

# CIS 4004: Web Based Information Technology Spring 2013

## Inside HTML5 – Part 1

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# Inside HTML5 – Part 1

- HTML5 has been created in a way to make it backward compatible with earlier versions of HTML and XHTML.
- HTML5 also tells the browser how it should handle errors caused by incorrect markup implementations. Previously, browsers would interpret the errors themselves, and each browser would have its own quirks.
- HTML5 has been written for developers and not just web page designers.
- The true power of HTML5, as we will see further into the course, is how it addresses the needs for web application developers. Because browsers are so powerful, websites can be created that are very much like applications. They can provide photo sharing, drawing, file editing, and other features.



# Inside HTML5 – Part 1

- Previously, these types of features required layers of JavaScript and a plug-in such as Java or Flash.
- This causes accessibility issues and relies heavily on the stability of third-party software.
- HTML5 provides new standards for how web applications can be created, with powerful APIs for this such as canvas drawing, drag and drop, offline storage, and native video in the browser.
- With specified standards, browsers will be able to handle these things correctly and in a stable fashion over time.



# Inside HTML5 – Part 1

- HTML5 is not just one technology. It is more of an umbrella term that has been adopted from the inclusion of new and enhanced HTML elements, CSS styles, and JavaScript APIs and events.
- The intersection of these three technologies provides for a wide range of new features to enhance the user experience, make websites more like native applications, and integrate to devices.
- The following page lists just some of the new or enhanced functions available in HTML5:



# New or Enhanced Functions In HTML5

- Improved semantics
- Forms
- Canvas drawing
- Drag and drop
- Local storage
- Page to page messaging
- Desktop notifications
- Video and audio
- Web sockets
- Geolocation (not strictly part of HTML5, but being developed in conjunction with it)
- History
- Microdata



The HTML5 logo. You can download this one and many other variants at <http://w3.org/html/logo>



# New Structural Elements In HTML5

- HTML5 is not just about interactive creations with JavaScript APIs and video/audio coolness. There are more than 20 new elements designed to help you author your webpages, adding semantics to deliver more accessible, reusable content.
- Later on we'll examine new HTML5 form controls and multimedia elements, but for now we'll focus on the basics of creating a basic website template with the new elements.
- The basic page structure as defined by HTML5 appears on the next page.



# Basic Page Structure - New HTML5 Elements

`<header>`

`<nav>`

`<article>`

`<section>`

`<section>`

`<section>`

`<aside>`

`<footer>`



# New Structural Elements In HTML5

- We'll do a quick review of the basic markup in an HTML5 document and clarify the differences from the older versions and what is and is not required in HTML5.
- The `doctype` should be the very first line in an HTML document. Called a Document Type Definition (DTD), the `doctype` is a web standard's requirement and it tells the browser how to process the document, which is why it must be the first thing in HTML document.
- The next page shows the old style XHTML `doctype` and the new HTML5 `doctype`.





# New Structural Elements In HTML5

XHTML Strict 1.0 doctype:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN"  
    "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
```

HTML5 doctype:

```
<!doctype html>
```

## Historical Aside

If you go to: <http://infomesh.net/html/history/early/> , you can see the earliest HTML document that can still be found on the Internet, from November 13, 1990. This document was created by Tim Berners-Lee. The markup is quite simple, and its simplicity is the rationale behind the HTML5 standard. This markup contains a working hyperlink. In fact, if you copy this markup and add the new doctype to the page, it will validate against the HTML5 standard. Check it out!



# New Structural Elements In HTML5

- The first line you should include inside the head of an HTML5 document is the `charset` declaration, which tells the browser how the document should be interpreted; in this case, you want to send it an HTML document.
- In XHTML, this looked like this:

```
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html"; charset=utf-8">
```

- In HTML5, it is again, much simpler, and looks like this:

```
<meta charset="utf-8" />
```



# New Structural Elements In HTML5

- HTML5 helps you to reduce the amount of markup from your pages, and calls to JavaScript and CSS links are also reduced in size.
- In XHTML, they looked like this:

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="myscript.js"> </script>
```

```
<link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" href="mystyles.css" />
```

