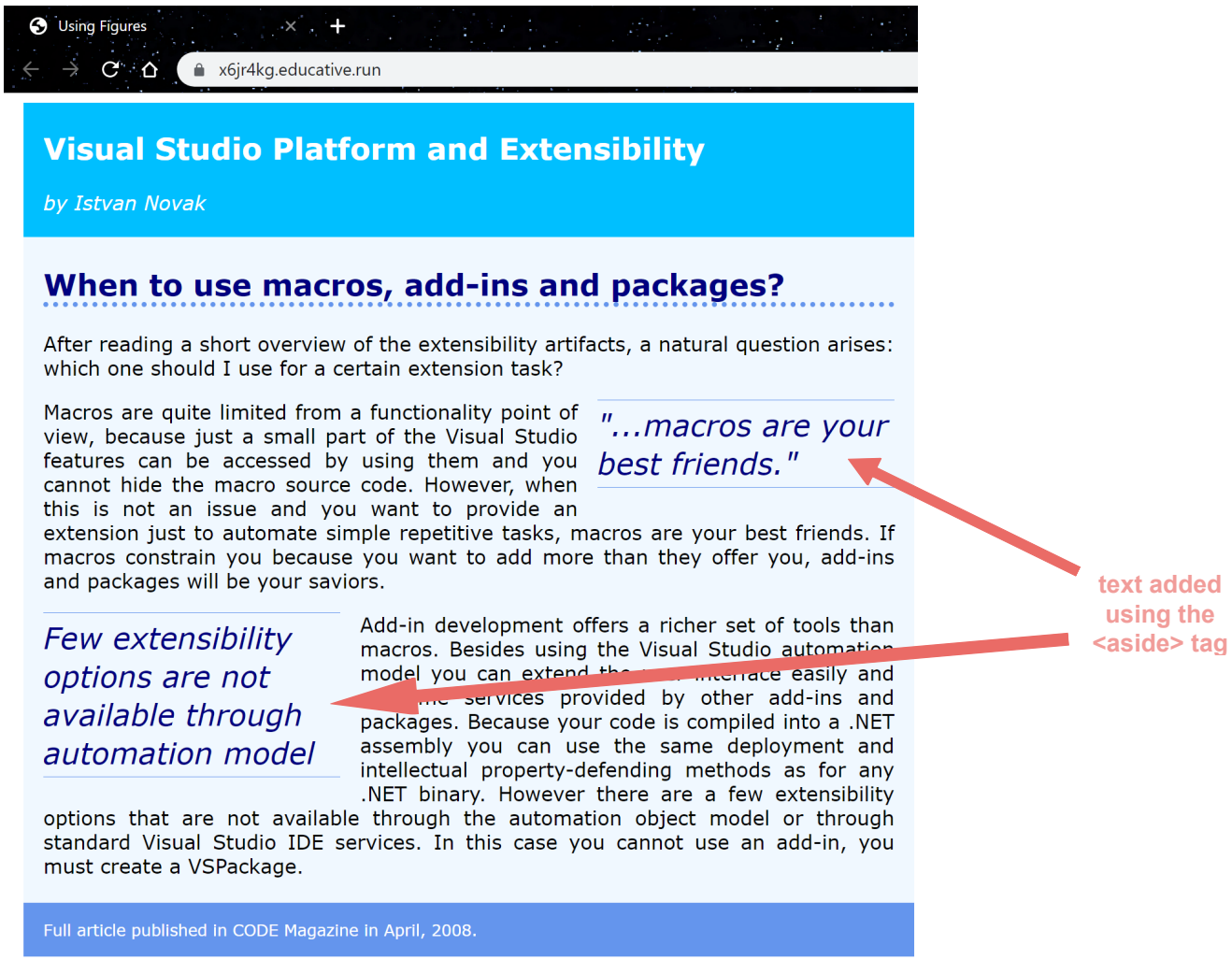
Navigation

In this lesson, we learn all about navigation in HTML.
Let's begin!

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING

You may have many links placed in a web page with the `<a>` tag. Most websites contain a set of navigation links that are the essential links within the site or page. With the help of the `<nav>` semantic element, you can place these links into a specific section. A page can have more than one set of navigation links. Quick links are often put into an `<aside>` section, as the page skeleton shown in the image below:



