My job is maintaining a local electronics company's website. While I know my final project might not reflect it well, I code in React. And I think looking back as I fumbled and embarrassed myself trying to understand how to fit HTML into the equation, I think this course has been an absolute boon in helping me apply better CSS styling, literally, in my everyday life.

React provided me with a solid footing in CSS, but it often abstracts away some of the details by automating component fitting and layout. Working directly with HTML and CSS in this course allowed me to explore how components are structured and styled without the abstraction. It gave me the opportunity to see firsthand how styles are applied and how layouts are formed from scratch, without relying on JavaScript frameworks. I think the best way I can put it is that this course gave me some solid practical, as opposed to theoretical, understanding of how I can best use CSS going forward.

As for the final project, I didn't realize until the day of the prototype's due date that what we were turning in was a prototype. So I was already happy with the overall quality of the site on the 22nd, but obviously it needed improvements in its structure. That was, practically, the only note that was given to me when I showed it to people. One person mentioned that the Nav Bar should move down the screen and that it should mark what page you're currently on. It was too long and too sparse. So my idea was to create a box of text under each image to form a grid or columns in order to condense the page.

Obviously I failed at that. While I have more than drastically improved with my CSS stylin' skills, I could not for the life of me to get a page to look good and neat with this idea. There always seemed to be something out of line or place that would drag my eyes away from the rest of the page to that one text. While the differences between the prototype and final are minimal, I think it was for the best. All the other structures seemed worse, and eventually I had to make the choice to go back.