- In HTML5, they're again much simpler, and look like this:

```
<script src="myscript.js"></script>
```

```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="mystyles.css" />
```



# Syntax Writing Style In HTML5

- You can markup in either lowercase, or uppercase, or a combination of the two.
- You can markup with either quotation marks on attribute values, or omit quotation marks on attribute values, or a combination of the two.
- For void elements, such as a `<link>` element, you can omit the closing slash or include it.
- All below are equivalent:

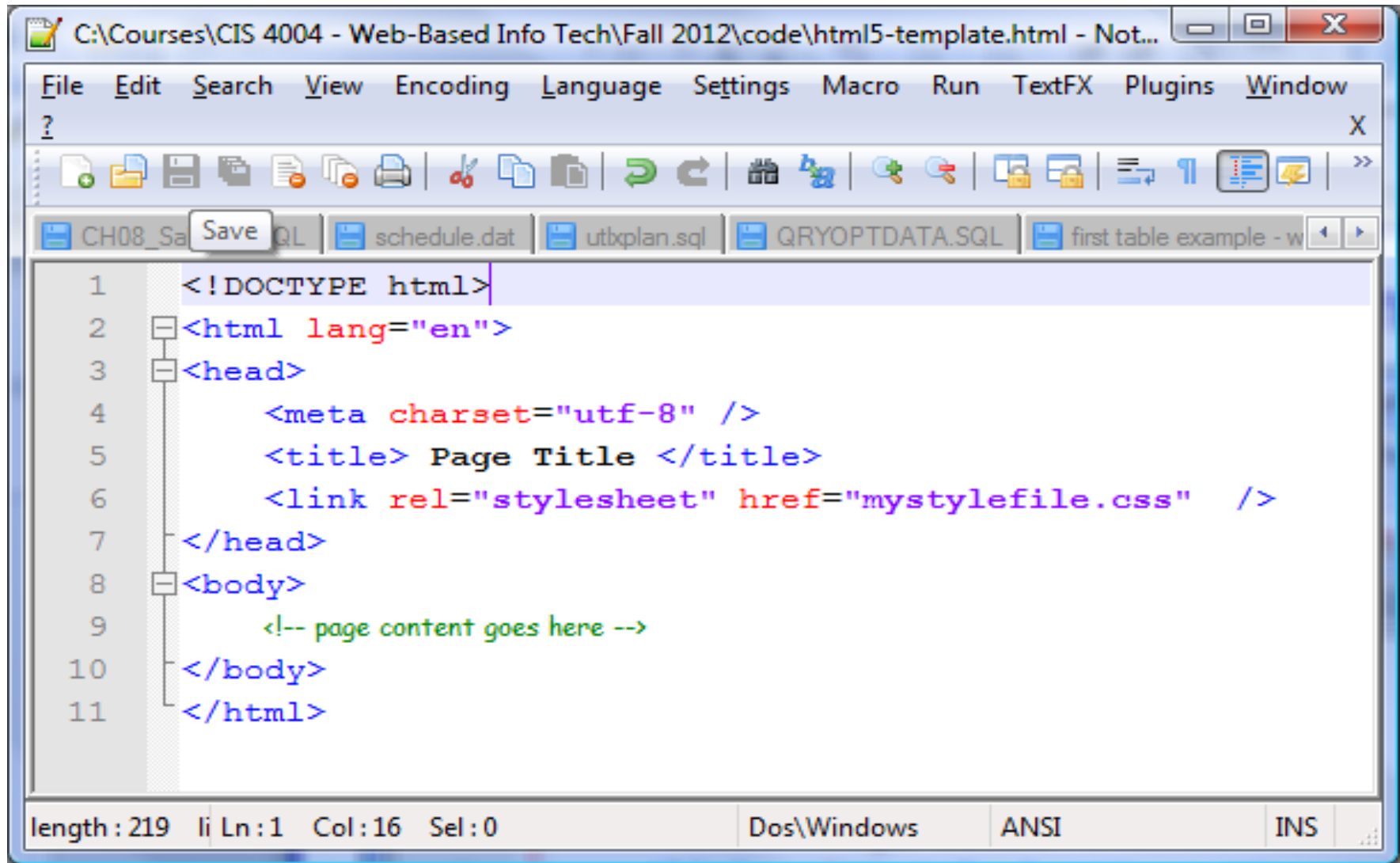
```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="mystyles.css" />
```

```
<LINK REL="STYLESHEET" HREF="MYSTYLES.CSS" />
```

```
<liNK reL="styleSHEET" href=mystyles.css>
```



