Introduction To Xpath

Important strategy to locate elements in Selenium

Xpath is a language to query XML documents

It consists of a path expression along with some conditions

XPath can be also defined as XML path

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XML Document

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Autiwate Mindawe

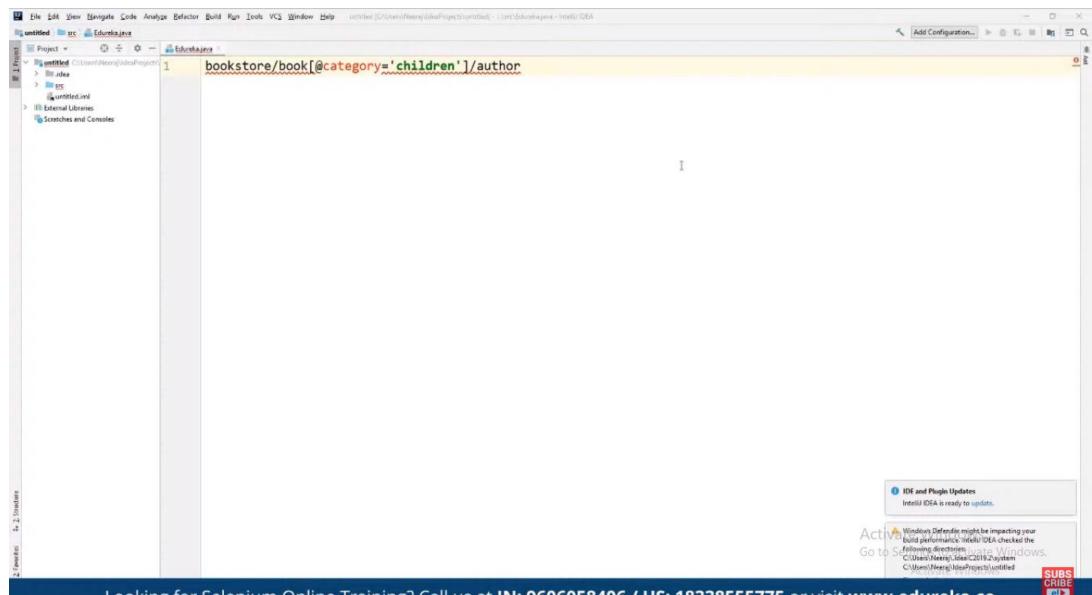


XML Document

```
<bookstore>
<book category= "cooking">
<title lang="en">Everyday Chinese</title>
<author>K.S.Bose</author>
<book>
<book category= "children">
<title lang="en">Harry Potter</title>
<author>J.K. Rowling</author>
<book>
<book>
```

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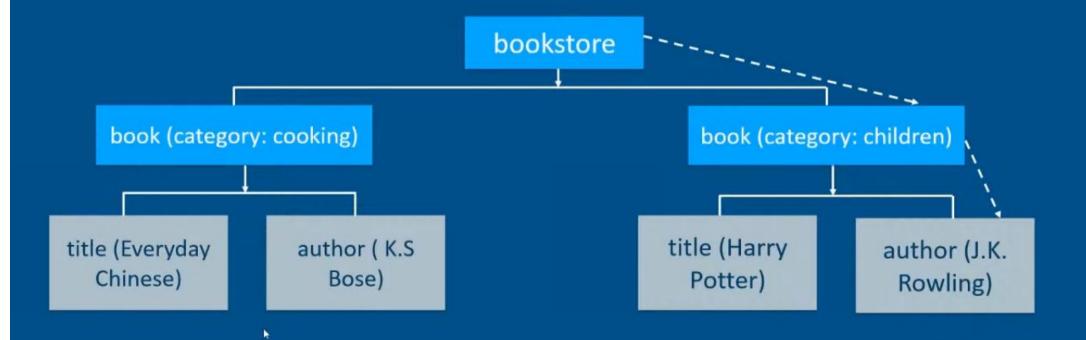
XML Document



edureka! XML Tree bookstore book (category: cooking) book (category: children) title (Harry title (Everyday author (K.S author (J.K. Chinese) Bose) Potter) Rowling)

