Headings, Paragraphs & Dummy Text

Overview

Now that we understand the HTML Boilerplate, it is time to start writing the actual content that users will see on our website. In HTML, text is structured logically using specific tags. Today, we cover the two most fundamental text elements: **Headings** and **Paragraphs**. We will also learn a professional industry trick for generating placeholder text.

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1. Headings (<h1> to <h6>)

Just like a newspaper has main headlines and smaller sub-headlines, a webpage uses a hierarchy of headings. HTML provides 6 levels of headings, ranging from <h1> (the largest and most important) down to <h6> (the smallest).

```
<body>
    <h1>This is Heading 1 (Main Title)</h1>
    <h2>This is Heading 2 (Sub-title)</h2>
    <h3>This is Heading 3</h3>
    <h4>This is Heading 4</h4>
    <h5>This is Heading 5</h5>
    <h6>This is Heading 6</h6>
</body>
```

🚨 The Golden Rule of SEO (Search Engine Optimization)

As a professional developer, you must know this rule: **Never use more than one <h1> tag on a single web page.**

When Google or Bing scans your website to rank it in search results, they look directly at the <h1> tag to understand what the entire page is about. If you have multiple <h1> tags, it confuses the search engine, which can hurt your website's ranking. Use <h2> through <h6> for all other sub-topics.

2. Paragraphs (<p>)

For all standard text—like articles, descriptions, or general information—we use the Paragraph tag, written as <p>.

```
<body>
    <h1>About Sri Lanka</h1>
    <p>Sri Lanka is a beautiful island nation located in the Indian Ocean. It is famous for its rich history, diverse culture, and stunning landscapes.</p>
</body>
```

Every time you open a new <p> tag, the browser will automatically push that text to a new line and add a little bit of spacing above and below it.

3. The Pro Secret: "Lorem Ipsum" Dummy Text

In the real world of Software Engineering, you will often need to build the layout of a website before the client has given you the actual text to put in it. To test how the design looks, developers use placeholder text called **"Lorem Ipsum"**.

- **What is it?** It is a standard set of meaningless Latin words used purely to fill space.
- **How to generate it in VS Code:** You do not need to copy and paste this from the internet. Simply type lorem inside your <p> tag and press Tab or Enter.

```
<p>
    Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur adipisicing elit. Maxime mollitia,
    molestiae quas vel sint commodi repudiandae consequuntur voluptatum laborum
    numquam blanditiis harum quisquam eius sed odit fugiat iusto fuga praesentium
    optio, eaque rerum!
</p>
```

Controlling the Word Count

Sometimes a full paragraph of dummy text is too long. If you only want exactly 15 words of placeholder text, type lorem15 and press Tab.

```
<p>
    Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet consectetur adipisicing elit. Quisquam, quos eius.
    Amet tempore facilis est!
</p>
```

4. VS Code Tip: Word Wrap

When you generate a large amount of text, it might stretch far off the right side of your screen, forcing you to scroll horizontally to read your code.

To fix this instantly:

- **Windows/Linux:** Press Alt + Z
- **Mac:** Press Option + Z

This toggles **"Word Wrap"**, which neatly folds your long lines of code so they fit perfectly within your screen's width.