# Basic HTML5 Page Template



The screenshot shows a Notepad++ window titled "C:\Courses\CIS 4004 - Web-Based Info Tech\Fall 2012\code\html5-template.html - Not...". The window contains a basic HTML5 page template with the following code:

```
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html lang="en">
3  <head>
4      <meta charset="utf-8" />
5      <title> Page Title </title>
6      <link rel="stylesheet" href="mystylefile.css" />
7  </head>
8  <body>
9      <!-- page content goes here -->
10 </body>
11 </html>
```

The status bar at the bottom of the window displays "length : 219", "li Ln : 1", "Col : 16", "Sel : 0", "Dos\Windows", "ANSI", and "INS".



# New Structural Elements In HTML5

- In 2005, Google analyzed more than 1 billion web pages to find out what class names were being used by developers and web authors. This provided the basis for the new elements in HTML5.
- The following are the 20 most popular class names at the time:

footer	menu	Title	Small	Text
Content	Header	Nav	Copyright	Button
Main	Search	Msonormal	Date	Smalltext
Body	Style1	Top	White	link

- Although several of these items are presentational (for example, white, style1, msonormal), the others make up the elements included in the HTML5 specification.



# New Structural Elements In HTML5

- So why use these new elements?
- HTML5 allows you to give your content semantic meaning, so, for example, if you have navigation on your page, you can use the `nav` element because that element provides meaning to its content.
- As an example, let's start at the top of a "typical" web page. The header element is often the first thing on a web page, and it usually contains things like a logo, the website name, or the main site navigation.
- Things like a search form or a table of contents are also often included in the header element.



# New Structural Elements In HTML5

- The HTML5 specification states that the `<header>` element can contain navigation aids, but it is also possible for the navigation aids to be placed outside of the `<header>`.
- You are also not restricted to just a single `<header>` elements per page, and it does not have to be at the top of a page.
- You cannot place a `<header>` inside a `<footer>`, `<address>`, or another `<header>` element.
- The markup example on the next page illustrates this concept.

## CAUTION!!

**Do not confuse the `<header>` element with the `<head>` element. There can only be one `<head>` element in each HTML5 document.**





```
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run TextFX Plugins Window ? X
CH08_SaleCo2.SQL schedule.dat utbxplan.sql QRYOPTDATA.SQL new 2 multiple headers on one page.html
5 <title> Using Multiple Headers On One Page </title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8 <article>
9 <header>
10 <h1><a href="#">Chapter 1</a></h1>
11 <p>9.10.2012</p>
12 </header>
13 <p>This is the text for the first chapter.
14 It could go on for a long way.
15 </p>
16 </article>
17 <article>
18 <header>
19 <h1><a href="#">Chapter 2</a></h1>
20 <p>9.11.2012</p>
21 </header>
22 <p> This is the text for the second chapter.
23 It too, could go on for a long way.
24 </p>
25 </article>
26 <article>
27 <header>
28 <h1><a href="#">Chapter 3</a></h1>
29 <p>9.12.2012</p>
30 <p>This is the text for the third chapter.
31 </p>
32 </header>
33 </article>
Hyper Text Markup Langua length : 731 lines : 35 Ln: 31 Col: 17 Sel: 0 Dos\Windows ANSI INS
```



File Edit View History Bookmarks Window Help

file:///C:/Courses/CIS%204004%20 Google

Apple Yahoo! Google Maps YouTube Wikipedia News (85)

## Chapter 1

9.10.2012

This is the text for the first chapter. It could go on for a long way.

## Chapter 2

9.11.2012

This is the text for the second chapter. It too, could go on for a long way.

## Chapter 3

9.12.2012

This is the text for the third chapter.



