**1.What is doctype and why it is used?**

Doctype is nothing but the declaration that is given to the document that is used to make understand the browser that how the document bust me treated and which version to use. For instance, in other languages like C, to declare a character we write “char a”, so that compiler understands that variable “a” is a character and accepts only characters (a to z or A to Z). In the same way if <!DOCTYPE html> is specified in a document, browser understands that this particular document is a html document and it should render the respective tags like “h1” as large heading, “p” as paragraph and so on so forth.

Sometimes if you omit the doctype declaration, in some cases the page works, but when you are using version specific tags that only works in specific versions like Ex: article, aside etc are HTML5 tags that are new in HTML5, if you don’t specify the doctype declaration at the very beginning then browser doesn’t know how to treat those tags and that may lead to quirk modes/errors. If you specify the standard that you are using then browser understands that ok it should follow that standard and renders each element accordingly on the web page. So always declaring the declaration at the beginning is the best practice.

REFERENCES:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZTZBd33Ys8>

<http://www.quirksmode.org/css/quirksmode.html>

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/23230798/what-happens-if-i-dont-put-a-doctype-html-in-my-code-will-it-make-any-major>

**2. What are sematic elements?**

Semantic elements are the one that can be understood without even looking at the content inside it. All the semantic elements like nav, aside, section, footer, article, header, fig, figcaption etc can be understood that they are related to specific content. But elements like div and spans can’t be understood primarily without going through the content inside it. Usually these semantic elements are beneficial for people who are visually impaired or blind i.e for screen reader purposes.

**Note:** Look into index1.html for more details on these in hw1 folder.

REFERENCES: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDn9uw7N9Xg>