XPath and CSS selectors

Order Selectors Examples

XPath	CSS	Matches
//h1	h1	Main Title , <h1 id="other">
//div//p	div p	Nested paragraph
//ul/li	ul > li	All 3 elements
//ul/li/a	ul > li > a	(None in example)
//div/*	div > *	Nested paragraph
/	:root	<html> root
/html/body	:root > body	<body> element

Indexed Selectors

XPath	CSS	Matches
//ul/li[1]	ul > li:first-child	<li id="first">First
//ul/li[2]	ul > li:nth-child(2)	Second
//ul/li[last()]	ul > li:last-child	Last

Attribute Selectors

XPath	CSS	Matches
//*[@id="id"]	#id	Elements with id="id"
//*[@class="class"]	.class	Elements with class="class"
//input[@type="submit"]	input[type="submit"]	Submit buttons
//a[@id="abc"][@for="xyz"]	a#abc[for="xyz"]	<a id="abc" for="xyz">
//a[@rel]	a[rel]	<a rel="help">
//a[starts-with(@href, '/')]	a[href^='/']	/path/file.pdf
//a[ends-with(@href, '.pdf')]	a[href$='pdf']	file.pdf
//a[contains(@href, '://')]	a[href*='://']	https://example.com
//a[contains(@rel, 'help')]	a[rel~='help']	<a rel="help">

Sibling Examples

XPath	CSS	Matches
//h1/following-sibling::ul	h1 ~ ul	after <h1>
//h1/following-sibling::ul[1]	h1 + ul	Immediate next
//h1/following-sibling::[@id="id"]	h1 ~ #id	Elements with id="id" after <h1>

jQuery Equivalents

XPath	jQuery	Purpose
//ul/li/..	$('ul > li').parent()	Get from
//li/ancestor-or-self::section	$('li').closest('section')	Nearest <section> ancestor
//a/@href	$('a').attr('href')	Extract href value
//span/text()	$('span').text()	Get text content