# Grouping Headings With The `<hgroup>` Element

- The `<hgroup>` element allows you to add further information to your `<header>` elements.
- This element is used to group more than one related h1–6 headings. It can contain only `<h1>...<h6>` elements. If your site has a subheading or a tagline, you would use this element to group them together.
- Although it is a useful grouping option, the `<hgroup>` element is primarily intended to tell the document outline (we'll learn about this later) which of the headings is the most important. In the example, on the next page, the document outline will exclude all headings within the `hgroup` except the highest one, which in this case, is the h1 heading.
- As you can see in the markup, the h2 heading is relevant to the h1 heading, and so on, so the use of the `hgroup` makes sense. If you have a single heading element, there would be no need to use the `hgroup`.





```

1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html lang="en">
3  <head>
4      <meta charset="utf-8" />
5      <title> Using the hgroup element
6  </head>
7  <body>
8      <header>
9          <hgroup>
10             <h1><a href="#"> Inside HTML5 - Part 1</a></h1>
11             <h2>An in-depth look at the new structural elements of HTML5</h2>
12             <h3>Really cool features of HTML5</h3>
13          </hgroup>
14      </header>
15 </body>
16 </html>

```

**Inside HTML5 - Part 1**

**An in-depth look at the new structural elements of HTML5**

Really cool features of HTML5

# Creating Navigation With The `<nav>` Element

- The `<nav>` element, as you might expect from its name, is for navigational content. It is used to link to other pages within the site or to other parts of the page, like a table of contents, for example.
- The most common use of a `<nav>` element is for the main navigation on a website. It is common practice to use an unordered list to code navigation content.
- The following page illustrates both the traditional way of marking up navigation and the way to do this in HTML5. Notice that there isn't much difference between the two, but it is profound from a semantic point of view.



# Creating Navigation With The `<nav>` Element

```
<ul id="nav">
  <li><a href="#">Home</a> </li>
  <li><a href="#">About</a> </li>
  <li><a href="#">News</a> </li>
  <li><a href="#">Contact Us</a> </li>
</ul>
```

Traditional Way of Marking Up Navigational Content

```
<nav>
  <ul>
    <li><a href="#">Home</a> </li>
    <li><a href="#">About</a> </li>
    <li><a href="#">News</a> </li>
    <li><a href="#">Contact Us</a> </li>
  </ul>
</nav>
```

Navigational Content Markup In HTML5 Using `<nav>` Element



# Creating Navigation With The `<nav>` Element

- As the example on the next page illustrates, the `<nav>` element can also be placed in the `<header>` element. In HTML5 the `<header>` element allows for introductory and navigational content.
- Navigational content does not have to be placed in a `<header>` element, and sometimes its placement might depend more on styling issues.
- It is quite common to see a navigation menu in the footer of a page, sometimes duplicating the main site navigation.



C:\Courses\CIS 4004 - Web-Based Info Tech\Fall 2012\code\Inside HTML5 - Part 1\navigation inside header.html - Notepad++

File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run TextFX Plugins Window ?

CH08\_SaleCo2.SQL schedule.dat utbxplan.sql QRYOPTDATA.SQL multiple headers on one page.html navigation inside header.html

```

1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="utf-8" />
5   <title> Navigation element inside header element</title>
6   <style>
7     <!--
8       li {display: inline; }
9     -->
10  </style>
11 </head>
12 <body>
13   <!-- content goes here -->
14   <header>
15     <h1>My Super HTML5 Site</h1>
16     <nav>
17       <ul>
18         <li><a href="#Home">Home</a> &nbsp;
19         <li><a href="#About">About</a> &nbsp;
20         <li><a href="#News">News</a> &nbsp;
21         <li><a href="#ContactUs">Contact Us</a> </li>
22       </ul>
23     </nav>
24   </header>
25   <hr />
26   <h3> Headline #1 </h3>
27   <p> Headline #1 content goes here. </p>
28 </body>
29 </html>

```

Navigation element inside header element

File Edit View History Bookmarks Window Help

file:///C:/t Google

Apple Yahoo! Google Maps YouTube

# My Super HTML5 Site

[Home](#) [About](#) [News](#) [Contact Us](#)

---

## Headline #1

Headline #1 content goes here.

Hyper Text Markup length : 614 lines : 29 Ln : 1 Col : 16 Sel : 0 Dos\Windows ANSI INS





# Creating Navigation With The `<nav>` Element

- There is a big accessibility win when using the `<nav>` element. Assistive technologies such as screen readers, will be able to search and immediately use groups of navigation rather than waiting for them to appear on screen.
- Traditionally, developers have used “skip” or “jump” links of the very first things in an HTML document, and they are usually links to other main navigation or main content.
- However, using the `<nav>` element means that developers will be able to drop such “skip” menus.
- The only problem at the moment is that most assistive technologies have limited support for HTML5 elements.. However, they will soon catch up.



# The New `<article>` Element

- The `<article>` element and the `<section>` element (discussed later) are arguably the two most important new HTML5 structural elements. However, they are also two of the more confusing new elements.
- The `<article>` element is an independent block of content; it is content that could exist in its own right and content that is reusable.
- Consider content you see in an RSS feed; the content is nearly always individual articles. You could take them out of the feed, and they make sense on their own.
- The HTML5 specification suggests some examples of how an article element can be used, such as a forum post, a magazine or newspaper article, a blog entry, or a user-submitted comment.



# The New `<section>` Element

- The `<section>` element is an area of content or an area of a page that nearly always requires a heading. It should be used to group an entire “section” of content. A section can be broken down into further sections if required.
- It is **not** to be used as a general wrapper for styling purposes (i.e., a `<div>` element).
- A `<section>` element can contain `<article>` elements, and `<article>` elements can have their content split into multiple `<section>` elements.
- Before we look at an example using these new elements, we’ll consider a couple of related new structural element, the `<aside>` element and the `<footer>` element.



# The `<aside>` Element

- The `<aside>` element is for a group of content that is “tangentially” related to its surrounding content, such as a list of most popular posts, blog categories, or recent comments. This type of content is related to the main page content, but it is also separate from it.
- In current web development, it is common for there to be a “sidebar” on the page. This does not necessarily mean that it is physically on the side of the page, but it often contains things such as related links or a list of categories.
- The correct use of the `<aside>` element depends on where you put it. If it is inside an article, the `<aside>` content should tangentially relate to the article content, such as a glossary. If the `<aside>` is outside of an article or section, its content must be related to the page, such as related links, the site owner’s Twitter feed, etc.



# The `<footer>` Element

- The `<footer>` element, as its name suggests, is typically located at the bottom of the page. However, that is not always the case, although the it will often be found there.
- The `<footer>` element is intended for content about its section, including information about the author or site owner, copyright data, and site terms and conditions.
- If a `<footer>` element is inside an `<article>` or `<section>`, it could contain the date the article was published, tags, categories, and other metadata.
- The HTML5 specification suggests a solution to a very common web element: the copyright notice on a page:

