Part 1- Vocab Terms and Takeaways

SCSS: SCSS stands for Sassy Cascading Style Sheets. It is a superset of CSS that allows for more advanced features such as variables, nesting, and mixins. It uses the same syntax as CSS but with additional functionality.

Preprocessor: A preprocessor is a program or tool that processes code before it is compiled or interpreted by the compiler. In web development, a preprocessor like SCSS or LESS is used to write CSS in a more efficient and effective manner, allowing developers to use variables, functions, and other features not available in traditional CSS.

DRY code: DRY stands for Don't Repeat Yourself. In programming, it refers to the principle of writing code in a way that avoids duplication and redundancy. DRY code is more efficient, easier to maintain, and reduces the likelihood of bugs and errors.

Vendor prefixes: Vendor prefixes are a way for browser vendors to implement experimental or non-standard CSS features before they are standardized by the W3C. They are prefixes added to CSS properties, such as "-webkit-" for Safari and Chrome or "-moz-" for Firefox. They are used to ensure that experimental features do not interfere with other parts of the website and to provide backward compatibility for older browsers.

I enjoyed this reading even though I am well aware that much of it went over my head. Learning about CSS feels like learning about a school friend that I have known for years, but I never really got to know. Each of the preceding vocab words (and many other important terms she mentions in the book) are not completely foreign. I have seen them used when I have inspected code and heard these terms mentioned in passing, but I never really understood it. I am really interested to see what continuing to read this book could teach me, and it made me really want to learn how to be a better “DRY” coder as well as learn SCSS.

Part 2

In terms of CSS and JavaScript techniques, there are several that are essential to creating a modern and functional website. One important technique is responsive design, which ensures that the website is optimized for different screen sizes and devices. As mentioned in the book we read, this can be achieved through media queries, meta tags, and relative CSS units like ems and rems. I also really appreciate when the webpage reacts to my movements so when that when I am hovering over or clicking on elements, there is a visible representation of that movement. The website template I ended up using is based on the idea of an “education” website. I used this because recently I was trying to use a community college’s website to register for a class over the summer, and it was AWFUL. The page was so difficult to follow; I was not clear on what the links would take me to, and it was very ugly.

Some of the elements of this page I appreciate were its dynamic page size (in the screenshots below you can see how it adjusts to different size of my browser), its font design, and the reactivity of each of its elements. When it comes to JavaScript and CSS, some important techniques this template would need include event handling, DOM manipulation, and conditional formatting in CSS. These techniques allow for dynamic and interactive elements on the website, such as pop-ups, dropdown menus, and form validation, color changes, and dynamic sizing of page elements.

Graphical user interface

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceGraphical user interface, application

Description automatically generated

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generatedGraphical user interface, application

Description automatically generatedGraphical user interface, application, email, website

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