*What is Responsive Design and why is mobile web an important element of web design?*

Responsive Design is defined as “Responsive Web Design is about using HTML and CSS to automatically resize, hide, shrink, or enlarge, a website, to make it look good on all devices (desktops, tablets, and phones)” by W3School. In order to use the responsive design, there are two steps. The first step is to write “viewport” meta tag in the HTML header. This enables for web pages to detect an information of what devices are used and the size of screen. The second step is to write media query as a threshold or breakpoint to switch the CSS codes to be used. This enables to change the CSS code to use, depending on the screen size designated with this query.

Behind the background of this concept, there has been a wide spread of various means for users across the world to access the web pages. Previously, such as in the early 2000s, desktop computer or laptop is the only ways to reach the Internet, but the invention of mobile devices such as smartphones changed the landscape. As the definition of the responsive design shows, people can reach to the Internet with various size of screens. This means the web developers must be careful about the users’ interfaces. If the web pages have fixed size of elements, the design of the pages can be broken when users access to the pages with unexpected devices. This can be a damage for user experiences which is quite important part of web pages. This is why responsive design is important for web developments.

References:

HTML Responsive Web Design. w3schools. Retrieved Aug 9, 2022, from https://www.w3schools.com/html/html\_responsive.asp