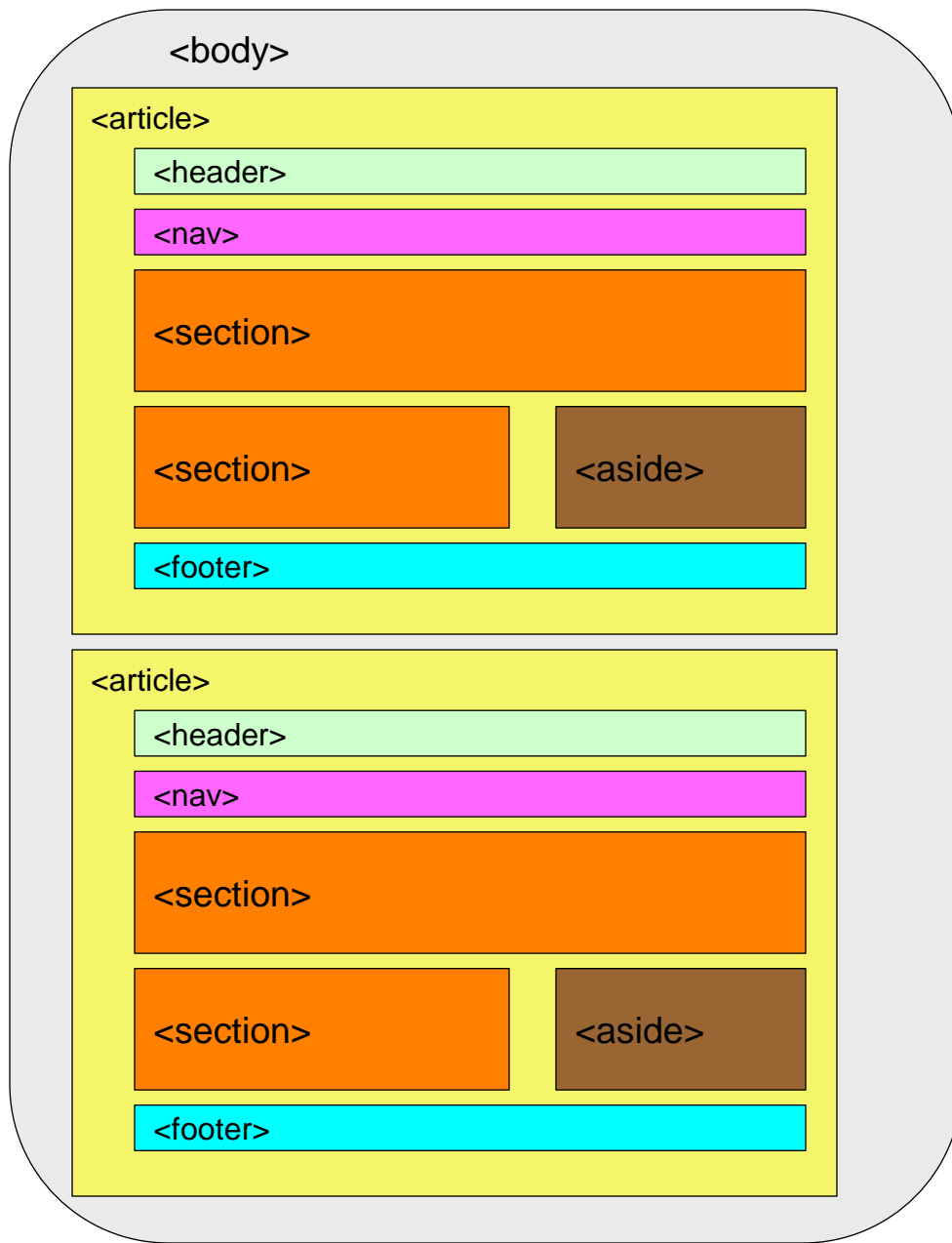
```
<footer> <small>&copy; Copyright MJL 2012</small> </footer>
```



# The `<footer>` Element

- The previous example of the copyright would most likely be located just before the closing `</body>` tag. Notice how the use of the `<small>` tag is recommended.
- Like the `<header>` element, you can use a `<footer>` element more than once per page.
- You can put a `<footer>` element inside an `<article>` element.
- The following example builds a page with many aspects of the `<article>`, `<section>`, `<aside>`, and `<footer>` elements utilized.





An HTML5 page illustrating the use of header, nav, section, aside, and footer elements.



# A Big Example

- The next few pages present an example webpage that utilizes all of the new HTML5 structural elements that were presented in this set of notes.
- The page that is created represents a layout for a news page. It includes some basic CSS to position the various elements, but I didn't include anything too advanced as far as the CSS is concerned; we'll get more into that later.
- Since the markup is fairly long, I've abbreviated some of the more repetitive parts here. The full markup is available on the course website.





```
C:\Courses\CIS 4004 - Web-Based Info Tech\Fall 2012\code\Inside HTML5 - Part 1\news_site.html - Notepad++
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run TextFX Plugins Window ?
CH08_SaleCo2.SQL schedule.dat utxplan.sql QRYOPTDATA.SQL news_site.html
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4     <meta charset="utf-8">
5     <title>Loads News - the best news site there ever was!</title>
6     <style>
7     <!--
8         header, nav, section, article, footer {display: block;}
9         header, nav {border-bottom: 1px dotted #000; clear: both; width: 100%;}
10        nav li {display: inline;}
11        section#headline {clear: both; border: 5px solid #000; padding: 1%; width: 97%;}
12        section#sports, section#entertainment, section#tech {float: left; margin: 0 5px; padding: 1%; width: 30%;}
13        aside, footer {clear: both;}
14        aside img {border: 1px solid #ccc; margin: 0 10px 0 0;}
15        -->
16    </style>
17 </head>
18 <body>
19
20 <header>
21     <hgroup>
22         <h1>Loads News</h1>
23         <h2>Bringing you all kinds of news!</h2>
24     </hgroup>
25 </header>
26
```

