

NAME: TANKSIO MASOEBE

WEB DESIGN WK 5

23 SEPT 2025

1.

In a webpage design project, CSS plays a crucial role in transforming a plain HTML structure into a visually appealing and user-friendly interface. Imagine a student creating a personal portfolio website. The HTML provides the framework with sections for a header, navigation menu, main content, and footer. However, without styling, the page looks dull and unorganized. CSS is then applied to enhance the design. For example, the student uses CSS selectors to assign background colors, adjust font sizes, and style navigation links with hover effects. A responsive layout is achieved by applying flexbox and media queries, ensuring the site adapts to both desktop and mobile screens. Margins, padding, and borders are used to create spacing and alignment for a professional look. Through CSS styling, the student ensures that the webpage is not only functional but also attractive, engaging visitors and representing their personal brand effectively

2.

Pseudo-classes in CSS are powerful selectors that define the state or specific condition of an element, enabling developers to style elements dynamically without modifying the HTML structure. They act as extensions to regular selectors, targeting behaviors or positions within a document. For instance, the commonly used: hover pseudo-class changes an element's appearance when a user moves the cursor over it, often applied to buttons or links for interactive effects. Similarly; focus applies styles when an input field is active, improving accessibility and user guidance. Structural pseudo-classes such as: first-child; last-child, and; nth-child () allow styling elements based on their position within a parent container, which is useful in lists, tables, and grid layouts. More advanced pseudo-classes like: not () exclude specific elements from styling, giving developers precise control. Overall, pseudo-classes enhance flexibility, interactivity, and responsiveness in web design, helping create visually engaging, user-friendly, and well-structured webpages.

3.

In this exercise, I practiced applying CSS pseudo-classes to an HTML page, which helped me see how small styling rules can significantly improve user experience. I began with a hyperlink

styled using the hover pseudo-class to change its color and add an underline when the cursor moves over it. This gave the link a more interactive feel, making it obvious that it is clickable. Next, I styled an input field using the focus pseudo-class. When the user clicks into the input, the border becomes green, providing visual feedback and improving accessibility. I also applied the nth-child(even) pseudo-class to a list, creating alternating background colors for better readability. This technique is often seen in tables and menus to distinguish rows or items. Overall, using pseudo-classes allowed me to add interactivity and structure without additional HTML, making the webpage both functional and visually engaging.

3.

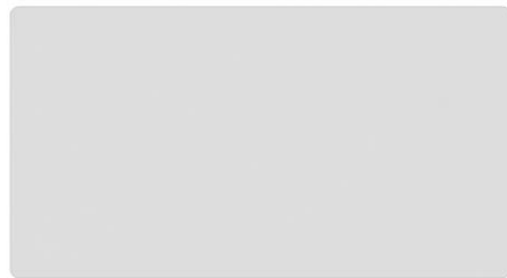
In Canva, I designed a simple webpage wireframe to visualize the structure and styling areas of a website. The wireframe includes four main sections: a header, navigation bar, main content area, and footer. The header is placed at the top with a placeholder for the site title or logo. Just below, the navigation bar has rectangular blocks representing links to different pages. The main content area is the largest section, divided into two columns: one for text or articles and the other for images or a sidebar. At the bottom, the footer is displayed with space for contact information and social media icons. I also used different shades of gray to distinguish sections, while annotations highlight where CSS pseudo-classes, like hover for links or nth-child for lists, could be applied. This wireframe helps in planning the layout visually before coding, ensuring that the webpage is user-friendly, organized, and stylistically consistent.

4.

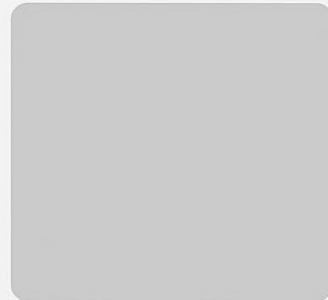
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Header

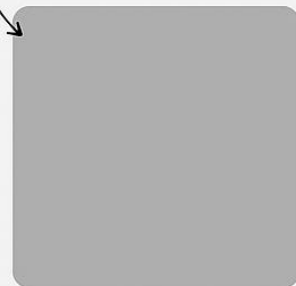
Navigation



**Main Content
Area**



:nth-child



Footer



:hover