

Class 3: The structural layer – (X)HTML

Anatomy of a web page

(X)HTML elements

Tags, attributes and values

Markup structure & relationships

- Block/Inline

- Child/Parent

XHTML rules and good practice

Links and URLs:

- Absolute

- Relative to document

- Relative to web root

Semantic markup

DOCTYPE

Characters and escaping

Code validation

References

Learning Web Design (4th Ed.) by Jennifer Niederst Robbins

Head First HTML and CSS & (2nd Ed.) by Elizabeth Freeman & Eric Freeman

HTML & CSS by John Duckett

<http://htmldog.com/>

<http://learn.shayhowe.com/html-css/>

<http://reference.sitepoint.com/html>

<http://validator.w3.org/>

Class 3 Homework

Read: Parts 1 and 2 of Learning Web Design

- or Chapters 1-6 of Head First HTML and CSS

- or Chapters 1-8 of HTML & CSS

<http://www.alistapart.com/articles/a-brief-history-of-markup/>

View: <http://www.coursestuff.co.uk/tutorials/optimizing-images/>

Create a simple 4 page website using XHTML (strict), one homepage (index.html) and 3 sub-pages in order to showcase the three examples of good design that you identified in your Class 1 coursework. Remember that, at this stage, we are only interested in the structure of the pages and so there will be no presentational layer (no CSS – even if you know how to do this). Focus on the XHTML alone and the semantics of your markup. Use a simple text editor to complete your work. Do **not** use a WYSIWYG web editor. Upload your site to your hosted web space using an FTP client (FireFTP or similar). Check your website in the Firefox browser. Use the W3C Markup Validation Service to check your code. We will review your proto-website in Class 4.

Add a link to your coursework site on the sidebar of your blog.

Add any useful HTML references as links (sidebar) on your blog.

Add your blog address and the address of your coursework site to your profile on the programme forum if you have not already done so.

Add a “What I learned this week...” post to your blog.