Hyper Text Markup length : 3834 lines : 140 Ln : 1 Col : 16 Sel : 0 Dos\Windows ANSI INS

```
*C:\Courses\CIS 4004 - Web-Based Info Tech\Fall 2012\code\Inside HTML5 - Part 1\newssite - notes version.html - Notepad++
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run TextFX Plugins Window ?
CH08_SaleCo2.SQL schedule.dat utxplan.sql QRYOPTDATA.SQL newssite - notes version.html
27 <nav>
28 <ul>
29 <li><a href="#">Home</a></li> &nbsp;
30 <li><a href="#">Sports news</a></li> &nbsp;
31 <li><a href="#">Entertainment news</a></li> &nbsp;
32 <li><a href="#">Tech news</a></li> &nbsp;
33 <li><a href="#">About</a></li> &nbsp;
34 <li><a href="#">Contact</a></li>
35 </ul>
36 </nav>
37
38 <section id="headline">
39 <h1>Headline article</h1>
40 <article>
41 <header>
42 <h2><a href="#">This is our most important article</a></h2>
43 <p>10th September 2012</p>
44 </header>
45 <p>Alberto Contador wins the 2012 Vuelta d'Espagne.</p>
46 </article>
47 </section>
48
Hyper Text Markup length : 2879 lines : 98 Ln : 80 Col : 1 Sel : 0 Dos\Windows ANSI INS
```



```
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run TextFX Plugins Window ?
CH08_SaleCo2.SQL schedule.dat utxplan.sql QRYOPTDATA.SQL newssite - notes version.html
49 <section id="sports">
50   <h1>Sports news</h1>
51   <article> <!-- (x3) separate articles in this section -->
52     <header>
53       <h2><a href="#">Sports headline 1</a></h2>
54       <p>11th September 2012</p>
55     </header>
56     <p>Contador triumphs over Valverde in Vuelta finale.</p>
57   </article>
58 </section>
59
60 <section id="entertainment">
61   <h1>Entertainment news</h1>
62   <article><!-- (x3) separate articles in this section -->
63     <header>
64       <h2><a href="#">Entertainment headline 1</a></h2>
65       <p>12th September 2012</p>
66     </header>
67     <p>Possession leads weak weekend box office.</p>
68   </article>
69 </section>
70
```

```
*C:\Courses\CIS 4004 - Web-Based Info Tech\Fall 2012\code\Inside HTML5 - Part 1\newsite - notes version.html - Notepad++
File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run TextFX Plugins Window ?
CH08_SaleCo2.SQL schedule.dat utxplan.sql QRYOPTDATA.SQL newsite - notes version.html
71 <section id="tech">
72   <h1>Tech news</h1>
73   <article> <!-- (x3) separate articles in this section -->
74     <header>
75       <h2><a href="#">Tech headline 1</a></h2>
76       <p>12th September 2012</p>
77     </header>
78     <p>iPhone5 due out shortly.</p>
79   </article>
80 </section>
81
82 <aside>
83   <a href="#">
88
89 <footer>
90   <p>Site powered by a <a href="#">Server With No Name</a></p>
91   <p>Site hosted by a <a href="#">Host With No Name</a></p>
92   <p>The photos on this site are all owned by the photographer</p>
93   <small>&copy; Copyright MJL 2012</small>
94 </footer>
95
96 </body>
97 </html>
Hyper Text Markup length : 2877 lines : 97 Ln : 89 Col : 1 Sel : 0 Dos\Windows ANSI INS
```



# Loads News

Bringing you all kinds of news!