<aside> tags styled to sidebars

Listing-03-09: Adding quick links

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>Using Figures</title>
  <style>
    body {
      width: 720px;
      margin-left: 16px;
      font-family: Verdana, Arial, sans-serif;
    }

    p {
      text-align: justify;
      margin-top: 4px;
      margin-bottom: 4px;
    }

    header {
      background-color: deepskyblue;
      padding: 2px 16px;
    }
```

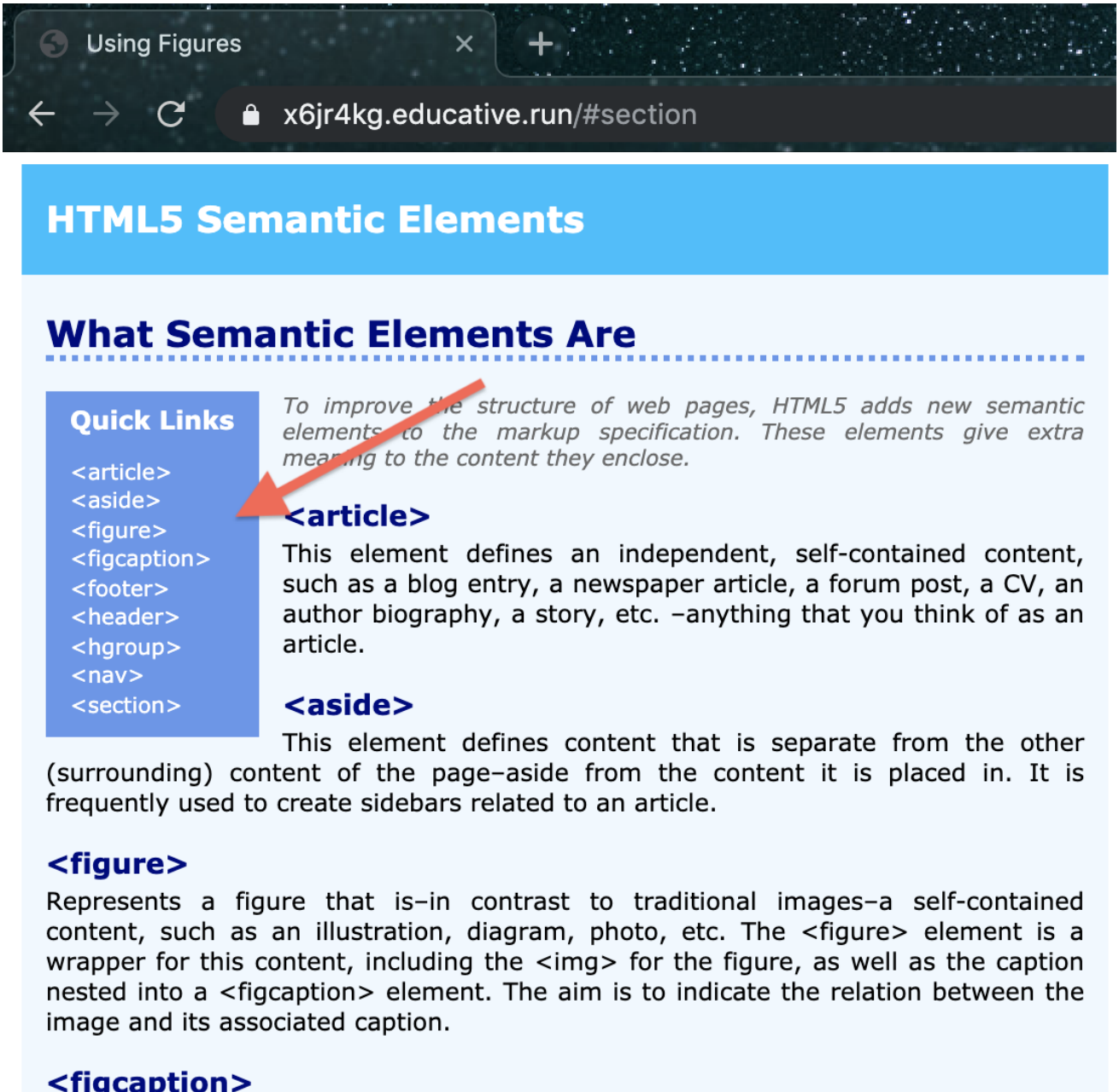
```
h1 {
  color: white;
}

h2 {
  color: navy;
  border-bottom: 4px dotted cornflowerblue;
}

h3 {
  color: navy;
  margin-top: 1em;
  margin-bottom: 0px;
}

.byLine {
  color: white;
  font-style: italic;
}

.mainContent {
  background-color: aliceblue;
  padding: 4px 16px;
}

footer {
  background-color: cornflowerblue;
  padding: 1px 16px;
}

  footer > p {
    color: white;
    font-size: 0.8em;
  }

aside {
  float: left;
  margin: 0 16px 4px 0;
  padding: 8px 16px 0 16px;
  background-color: cornflowerblue;
  font-size: 0.9em;
}

aside>h3 {
  margin-top: 0;
  color: white;
}

ul {
  margin-left: 0px;
  padding-left: 0;
}

li {
  list-style: none;
  margin-left: 0px;
  margin-bottom: 2px;
}

li>a {
  text-decoration: none;
```

```
      color: white;
    }

    li>a:hover {
      color: lightgray;
    }

    .hilited {
      font-size: 0.9em;
      font-style: italic;
      color: dimgray;
    }