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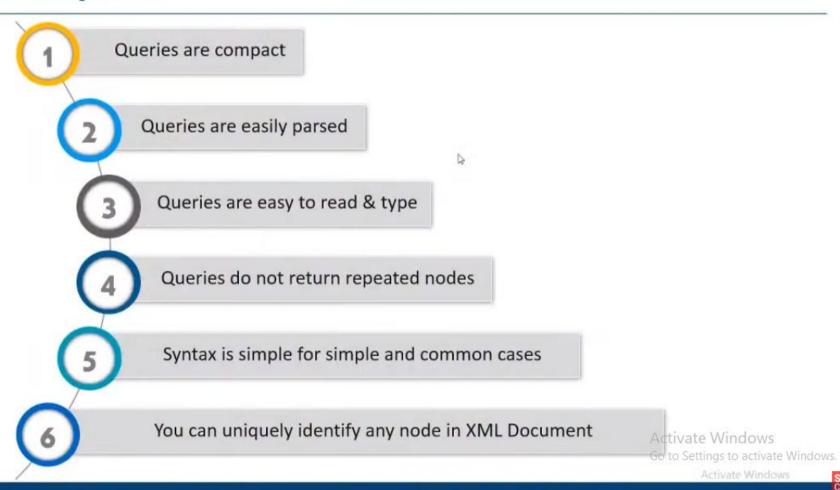
XML Tree



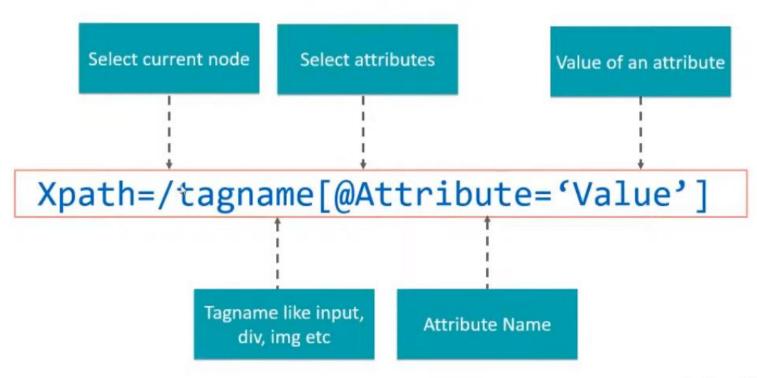
Xpath = /bookstore/book[@category='children']/author



