2.5 Introduction

- The CSS1 specification was developed in 1996
- CSS2 was released in 1998
- CSS3 is on its way
- CSSs provide the means to control and change presentation of HTML documents
- CSS is not technically HTML, but can be embedded in HTML documents
- Style sheets allow you to impose a standard style on a whole document, or even a whole collection of documents
- Style is specified for a tag by the values of its properties

2.6 Levels of Style Sheets

- There are three levels of style sheets
  - Inline - specified for a specific occurrence of a tag and apply only to that tag
    - This is fine-grain style, which defeats the purpose of style sheets - uniform style
  - Document-level style sheets - apply to the whole document in which they appear
  - External style sheets - can be applied to any number of documents
- When more than one style sheet applies to a specific tag in a document, the lowest level style sheet has precedence
  - In a sense, the browser searches for a style property spec, starting with inline, until it finds one (or there isn’t one)

- Inline style sheets appear in the tag itself
- Document-level style sheets appear in the head of the document
- External style sheets are in separate files, potentially on any server on the Internet
  - Written as text files with the MIME type text/css

2.7 Linking an External Stylesheet

- A `<link>` tag is used to specify that the browser is to fetch and use an external style sheet file
  `<link rel = "stylesheet" type = "text/css"
href = "http://www.wherever.org/termpaper.css">
</link>
  - External style sheets can be validated
http://jigsaw.w3.org/css-validator/
  validator-upload.html
2.8 Style Specification Formats
- Format depends on the level of the style sheet
- Inline:
  - Style sheet appears as the value of the style attribute
  - General form:
    style = "property_1: value_1; property_2: value_2; ...
    property_n: value_n"

2.9 Format for Document-level
- Style sheet appears as a list of rules that are the content of a <style> tag
- The <style> tag must include the type attribute, set to "text/css"
- The list of rules must be placed in an HTML comment, because it is not HTML
- Comments in the rule list must have a different form - use C comments (/*…*/)

2.10 General Form, Document Level
- General form:
  <style type = "text/css">
  <!--
  rule list
  -->
  </style>
- Form of the rules:
  selector {list of property/values}
  - Each property/value pair has the form:
    property: value
  - Pairs are separated by semicolons, just as in the value of a <style> tag

General Form, External style sheets
- Form is a list of style rules, as in the content of a <style> tag for document-level style sheets

Selector Forms: Simple
- The selector is a tag name or a list of tag names, separated by commas
  - h1, h3
  - p
- Contextual selectors
  - ol ol li
Class Selectors

- Used to allow different occurrences of the same tag to use different style specifications
- A style class has a name, which is attached to a tag name
  - p.narrow {property/value list}
  - p.wide {property/value list}
- The class you want on a particular occurrence of a tag is specified with the class attribute of the tag
- For example,
  `<p class = "narrow">...
  </p>...
  <p class = "wide">...
  </p>`

Generic Selectors

- A generic class can be defined if you want a style to apply to more than one kind of tag
- A generic class must be named, and the name must begin with a period
  - Example,
    `.really-big { … }`
  - Use it as if it were a normal style class
  `<h1 class = "really-big">… </h1>`
  ...
  `<p class = "really-big">… </p>`

id Selectors

- An id selector allow the application of a style to one specific element
- General form:
  `#specific-id {property-value list}`
  - Example: