
MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION TO HTML

Module Overview

Introduction

The World Wide Web (WWW) is made up of millions of web pages that provide information, entertainment, education, communication, and online services. Every webpage you visit, whether it is Google, Facebook, or your school's website, is created using one or more web technologies. The most important of these technologies is **HTML (HyperText Markup Language)**.

HTML is the foundation of every website. It provides the structure of a webpage by organizing text, images, tables, links, forms, and other content that users see in a web browser.

In this module, learners will be introduced to HTML, understand its purpose, learn how web pages work, and become familiar with the basic structure of an HTML document before writing their own web pages.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this module, learners should be able to:

- Define HTML.
 - Explain what HTML stands for.
 - Describe the purpose of HTML.
 - Explain how web pages work.
 - Identify the components of a webpage.
 - Explain the relationship between a web browser and a web server.
 - Describe the structure of an HTML document.
 - Identify opening, closing, nested, and empty tags.
 - Create and save a simple HTML webpage.
 - Open an HTML webpage using a web browser.
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Lessons in this Module

Lesson	Topic
1.1	What is HTML?
1.2	How Web Pages Work
1.3	HTML File Structure

Lesson 1.1: What is HTML?

Introduction

Whenever you visit a website, your web browser displays text, pictures, videos, buttons, and links. Behind every webpage is a language that tells the browser how the page should be displayed. That language is **HTML**.

HTML is not a programming language because it does not perform calculations or make decisions. Instead, it is called a **markup language** because it uses tags to describe and organize the content of a webpage.

What is HTML?

HTML (HyperText Markup Language) is the standard markup language used to create and structure web pages.

It tells a web browser:

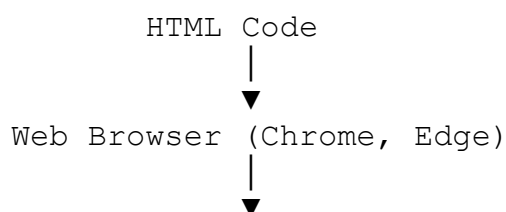
- what text to display
- where images should appear
- where links should point
- how tables should be arranged
- where forms should be placed

Without HTML, a web browser would not know how to display the content of a webpage.

Meaning of HTML

Letter	Meaning	Explanation
H	Hyper	Allows webpages to be linked together using hyperlinks.
T	Text	Refers to the text displayed on web pages.
M	Markup	Uses tags to describe and organise webpage content.
L	Language	A standard language understood by web browsers.

Illustration: What HTML Does



Example of HTML Code

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>

<head>
  <title>My First Webpage</title>
</head>

<body>

  <h1>Welcome</h1>

  <p>This is my first webpage.</p>

</body>

</html>
```

Output

Welcome

This is my first webpage.

Explanation

The browser reads the HTML code from top to bottom.

- `<!DOCTYPE html>` tells the browser the document uses HTML5.
 - `<html>` contains the whole webpage.
 - `<head>` stores information about the webpage.
 - `<title>` displays the page title on the browser tab.
 - `<body>` contains everything displayed on the webpage.
 - `<h1>` creates the largest heading.
 - `<p>` creates a paragraph.
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History of HTML

HTML was developed by **Tim Berners-Lee** in **1991** while working at CERN.

He wanted a simple way for scientists around the world to share documents using the Internet.

Since then, HTML has gone through several versions, with **HTML5** being the current standard used for modern web development.

Evolution of HTML

Year	Version
1991	HTML
1995	HTML 2.0
1997	HTML 3.2
1999	HTML 4.01
2000	XHTML
2014	HTML5 (Official Recommendation)

Importance of HTML

HTML is important because it:

- forms the foundation of every website.
 - organizes webpage content.
 - works together with CSS and JavaScript.
 - allows webpages to contain text, images, videos, tables, and forms.
 - is supported by all modern web browsers.
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Uses of HTML

HTML is used to create:

- School websites
 - Company websites
 - News websites
 - Online shops
 - Social networking websites
 - Educational websites
 - Blogs
 - Online registration forms
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Advantages of HTML

- Easy to learn.
- Free to use.

- Supported by all browsers.
- Platform independent.
- Works with CSS and JavaScript.
- Can create both simple and complex webpages.

Limitations of HTML

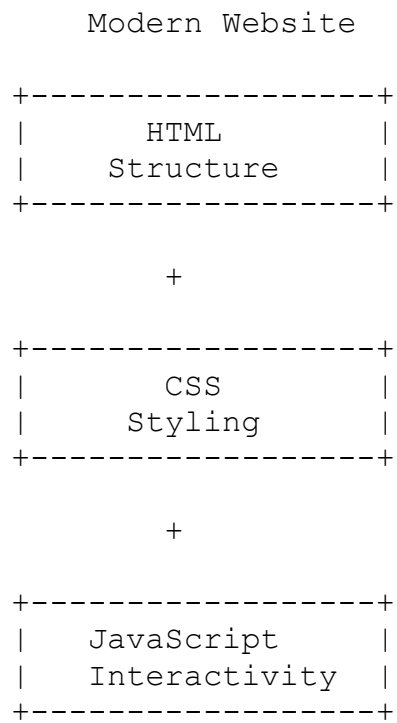
- Cannot perform calculations.
- Cannot store data permanently.
- Cannot create databases.
- Cannot process user input by itself.
- Requires CSS for styling.
- Requires JavaScript for interactivity.

HTML and Other Web Technologies

A modern webpage is built using three main technologies.

Technology	Purpose
HTML	Creates the structure of the webpage.
CSS	Controls the appearance and layout.
JavaScript	Adds interactivity and behaviour.

Illustration



Real-Life Example

Imagine building a house.

House	Website
Bricks	HTML
Paint	CSS
Electricity	JavaScript

Without bricks, there is no house.

Without HTML, there is no webpage.

Examination Tips

Remember the following:

- HTML stands for **HyperText Markup Language**, not Hyper Transfer Markup Language.
 - HTML is a **markup language**, not a programming language.
 - HTML provides the **structure** of a webpage.
 - CSS provides the **appearance**.
 - JavaScript provides the **behaviour**.
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Common Mistakes

Students often:

- confuse HTML with a programming language.
 - forget that HTML uses tags.
 - think HTML alone creates attractive websites.
 - confuse HTML with CSS.
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Key Points Summary

- HTML stands for HyperText Markup Language.
- HTML is the standard language for creating webpages.
- HTML uses tags.
- HTML provides webpage structure.
- HTML works together with CSS and JavaScript.
- Every webpage begins with HTML.

Practical Activity

Activity 1

Write an HTML program that displays:

```
Computer Studies
```

```
Welcome to HTML.
```

```
This is my first webpage.
```

Open the file in your browser and observe the output.

Self-Assessment Questions

1. What does HTML stand for?
 2. Who invented HTML?
 3. In which year was HTML invented?
 4. Why is HTML called a markup language?
 5. State three uses of HTML.
 6. Give four advantages of HTML.
 7. State three limitations of HTML.
 8. Differentiate between HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
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Examination-Style Questions

Section A (Multiple Choice)

1. HTML stands for:
 - A. Hyper Transfer Markup Language
 - B. HyperText Markup Language
 - C. HighText Machine Language
 - D. Hyper Tool Markup Language
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2. HTML is mainly used to:
- A. Process data
 - B. Create databases
 - C. Structure webpages
 - D. Design computer hardware
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Section B (Short Answer)

- 1. Define HTML.
 - 2. Explain the purpose of HTML.
 - 3. Differentiate between HTML and CSS.
 - 4. State four applications of HTML.
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