"Web Development Foundations" (WDF)   
*by James Williamson*

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## Introduction To The Web

Understanding How The Web Works (2:37)

1. **What are clients?**

These are devices that request and render web content; browsers, mobile apps, screen readers and content aggregators.

Working with clients and servers (2:38)

1. **When we type in a URL, the request does not typically go first to the web server. Where does it go?**

The request if first sent to a Domain Name Server (DNS)

1. **[True or False] In response to a web request, all required files are sent at the same time**

True.

The DNS and why it matters (4:41)

1. **[Critical Thinking] Why is it important to understand DNS when helping a client change hosting companies?**

If the DNS is not assigned properly, no one will be able to find the site. It’s crucial the correct domain names are assigned to the correct IP and to make sure we are aware of who the sites ownership is assigned and registered; all these things, as the designer, is up to the designer to established. Lastly, knowing that the DNS caching can take up to 24 hours is a good thing to know when developing sites.

Exploring HTTP (4:13)

1. **What does the author mean when he says HTTP is a stateless protocol?**

This means that once a request has been sent and received, it’s discarded and forgotten by both the browser and the web server.

Anatomy of a URL (7:13)

1. **[Critical Thinking] What is the purpose of a subdomain?**

A subdomain is used as a folder that web content is located on the web server. Subdomains allow servers to identify unique sites or unique areas of content.

How browsers work (4:32)

1. **Which rendering engine is based on WebKit and used under the hood to develop Chrome?**

Blink.

Web standards and the W3C (3:46)

1. **[Critical Thinking] Why are web standards important to web developers?**

Writing to standards ensure consistency across supporting browsers and continue to evolve, so we must be sure to track the process

Web server basics (3:02)

1. **[Critical Thinking] What is the LAMP stack?**

LAMP, or Linux, Apache, MySQL and PHP, is by far the most used stack in web servers.

1. **[Critical Thinking] Why is it important to know what stack is being used by your host?**

It’s important to be aware of the stack the host server is using so that whatever scripting and database choices we’ve made for design is compatible.

## Front End Technology

Front end design (3:11)

1. **[True or False] According to our author, front end design is commonly associated with the server.**

False.

1. **What are the three languages the author associates with front end design?**

HTML, CSS and JS.

HTML the language of the web (3:54)

1. **[Critical Thinking] Why was HTML5 created?**

HTML5 was produced to retain the backwards compatibility of previous versions of HTML while adding new structural tags and support for application program interfaces that allow elements to be edited, dragged and dropped, and facilitate communication from within the HTML document without needing outside scripting.

Structuring HTML (4:22)

1. **[Critical Thinking] What does the <head> of an HTML document contain?**

Contains all of the non-visual elements that help make the page work. This includes meta tags, page descriptions, links to external resources, external script libraries that controls the page’s presentation, layout, and function, and can also contain the styles of the page if the user so desires.

Controlling presentation through CSS (4:22)

1. **[Critical Thinking] What does the term cascade mean?**

The term ‘Cascade” refers to how the styles are applied to pages, creating a cascading order to the styles that allows the writer to control several sites from one style sheet.

1. **What’s the benefit of using a separate file to store your CSS?**

The benefit is the efficiency of only having to work from one file to write styles for a whole site.

1. **In CSS, what separates a property from a value?**

Properties are used to call out specific characteristics in the text of the page such as font-family, font-size, font-color, etc. and the values given to the properties are what’s used to manipulate those called out properties such as sans serif, 12px/em and red/ff0000.

Client side scripting with JavaScript (4:40)

1. **[Critical Thinking] What is the purpose of JavaScript?**

JavaScript is a scripting language developed in 1995 by Netscape to increase the functionality of its native browser and has evolved into the standard scripting language of the web. This language allows designers to create interactive element, can open new windows or give users feedback, can update, sort and present data directly in the browser, and no server interaction is required. JavaScript has nothing to do with JAVA.

Common image types (5:31)

1. **Which 2 types of graphics support transparencies?**

The two types are Portable Network Graphic (PNG) and Graphic Interchange Format (GIF)

1. **Which type of image scales without any loss in quality?**

Scalable Vector Graphic (SVG) files have this capability.