[Home](#) [Sports news](#) [Entertainment news](#) [Tech news](#) [About](#) [Contact](#)

## Headline article

### [This is our most important article](#)

10th September 2012

Alberto Contador wins the 2012 Vuelta d'Espagne.

## Sports news

### [Sports headline 1](#)

11th September 2012

Contador triumphs over Valverde in Vuelta finale.

### [Sports headline 2](#)

8th September 2012

Serena Williams wins U.S. Open in come from behind victory.

### [Sports headline 3](#)

8th September 2012

Tom Boonen wins Paris-Brussels classic for the first time.

## Entertainment news

### [Entertainment headline 1](#)

12th September 2012

Possession leads weak weekend box office.

### [Entertainment headline 2](#)

9th September 2012

Ryan Reynolds and Blake Lively are married.

### [Entertainment headline 3](#)

12th September 2012

Jessica Simpson lost 40 pounds.

## Tech news

### [Tech headline 1](#)

12th September 2012

iPhone5 due out shortly.

### [Tech headline 2](#)

11th September 2012

GoDaddy.com taken down by hacker.

### [Tech headline 3](#)

10th September 2012

Intel slashes outcome as PC sales decline rapidly.



Site powered by a [Server With No Name](#)

Site hosted by a [Host With No Name](#)

The photos on this site are all owned by the photographer

© Copyright MJL 2012



# Using The HTML5 Outliner To Ensure Correct Structure

- With the new HTML5 structural elements, you have the opportunity to make your content flow in a logical manner and to allow people to navigate through the content using a hierarchy (using screen readers, for example), rather like a table of contents.
- Testing against the outline will allow you to check that you are using headings and sections correctly.
- There are various browser extensions and websites at your disposal, but here I'll show you how to get and use a Google Chrome extension.
- Download the Chrome extension at: <http://code.google.com/p/h5o>.
- Once the extension is installed, you'll get an icon in the address bar as shown on the next page.





# Using The HTML5 Outliner To Ensure Correct Structure

The screenshot shows the CNN.com website in a browser window. The address bar displays 'www.cnn.com'. The page header includes navigation links for 'U.S.', 'INTERNATIONAL', 'MÉXICO', and 'ARABIC', along with 'TV: CNN', 'CNNi', 'CNN en Español', and 'HLN'. The main navigation bar features categories like 'Home', 'TV & Video', 'CNN Trends', 'U.S.', 'World', 'Politics', 'Justice', 'Entertainment', 'Tech', 'Health', 'Living', 'Travel', 'Opinion', and 'iReport'. A callout box with a blue border and white background points to a small icon in the top right corner of the page, labeled 'The outliner icon'. The main content area includes a 'Flu ravages 41 states' article with a map of the United States, a 'Lincoln' tops Oscar nominations' article, and a sidebar with 'Weird blood pi', 'Power C', and 'Ladies L'.



# Using The HTML5 Outliner To Ensure Correct Structure

- When you select this tool, you will see displayed data that looks like a table of contents, usually with the content indented.
- If you have organized the content properly, you should have a structured and logical table of contents.
- You want to avoid “Untitled section/article.” If that message is displayed, chances are that you have used the wrong markup, and you should reexamine your markup and correct the issues.
- Note, however, that `nav` and `aside` are allowed to have “Untitled section.”
- The next three pages illustrate the use of the outliner tool. The last of these pages shows the outline of our big example news page.





You've selected the U.S. Edition. Would you like to make this your default edition? [Yes](#) | [No](#)

SET EDITION: **U.S.** | INTERNATIONAL  
TV: CNN | CNNi | CNN en Español

Home | TV & Video | CNN Tre

updated 10:42 AM EST, Thu January 11

IN THE NEWS | Gun control



## Flu ravages 41 states

The [flu season](#) has started earlier and more fiercely across the U.S., with more than half of states reporting widespread activity, health officials say. [FULL STORY](#)

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"Lincoln," director Steven Spielberg's film about the 16th president and his battle to end slavery, topped the nominations for the 85th Academy Awards, receiving 12 nods, including best picture. [FULL STORY](#) | [NOMINEES LIST](#) | [PHOTOS](#)

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