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# CSS: More on Selectors



## ⦿ Back to descendants

- ⦿ remember walking down the document tree structure and see how parents and children interact
- ⦿ not only is it important to know about inheritance
- ⦿ walking along the document tree helps us access certain elements we want to “pretty-fy” in our CSS file

# CSS: More on Selectors



- ⦿ Back to descendants

- ⦿ example: demos/selectors/descendants.html

```
ul li {font-weight:bold; }
```

- ⦿ this says: <li> children of the parent <ul> will be in bold font
    - ⦿ what would this affect in descendants.html

```
<ul>  
  <li>x</li>  
  <li>y</li>  
  <li>z</li>  
</ul>
```

# CSS: More on Selectors



- ⦿ Back to descendants

- ⦿ example: demos/selectors/descendants.html

```
ul li {font-weight:bold; }
```

- ⦿ this says: <li> children of the parent <ul> will be in bold font
    - ⦿ what would this affect in descendants.html

```
<ul>  
  <li>x</li>  
  <li>y</li>  
  <li>z</li>  
</ul>
```

- ⦿ x, y and z will be bolded
      - ⦿ only unordered list items will be affected

# CSS: More on Selectors



- ⦿ Back to descendants

- ⦿ example: `demos/selectors/descendants-deep.html`
  - ⦿ walk through
- ⦿ descendant crawl can get confusing
  - ⦿ don't use too much of it in code
  - ⦿ but it can be quite useful!

# CSS: More on Selectors



## ⦿ Back to descendants

### ⦿ 2 other contextual selectors are available

- ⦿ not completely supported (thanks IE ... IE6 no, IE7 yes)

### ⦿ child selectors

- ⦿ `#navigation > li {...}`

- ⦿ select any li element that is a child of an element with `id="navigation"`

- ⦿ descendant selector applies to all element descendants

- ⦿ child selector applies to immediate descendants (i.e. children)

- ⦿ allows outer items to be affected while inner items remain unstyled (i.e. nested items aren't changed)

- ⦿ similar to descendent

- ⦿ target only the direct children of an element

- ⦿ [www.w3.org/TR/CSS21/selector.html](http://www.w3.org/TR/CSS21/selector.html)

# CSS: More on Selectors



- ⦿ Back to descendants

- ⦿ 2 other contextual selectors are available

- ⦿ not completely supported (thanks IE ... IE6 no, IE7 yes)

- ⦿ adjacent sibling selectors

- ⦿ h1 + p {...}

- ⦿ first paragraph after <h1> will be styled

- ⦿ other paragraphs will be left unchanged

- ⦿ target an element that comes directly after another element with the same parent

- ⦿ [www.w3.org/TR/CSS21/selector.html](http://www.w3.org/TR/CSS21/selector.html)

# CSS: More on Selectors



## ⦿ Pseudo-Element Selectors

- ⦿ pseudo-selectors are indicated by the colon (:)
- ⦿ 4 main anchor pseudo-classes
  - ⦿ a:link - style to unclicked (unvisited) links
  - ⦿ a:visited - style to links that have already been clicked
  - ⦿ a:hover - style when the mouse pointer is over the link
  - ⦿ a:active - style when the mouse button is pressed
- ⦿ replace legacy code attributes of link, vlink, alink
- ⦿ look at [demos/selectors/pseudo-links.html](#)  
look at [demos/selectors/pseudo-links2.html](#)
  - ⦿ they do the same thing / different code
- ⦿ “text-decoration” property - controls underline
  - ⦿ talk more about this later ...



# CSS: More on Selectors



## ◎ Pseudo-Element Selectors

- ◎ pseudo-selectors are indicated by the colon (:)
- ◎ main anchor element pseudo-class ordering
  - ◎ link → visited → hover → focus → active (PayPal)
- ◎ :hover and :active don't work in IE6 unless applied to an anchor <a>
- ◎ :focus is completely ignored by IE6

# CSS: More on Selectors



## ⦿ Pseudo-Element Selectors

### ⦿ other selectors

- ⦿ `:first-line` - styling for the first line of an element
  - ⦿ properties - color, font, background, word-spacing, letter-spacing, text-decoration, vertical-align, text-transform, line-height
  - ⦿ `p:first-line {font:arial;}`
- ⦿ `:first-letter` - styling for the first letter of an element
  - ⦿ properties - color, font, text-decoration, text-transform, vertical-align, text-transform, background, margin padding, border, float, letter-spacing (CSS2.1), word-spacing (CSS2.1)
  - ⦿ `p:first-letter {font-size:1.5em;}`
- ⦿ don't worry if you don't know these properties ...