Benefits of Xpath

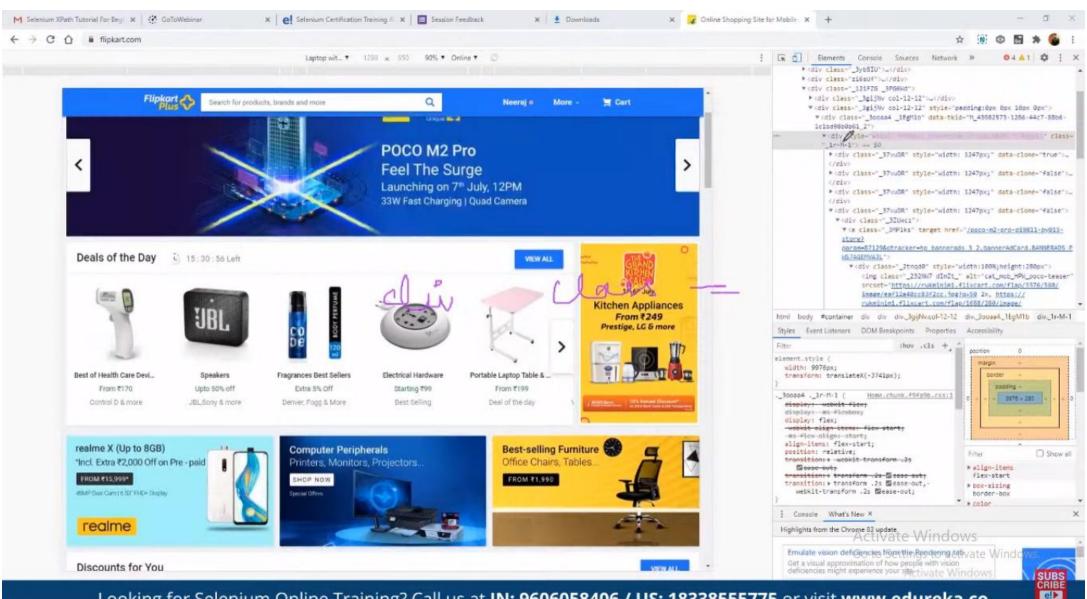


Syntax and Terminology

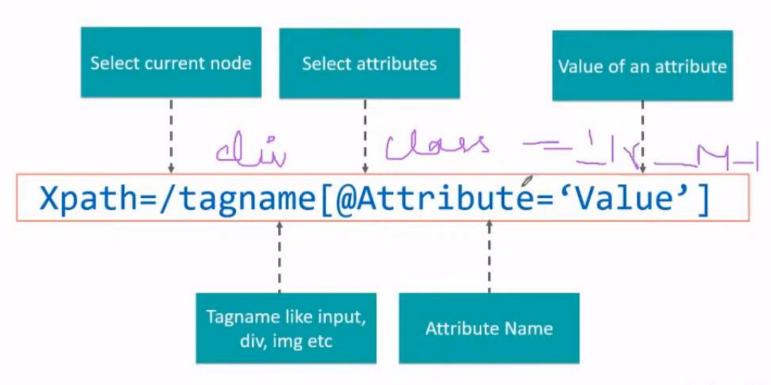


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Syntax and Terminology



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Types of Xpath



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Types of Xpath



Relative Xpath

It is the direct way to find the element, but the disadvantage of the absolute XPath is that if there are any changes made in the path of the element then that XPath gets failed.

Ex: /html/body/div[1]/section/div[1]/div

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Types of Xpath

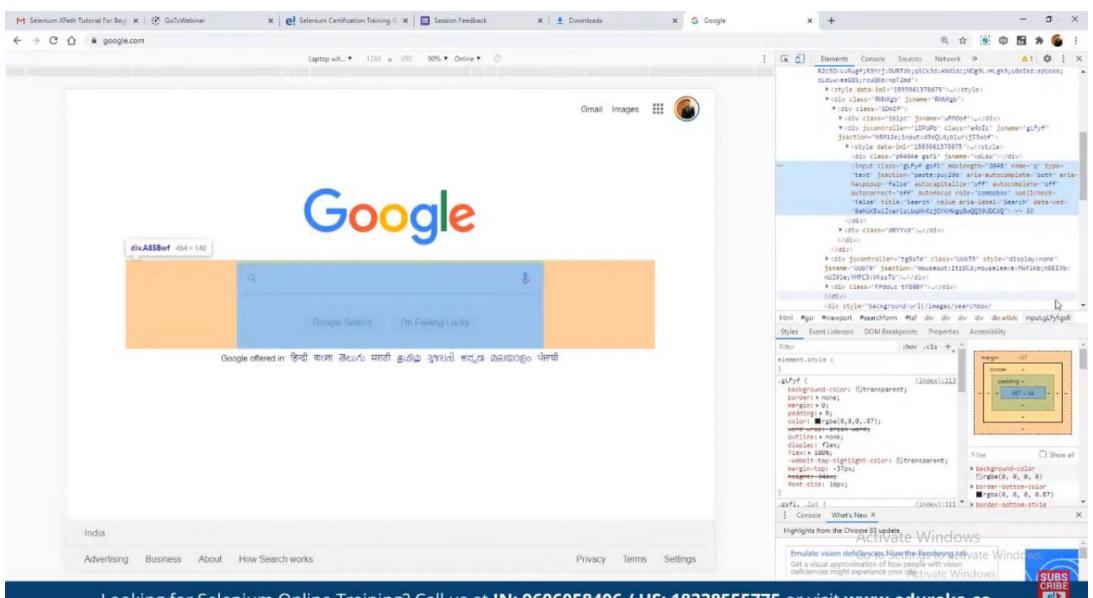


For, Relative Xpath the path starts from the middle of the HTML DOM structure. It starts with the double forward slash (//), which means it can search the element anywhere at the webpage

Ex: //input[@id='ap_email']

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Xpath Functions

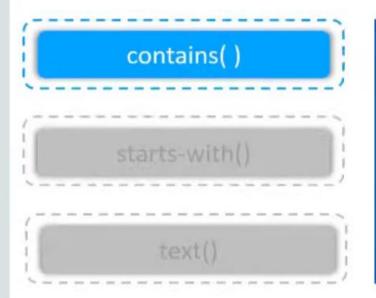


```
<bookstore>
<book category= "cooking">
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<book>
<book category= "children">
<title lang="en">Harry Potter</title>
<author>J.K. Rowling</author>
<book>
</book>
```

