CoderDojo

Dingle Coderdojo 2

Week 2

Making It Look Good!

The examples we created last week don't look very good, do they? If any of the websites you visited looked like that, you wouldn't go back!

CSS is short for **Cascading Style Sheets** and is used to change the appearance of any content on screen (tables, text, fonts, images, icons, background colours etc.) – CSS files are linked from the `<HEAD>` section of the page. You'll see an example shortly. There are two ways to add CSS to your page.

1. You can link to an external file that contains all your style information.

2. You can create a `<STYLE>` section in your HTML file to contain your CSS instructions. Let's start with the `<STYLE>` section and use it to style our table from last week.

```
<HTML>
    <HEAD>
        <TITLE>My First Page</TITLE>
        <STYLE>
        body {
            background-color: pink;
        }
        td {
            font-family:verdana;
            font-size: 20px;
            color: white;
        }
        .heading {
            font-size: 30px; font-weight: bold;
        }
        #banana {
            background-color: yellow; color: black;
        }
        </STYLE>
    </HEAD>
    <BODY>
    <P>This is a table:</P>
    <TABLE width="100%" cellpadding="2" cellspacing="2" border="1">
    <TR>
        <TD class="heading" >Top Row Cell 1</TD>
        <TD class="heading" >Top Row Cell 2</TD>
        <TD class="heading" >Top Row Cell 3</TD>
    </TR>
    <TR>
        <TD>Middle Row Cell 1</TD>
        <TD>Middle Row Cell 2</TD>
        <TD>Middle Row Cell 3</TD>
    </TR>
    <TR>
        <TD>Bottom Row Cell 1</TD>
        <TD id="banana" >Bottom Row Cell 2</TD>
        <TD>Bottom Row Cell 3</TD>
        </TR>
    </TABLE>
    </BODY>
</HTML>
```

Notes:

1. Our CSS is embedded in the `<STYLE>` section at the top of the page.

2. We can affect **all** tags of a certain type by just referring to it and applying the styles, e.g.

```
td {
    font-family:verdana;
    font-size: 20px;
    color: white;
}
```

3. We can target specific tags by adding a class to them (look for "class=" in the code above) and styling the class. Classes are prefixed with a ".".

```
.heading {
    font-size: 30px;
    font-weight: bold;
}
```

4. You can target individual elements on the screen by adding an ID to them (look for "ID=" in the code above) and styling the ID. IDs are prefixed with a "#".

```
#banana {
    background-color: yellow;
    color: black;
}
```

Challenges:

1. Change the background colour to something else! Find a list of all named colours here: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_colors

2. Change the background colour of the third cell on the second row to purple.

Troubleshooting

Why isn't my page working?

1. Do you have **one** <HTML> tag in your document? (should be at the top)

2. Do you have **one** corresponding </HTML> tag at the bottom? (Should be the last line)

3. Do you have **one** <BODY> tag?

4. Do you have **one** corresponding </BODY> tag at the bottom? (Should be the second last line)

5. Do you have any broken/mistyped tags? Some common mistakes:

Mistake: <LI. (tag not closed correctly)
Solution: <LI> -- applies to any tag, not just <LI>

Mistake: <\TABLE> (incorrect slash character)
Solution: </TABLE> -- applies to any tag - make sure you have the correct /

Mistake: "colour"
Solution: Should be "color" (American Spelling)