# CSS: More on Selectors



## ◎ Pseudo-Element Selectors

### ◎ other selectors

- ◎ :before - styling for the first line of an element
  - ◎ insert content before an element
- ◎ :after - styling for the first letter of an element
  - ◎ insert content after an element
- ◎ not supported by IE 6 or IE 7

### CSS

```
p:before {content: "First ... "};
```

```
p:after {content: "... Last"};
```

### HTML

```
<p>stuff 2 say</p>
```

### Browser

```
First ... stuff 2 say ... Last
```

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# CSS: More on Selectors



## ⦿ Pseudo-Element Selectors

### ⦿ other selectors CSS2.1

- ⦿ not supported IE6 / they are supported IE7

#### ⦿ :focus

- ⦿ acts same as :hover for links

- ⦿ can be used on other things like forms to highlight where user input is being entered

#### ⦿ :first-child

- ⦿ styling the first child of an element

- ⦿ i.e. first <li> in <ul> or first <p> in <div>

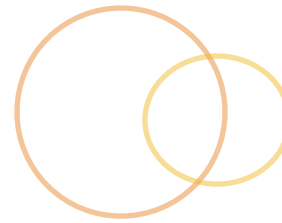
# CSS: More on Selectors



## Attribute Selectors

- target element based on the existence of an attribute
  - IE6 no, IE7 yes
- `img[alt] {...}`
  - any `img` element that has an `alt` attribute
- `a[href="www.developintelligence.com"] {...}`
  - finds link with a `www.developintelligence.com` as the value

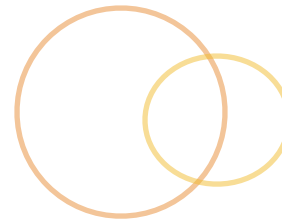
# CSS: Measurements



## ⦿ How about units

- ⦿ for font size use em measurements, or percentage values
- ⦿ allow users to resize text using text-zoom on browsers
- ⦿ text can grow or shrink based on their preferences
- ⦿ Don't use absolute measurements
  - ⦿ inches - "in", centimeters - "cm", millimeters - "mm", points - "pt" or picas - "pc"

# CSS: Measurements



## ⦿ How about units

### ⦿ Relative units

#### ⦿ em measurements

- ⦿ unit equal to current font size
- ⦿ `h1 {font-size:3em;}`
- ⦿ 3x the current font size
- ⦿ based on the width of “M”

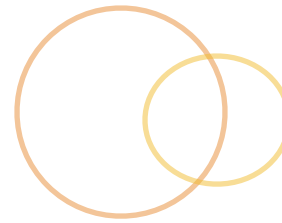
#### ⦿ percentages

- ⦿ `h1 {font-size:300%;}`
- ⦿ 3x the current font size
- ⦿ basically the same as em measurements for font size

#### ⦿ ex measurements

- ⦿ height of lowercase “x” in the font

# CSS: Measurements



## ⦿ How about units

### ⦿ Relative units

#### ⦿ px

- ⦿ pixel
- ⦿ varies with display resolution

### ⦿ Font Sizing Techniques

#### ⦿ How to Size Text Using Ems

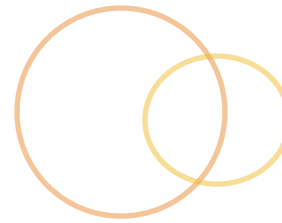
- ⦿ [www.clagnut.com/blog/348](http://www.clagnut.com/blog/348)

#### ⦿ Text Sizing

- ⦿ [www.thenoodleincident.com/tutorials/box\\_lesson/font/index.html](http://www.thenoodleincident.com/tutorials/box_lesson/font/index.html)



# CSS: Measurements



## ⦿ How about keywords

### ⦿ font-size can take not only units, but also keywords

#### ⦿ xx-small, x-small, small, medium, large, x-large, xx-large

- ⦿ don't connect to particular measurements

- ⦿ scaled in relation to one another

- ⦿ default is "medium"

#### ⦿ text rendered in browsers will never drop below 9 pixels

- ⦿ should always be able to read text

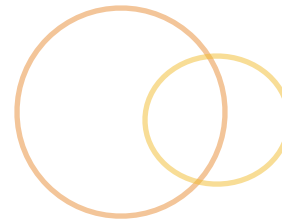
#### ⦿ imprecise and unpredictable

- ⦿ some browsers scale @ 120% others use 150%

- ⦿ IE 5.5 uses "small" as default

- ⦿ IE 7 better at this :)

# CSS: Measurements



## ⦿ How about keywords

### ⦿ font-size can take not only units, but also keywords

#### ⦿ “larger” & “smaller”

- ⦿ used to shift text size relative to parent element’s size
- ⦿ amount of change based on browser not in our control
- ⦿ easy way to nudge text a little smaller or larger

```
<p>
```

```
  <span style="font-size:larger">larger</span> and
```

```
  <span style="font-size:smaller">smaller</span>
```

```
</p>
```

### ⦿ Keyword problems? workarounds for keywords

#### ⦿ CSS Design: Size Matters on A List Apart

⦿ [www.alistapart.com/articles/sizematters/](http://www.alistapart.com/articles/sizematters/)