  </style>

</head>
<body>
  <article>
    <header>
      <h1>HTML5 Semantic Elements</h1>
    </header>
    <div class="mainContent">
      <section>
        <h2>What Semantic Elements Are</h2>
        <aside>
          <h3>Quick Links</h3>
          <nav>
            <ul>
              <li><a href="#article">&lt;article&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#aside">&lt;aside&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#figure">&lt;figure&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#figcaption">&lt;figcaption&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#footer">&lt;footer&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#header">&lt;header&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#hgroup">&lt;hgroup&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#nav">&lt;nav&gt;</a></li>
              <li><a href="#section">&lt;section&gt;</a></li>
            </ul>
          </nav>
        </aside>
        <p class="hilited">
          To improve the structure of web pages, HTML5 adds
          new semantic elements to the markup specification.
          These elements give extra meaning to the content they enclose.
        </p>
      </section>
      <section>
        <h3 id="article">&lt;article&gt;</h3>
        <p>
          This element defines an independent, self-contained content,
          such as a blog entry, a newspaper article, a forum post,
          a CV, an author biography, a story, etc.
          &ndash;anything that you think of as an article.
        </p>
      </section>
      <section>
        <h3 id="aside">&lt;aside&gt;</h3>
        <p>
          This element defines content that is separate from the other
          (surrounding) content of the page&ndash;aside from the content
          it is placed in. It is frequently used to create sidebars
          related to an article.
```

```
  </p>
</section>
<section>
  <h3 id="figure">&lt;figure&gt;</h3>
  <p>
    Represents a figure that is&ndash;in contrast to traditional
    images&ndash;a self-contained content, such as an illustration,
    diagram, photo, etc. The &lt;figure&gt; element is a wrapper
    for this content, including the &lt;img&gt; for the figure,
    as well as the caption nested into a &lt;figcaption&gt; element.
    The aim is to indicate the relation between the image and its
    associated caption.
  </p>
</section>
<section>
  <h3 id="figcaption">&lt;figcaption&gt;</h3>
  <p>
    This element defines a caption for the &lt;figure&gt; element.
  </p>
</section>
<section>
  <h3 id="footer">&lt;footer&gt;</h3>
  <p>
    Defines a footer for a document or section, so this element
    should contain information about its container element.
    It can be a set of important link, a copyright notice,
    terms of use, contact information, etc.
  </p>
</section>
<section>
  <h3 id="header">&lt;header&gt;</h3>
  <p>
    This element represents an enhanced heading for a document
    or a section. It should be a container for introductory
    content, and may contain logo, byline, set of navigational
    links, etc.
  </p>
</section>
<section>
  <h3 id="hgroup">&lt;hgroup&gt;</h3>
  <p>
    This element defines an enhanced heading that groups two
    or more heading elements without any additional content.
    Its purpose is to make a title and a subtitle (or subtitles)
    stand together.
  </p>
</section>
<section>
  <h3 id="nav">&lt;nav&gt;</h3>
  <p>
    Defines a major block of links on a page. These links
    may point to topics on the current page, or to other
    pages on the website. Not all links of a document must
    be in a &lt;nav&gt; element. A page may have multiple
    &lt;nav&gt; sections.
  </p>
</section>
<section>
  <h3 id="section">&lt;section&gt;</h3>
  <p>
    This element defines logical sections in a document.
    These sections can be headers, footers, chapters,
```

```
          sections of chapters, etc. Use &lt;section&gt;
          only if other semantic elements do not apply.
          As a rule of thumb, the content &lt;section&gt;
          holds always should begin with a heading
          (&lt;h1&gt;, ..., &lt;h6&gt;)
        </p>
      </section>
    </div>
  </article>
  <footer>
    <p>
      Full article published in CODE Magazine
      in April, 2008.
    </p>
  </footer>
</body>
</html>
```

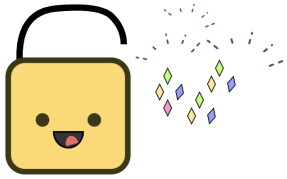
As you can see, the `<nav>` element contains only hyperlinks embedded into an unordered list. With simple styling, this markup is rendered as shown in the image below:



This element defines a caption for the <figure> element.

Adding navigation links to the page with <nav>

Achievement unlocked!



Congratulations! You've learned how to make use of the navigation tag in HTML.

All around amazing work!

Give yourself a round of applause! :)

In the *next lesson*, we'll uncover some more semantic elements.