The Concept of Cascading

In this lesson, we shall discover where the cascading in cascading style sheets exactly comes from. Let's begin!

The **CSS specification**

Each rule has a selector that defines the part of the web page, more precisely, the set of HTML tags, that the rule is applied to.

Frequently, more than one selector is applied for most HTML tags; in this case, selectors are applied in a specific order according to the **CSS specification**.

After understanding selectors, you'll learn this order.

📄**NOTE**: If there are more applicable selectors that specify the same

property with different values, the most specific selector wins. However,

it is not always easy to guess which selector is the most specific, as you will see.

Rules declare a number of properties. When a rule is applied to an HTML tag, certain properties are inherited by all child elements of the tag. For example, the font-family property is inherited, so when you apply it to the `<body>` tag, the whole page will use the specified font, unless an HTML tag nested into `<body>` overrides it by its own font-family definition.

This mechanism, that governs how styles interact and which styles get precedence when there's a conflict, is known as the cascade.

This is how the Cascading Style Sheets got its name.

In the *next lesson*, we meet CSS Selectors.

See you there! :)