Classes and IDs

Website Development 1

Element selectors

- So far, all our selectors have been "element" selectors that target all elements on a page

```
p {
  color:blue;
}
```

```
h1 {
    background-color: yellow;
}
```

Class selectors

- If we want to be more specific, class selectors are the next step. Instead of targeting all elements of that type, they target all elements that have a specific class name specified.

- A class selector looks just like an element selector, but instead of using names that are tied to the names of HTML elements, you make up the name and then you prefix it with a dot (**.**). For instance:

```
.red { }

.myElements { }

.navigation { }
```

Class selectors

CSS

```
p {
    font-size:20px;
}
.pchange {
    color: red;
}
.beautiful {
    font-weight: bold;
    font-style: italic;
}
```

- Here, two classes are created:

    - ".pchange" that changes text colour to red

    - ".beautiful" that sets text to bold and italic

Here is some text.

Here's more text : *this part is especially pretty!*

Class selectors

Here is some text.

Here's more text : *this part is especially pretty!*

HTML

- In our HTML, we apply these classes using the class attribute:

```
<p class="pchange">
```

- Note: <span> is an attribute that can be used to surround a few words in order to apply some styles to them

```
<p> Here is some text.</p>

<p class="pchange">
    Here's more text –
    <span class="beautiful">
    this part is especially
    pretty!</span>
</p>
```

Class selectors

Here is some text.

Here's more text : *this part is especially pretty!*

CSS

```
p {
  font-size:20px;
}
.pchange {
  color: red;
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.beautiful {
  font-weight: bold;
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HTML

```
<p> Here is some text.</p>

<p class="pchange">
  Here's more text –
  <span class="beautiful">
  this part is especially
  pretty!</span>
</p>
```

Class selectors

- Element-specific classes
  - In our previous example, all element types could use our classes but in some situations, you may want to limit the use to a specific element type.
  - Element specific classes are used simply by appending the class name to the element name in your selector:

```
p.pchange { color: red;}
```

  - With this rule, this specific class selector can only be applied to the paragraph (p) tag.

Class selector

- Multiple classes
  - Classes are not unique and the class property of an HTML tag allows you to specify more than one class. The useful thing about this is that it allows you to combine the rules for several selectors and use them for the same tag however you want to.
  - This also means that instead of writing selectors with many rules and then only targeting few elements, you can write less specific selectors and simply combine them when it is appropriate. This allows for greater re-usability, which is really what CSS is all about.

```
<h2 class="colourchange increasefont">Heading</h2>
```

Multiple classes

This is an error!

This is information!

CSS

```css
.status {
  background-color:yellow;
  font-weight:bold;
  font-size:20px;
}
.error {color: red;}

.information {color: blue;}
```

HTML

```html
<p class="status error">
  This is an error!
</p>


<p class="status information">
  This is information!
</p>
```

ID selector

- Now we will look at the most specific selector type: the **id** selector.
- The id selector is so specific that it only targets a single element on the page; and it can only be used once on each webpage
- An id selector looks just like a class selector, but instead of having a dot as the prefix, it uses the hash sign (#).

```
#menubg {
    background-color: lightgrey;
}
```

ID selector

- To apply the ID styles in our HTML, we use the "id" attribute:

```
<div id="menubg">Website Menu</div>
```

- Again, the difference between classes and IDs is:
  - IDs should be unique and can only be used once on each webpage in your site
  - Classes are reusable and can be used as many times as you want

ID selector

- Element specific ID selectors
  - Just like the class selector, you may limit an id selector to a specific element type by putting the name in front of the selector name, like this:

```
h1#main-header {
        color: greenyellow;
}
```

  - With this rule, this specific id selector can only be applied to a h1 tag.

```
<h1 id="main-header">Heading One</h1>
```