

XPATH

Introduction

XPath

XPath is used to navigate through elements and attributes in an XML document

XPath is a syntax for defining parts of an XML document

XPath uses path expressions to navigate in XML documents

XPath contains a library of standard functions

XPath is a major element in XSLT

XPath is a W3C recommendation

XPath Path Expressions

XPath uses path expressions to select nodes or node-sets in an XML document. These path expressions look very much like the expressions you see when you work with a traditional computer file system.

XPath Standard Functions

XPath includes over 100 built-in functions. There are functions for string values, numeric values, date and time comparison, node and QName manipulation, sequence manipulation, Boolean values, and more.

How to use XPATH

Selecting Nodes

XPath uses path expressions to select nodes in an XML document. The node is selected by following a path or steps. The most useful path expressions are listed below:

Expression	Description		
nodename	Selects all child nodes of the named node		
1	Selects from the root node		
//	Selects nodes in the document from the current node that match the selection no matter where they are		
	Selects the current node		
	Selects the parent of the current node		
@	Select Attributes		

Selecting Unknown Nodes

XPath wildcards can be used to select unknown XML elements.

Wildcard	Description		
*	Matches any element node		

NMLNTLNQ

@*	Matches any attribute node		
node()	Matches any node of any kind		

Refrenced Link

http://www.w3schools.com/xpath/2

Sample

N	lame	Size	Creator	Creation Date	Comment
	XPathDemo.java	1 kB	MULLAIKANI A.	Jul 20, 2012 10:29	Extracting data from Employee XML

Assignment

Create a sample parser by using the xml expression and xml functions.