Agenda 0920

We’re still pretty much walking through CSS, but I’d like a quick interlude on the Assignment 0913.

Assignment 0913 “Postmortem”

- You might wonder why some comments are really positive but I still marked a | rather than a +. This is because the assignment is still somewhat rudimentary, and I need to see how you do when the degree of difficulty rises. But, it does mean that you’re very much on the right track, and just need to maintain what you’re doing to reach that +.

- Outcomes 1b, 1i, and 1j were not heavily demanded (nor always apparent) for this go-round, so I may have put in O’s for those. Don’t worry about those — there will be plenty of opportunities for these outcomes later.

- I sort of “looked the other way” for 3c in many cases, but will clamp down a bit more now. Meanwhile, some tips based on what I saw (don’t worry, you weren’t expected to know these beforehand; but now that they’ve come up, look out for them):
  ✓ Implied, but not explicitly mentioned, in class is the constraint that elements are not allowed to partially overlap each other. That is, elements are always entirely contained within their “parent” element. Thus, a sequence like `<strong><em>Some text</em></strong>` will not validate. This would have to be changed to either `<strong>Some text</strong>` or `<em>Some text</em>`.
  ✓ There are actually some rules of which elements can (or can’t) go inside which elements — rather than slogging through all of them, just see what pops up when validating, then heed that rule from that point in (e.g., you cannot put p elements in h1–h6 elements).
  ✓ From this point on, make sure to include an `alt` attribute in your `img` tags.
  ✓ Spaces are not allowed in `href` attributes (URLs). Either use `%20` when there’s a space (this is the non-space computer version of a space) or avoid spaces in your filenames.
  ✓ Another special symbol in HTML is the ampersand, &. It is used to indicate special symbols that are tougher (or impossible) to type on a keyboard. So, if you want just a plain old &, but want to keep the validator happy, use `&amp;` instead.

- Some of you braved the waters of CSS before we did this in class. If so, I went ahead and took a look at it also, with corresponding assessment.

- Watch out when you copy-paste sample files — make sure that you make appropriate changes thoroughly. For example, any copied comments should be adjusted to match your new content.

- Some of you used tabs instead of spaces for indenting. I recommend spaces — you have finer control, and the code looks more consistent when viewed by different applications.

- If you got a “talk to me” note, it isn’t anything dire — it’s just that there’s something which will be easier to explain in person. So come talk to me sometime about that.

Speaking of Validation…

Time to get to know `http://validator.w3.org`. Starring some of your own submissions!

Sample Files Galore, Continued (back to our regularly scheduled program)

- More CSS
  ✓ Selectors: tags, classes, IDs
  ✓ Pseudoclasses, especially: `link`, `visited`, `hover`, `active`, `focus`
  ✓ Layout and positioning properties
  ✓ Transformation and animation properties
- Another tool for your arsenal: `http://jsfiddle.net`