Frontend^β → HTML → Code style → <u>Comments</u>

Theory: Comments

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In HTML files, you can write a special text which the browser will ignore when opening the file. Such text is called **a comment**. Why write it if in the end it is simply and deliberately ignored? It actually makes a lot of sense to use comments during the process of development as they can greatly improve the readability of the code.

A comment in HTML code can be generally defined as follows:

```
1   <!-- Any text -->
```

Any text placed in `<!--` and `-->` will be considered a comment. The text of the comment can be placed either on a single line or several.

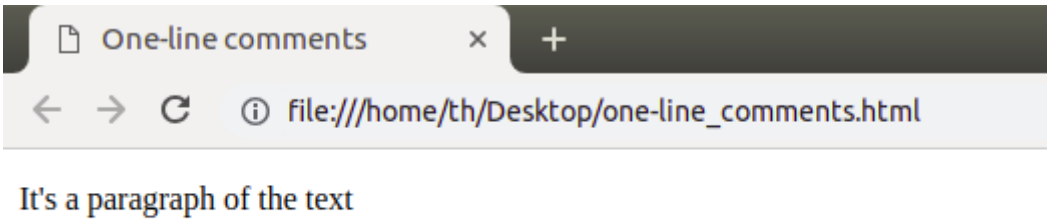> Comments can be used anywhere on the page **except** the `<title>` tag.

Now let's take a closer look at some specific examples of how comments are used and what purpose they serve.

§1. One-line comments

Comments that occupy one line are called **one-line comments**. Take a careful look at the syntactic features of one-line comments:

```
1    <!DOCTYPE html>
2    <html>
3      <head>
4        <meta charset="utf-8">
5        <title>One-line comments</title>
6      </head>
7      <body>
8        <!-- It's a one-line comment -->
9        <p>It's a paragraph of the text</p>
1
0      </body>
1
1    </html>
```

The result in the browser will look as follows:

As you can see, the comment text is not displayed in the browser window. It is invisible for visitors of web pages, but can be very useful for developers. With these notes you can easily remember later why some particular code fragment is needed. Comments can also serve as hints for other developers who will work with your code later on.

§2. Multi-line comments

Comments that take up several lines are called **multi-line comments**. Take a look at their syntactic features:

Current topic:

Comments   ⋯

Topic depends on:

✕ HTML page structure   ⋯

Topic is required for:

Connecting CSS to HTML   ⋯

Table of contents:

```
1    <!DOCTYPE html>
2    <html>
3      <head>
4        <meta charset="utf-8">
5        <title>Multi-line comments</title>
6      </head>
7      <body>
8        <!--
9        It's
1
0        a multi-line comment
1
1        -->
1
2        <p>It's a paragraph of the text</p>
1
3      </body>
1
4    </html>
```
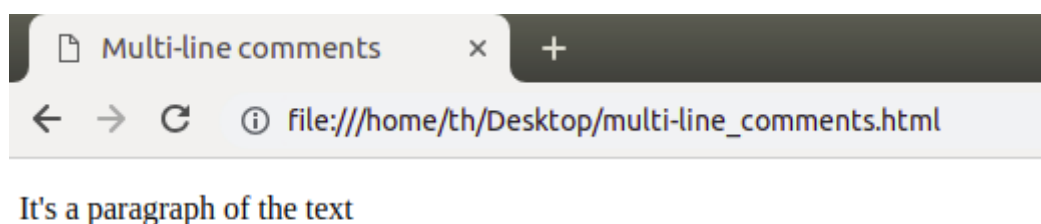
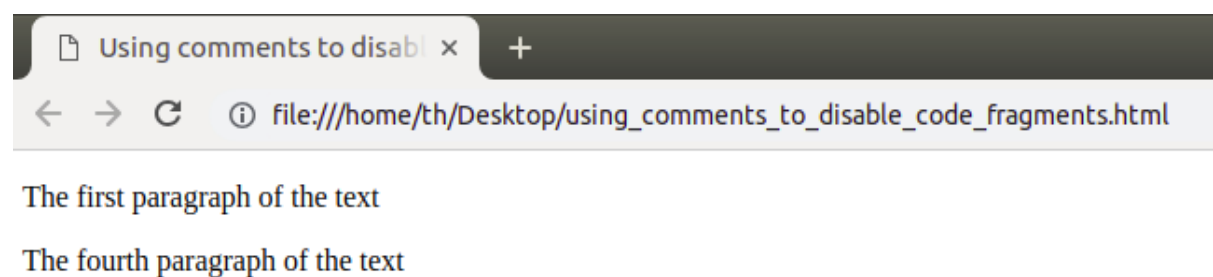In the browser it will look like this:

Such comments as suggested by their name occupy several lines. This may be useful for explaining some particularly complex sections or disabling large parts of the code.

§3. Disabling code fragments

With comments you can make the browser not display specific parts of the code. Take a careful look at this example:

```
1    <!DOCTYPE html>
2    <html>
3      <head>
4        <meta charset="utf-8">
5        <title>Using comments to disable code fragments</title>
6      </head>
7      <body>
8        <p>The first paragraph of the text</p>
9        <!--
1
0        <p>The second paragraph of the text</p>
1
1        <p>The third paragraph of the text</p>
1
2        -->
1
3        <p>The fourth paragraph of the text</p>
1
4      </body>
1
5    </html>
```

Here is how it would look in your browser:

Some tags aren't displayed in the browser window, but they can be made "visible" by deleting the characters `<!--` and `-->`. This process is called **uncommenting**. Temporarily disabling the code is a good strategy when you need to find a bug. It's quite inconvenient to just remove the code because you may need to restore it, so comment/uncomment is a great solution.

Code editors often have special key combinations (shortcuts) to quickly comment and uncomment. You can find them in the documentation for the code editor that you're using, but usually it's *CTRL + /*.

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