

How it Works: Changing the DOM

In this lesson, let's understand the implementation of the DOM manipulation exercise.
Let's begin!

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HOW IT WORKS

The marker is added to the heading with this code line:

```
title.innerHTML = '<span class="mono">- </span>'  
+ title.innerHTML;
```



Here, `title` represents the heading. The `innerHTML` property can be used to access and set the content of an HTML element using textual HTML markup. Most HTML element may nest other markup elements. Although using the DOM operations, you can navigate from a parent element to its child or children. In many situations, it's much easier to access the nested content as HTML text, and this is exactly what `innerHTML` does. The code above shows that you add a `` tag to the headings content, so that it precedes the original text.

In the first step you added another code line to the **script** file:

```
title.addEventListener('click', onClick, true);
```



This line is responsible for creating an event handler. By invoking `addEventListener()` it attaches the handler to the `onclick` event (it is named by the first argument, `"click"`) of the heading element represented by `title`. The second argument specifies the function that should be executed when the

The second argument specifies the function that should be executed when the heading has been clicked.

This is the `onClick()` function you added in step three:

```
function onClick(evt) {  
  var headerClicked = evt.currentTarget;  
  headerClicked.setAttribute("style",  
    "background-color: red;");  
}
```



This function has a single argument, `evt`, which holds information about the event raised. In **line two**, you use its `currentTarget` property that contains the element (in this case the corresponding `<h2>` instance) that has been clicked. In **lines three** and **four** you use the `setAttribute()` method of the clicked element to set its `"style"` attribute to `"background-color: red;"`.

The browser catches all changes to the DOM and updates its UI immediately to apply modifications. As soon as you added the markers to the DOM, or set the background color of the heading clicked, the browser immediately showed the results of these alterations.

You can find the completed code below:

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```
var titles = document.getElementsByTagName('h2');  
for (var i = 0; i < titles.length; i++) {  
  var title = titles[i];  
  title.innerHTML = '<span class="mono">- </span>'  
    + title.innerHTML;  
  title.addEventListener('click', onClick, true);  
}  
  
function onClick(evt) {  
  var headerClicked = evt.currentTarget;  
  headerClicked.setAttribute("style",  
    "background-color: red;");  
}
```

In the *next lesson*, let's learn how to complete this event handling process.

See you there!

