*What does it mean that the style sheets are cascading? What is the order of priority of CSS? List 5 things you can do with CSS, which cannot be done easily in HTML.*

As CSS stands for cascading style sheets, CSS can cascade to HTML files. The word cascading reflects the characteristics of CSS that more than one rules can be applied to one HTML element. And then, CSS has its internal rule to judge which to apply with priority.

As for the priority rule of CSS, the rule is defined based on the concept of “Specificity” as we have learnt in W3School. According to W3School (n.d.), specificity is “a score/rank that determines which style declaration are ultimately applied to an element.” Then, there are clear rules of this score. For instance, inline style has the highest score, 1000, which gives the height priority to apply. Other than that, one id equals to 100 points, one class adds 10 points, and element selector adds 1 point. As an exception, !important rule can only override the score of inline style. These are the rules for calculation of priority.

Throughout many practices at Code Academy, I experienced several great points to enrich the design of HTML documents. First, the concept of box model enables a flexible design of HTML documents. Without the concept of box model, it is hard to clarify the design and layout of each element. The clear definitions of each area around the box such as content, padding, border, and margin, are very powerful. Second, a flexibility of CSS cascading gives a freedom to control the design of each elements. As the name of cascading shows, we can apply CSS file to even nested or chaining components. Third, we can control the position of each element by using various properties such as static, relative, absolute or sticky. Forth, the usage of limitless fonts through the site such as google font can broaden the possibility of visualization of web sites. Although I am not familiar with the design or appropriate usage of fonts, I do understand the influence of font to web sites users. Finally, the usage of z-index has brought the concept of z-axis to 2-dementioanal web pages. This is very unique character of CSS, which cannot be achieved only with HTML.

References:

CSS Specificity. *w3schools.* Retrieved from <https://www.w3schools.com/css/css_specificity.asp>