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Xpath Functions

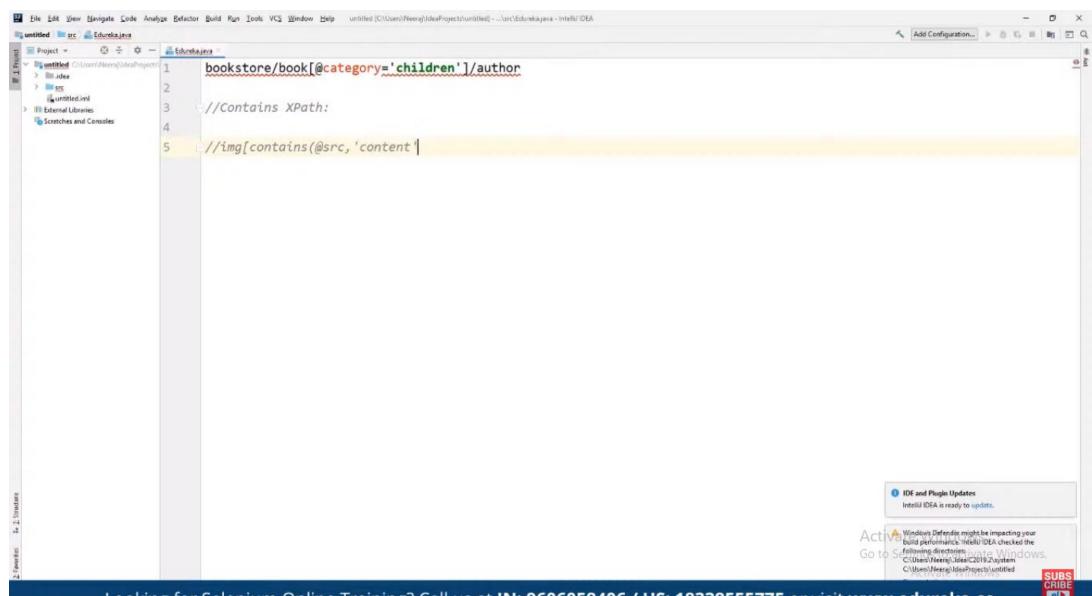


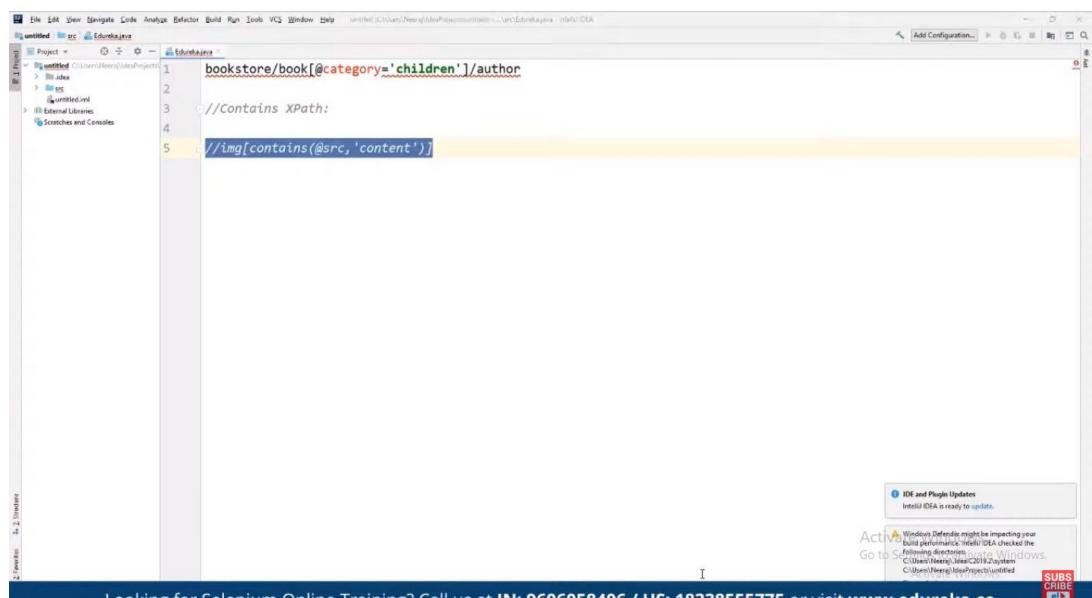
contains() is a method used in XPath expression. It is used when the value of any attribute changes dynamically, for example, login information.

Syntax:

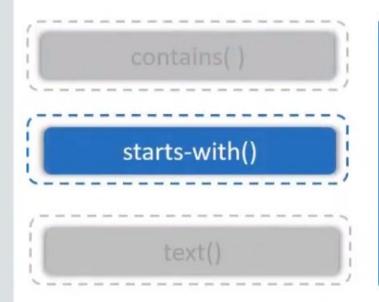
Xpath=//*[contains(@type,'sub')]

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Xpath Functions



starts-with function finds the element whose attribute value changes on refresh or any operation on the webpage.

Syntax:

Xpath=//label[starts-with(@id,'message')]

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