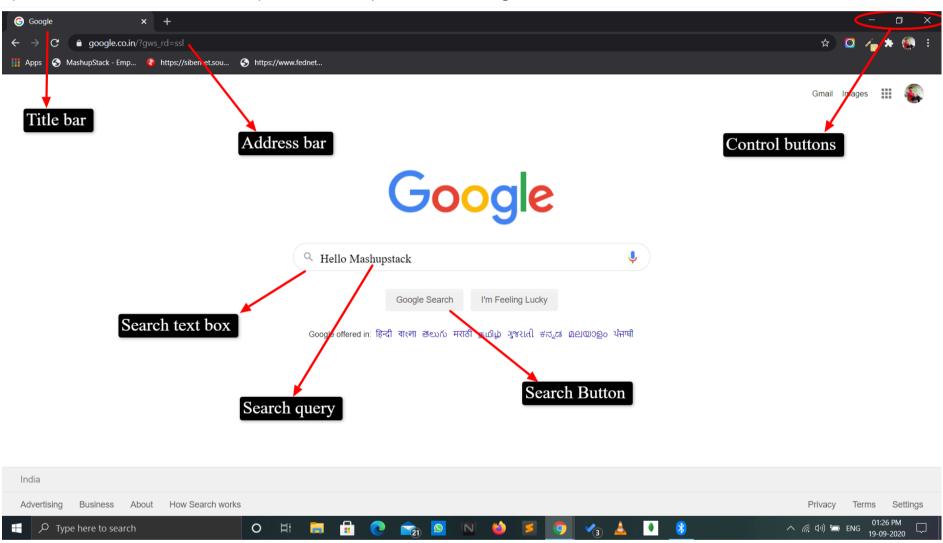
Meta viewport tag is used to control the width and scaling of viewport so that the website is shown correctly in all devices

Title Tag

Title tag

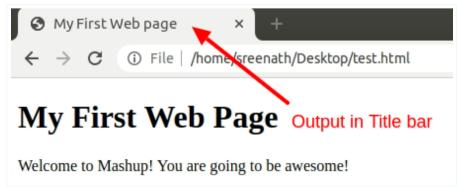
Title tag is used to show content in the title bar of the browser when the page is displayed

If you have doubt about where exactly is the title bar, please see this image



Important sections of a browser

The output will look like this



title tag content shown in the titlebar

The title tag is also shown in the Google search results

Head - Ending Tag

Head - closing tag

This marks the ending of the head tag. This is called as the closing head tag.

Body - Opening Tag

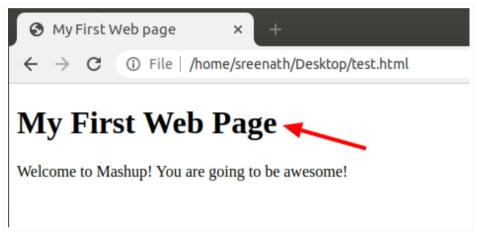
Body - opening tag

This marks the beginning of the actual content that needs to be shown in the browser.

Heading Tag - H1

Heading tag - H1

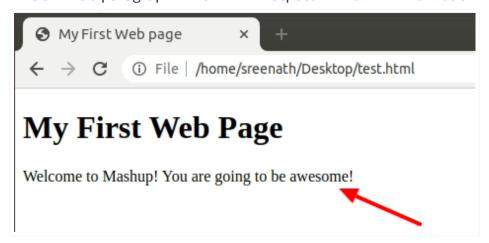
This shows a heading. This will be outputted in the browser as shown below.



Paragraph Tag - p

Paragraph tag

This shows a paragraph. This will be outputted in the browser as shown below.



Body - Ending Tag

Body - ending tag

This marks the ending of the body tag. This is called as the closing body tag.

HTML - Ending Tag

HTML - ending tag

This marks the ending of the html tag. This is called as the closing html tag.

Basic HTML Rules

- 1. Every html document ends with .html and is created in an editor (or IDE)
- 2. HTML tags are written in lower case.
- 3. All HTML documents must start with a document type declaration: <!DOCTYPE html >
- 4. The HTML document itself begins with <html > and ends with </html>

5. The visible part of the HTML document is between <body> and </body>

Assignment

- 1. Create an HTML file with any content and save it to your Documents folder instead of Desktop. Open it in browser and make sure it works right.
- 2. Open the file you created just now and edit its contents and save it back again. Now open it again in browser and make sure that the edited content has shown up.
- 3. **[IMPORTANT]** Try saying out yourself in very detail as to what all did you do in this chapter. Explain to yourself **aloud** what each of the tags in the basic html stand for.

Summary

- All HTML documents must start with a document type declaration: <!DOCTYPE >.
- The <!DOCTYPE> declaration represents the document type, and helps browsers to display web pages correctly.
- The HTML document itself begins with <html> and ends with </html>.
- The visible part of the HTML document is between <body> and </body>.
- HTML headings are defined with the <h1> to <h6> tags.<h1> defines the most important heading. <h6> defines the least important heading:
- The visible part of the HTML document is between <body> and </body>.

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