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CREATE A WEBPAGE WITH HTML

Course **Visual Communication**
Section: **Multimedia Publishing**

What You Will Do

Create a webpage with a basic text editor app. Writing HTML doesn't require special software. All you need is a simple text editor. On a Mac, use the app TextEdit. On a Windows computer, use the app Notepad. Check the app's preferences to make sure that "rich text" editing is turned off.

Create a folder to keep all the files you will use on your webpage including images. Then create a new webpage file and save it in this folder. Replace the default file extension, which will probably be ".txt", with the HTML extension ".htm". Open this file in a web browser like Chrome, Safari, or Edge. As you work on your code, save your file. Go to the browser and refresh the window to see your updates.

HTML Basics

HTML is a markup language that tells the web browser where to put things. It organizes the page in a logical way that any computer can understand. Placing instructions between brackets indicates that it is a tag (a type of code). This way, it's separate from the rest of the text. This method of adding instructions to a document is called markup.

Most tags come in pairs, the opening and closing tags. For example, to make one specific word bold, you would put an opening tag before the word and a closing tag after it. This way, the computer knows when to start making the text bold and when to stop.

```
<p>The SR-71 spy plane can fly  
at speeds up to mach 3.3 or  
<strong>242 miles per hour</  
strong>.</p>
```

What it looks like:

```
The SR-71 spy plane can fly at speeds up to  
mach 3.3 or 242 miles per hour.
```

Notice that the closing tag is identical to the opening tag except that there is a slash before the instruction.

For your text file to be read as a webpage when opened in a browser, it has to have the extension ".htm" at the end of the file name and these tags inside the file:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>  
<html>  
  <head>  
  </head>  
  <body>  
  </body>  
</html>
```

Here's what these tags mean:

`<!DOCTYPE html>` Tells the browser that it is an HTML document. Note that there is no closing tag for this.

`<html></html>` Everything between these tags will be read as HTML. Everything outside of these tags will be ignored.

`<head></head>` Metadata is stored between these tags. This is useful information that isn't displayed on the webpage itself. For example, the title of the page will be placed here. It will be displayed on the browser tab instead of on the page.

`<body></body>` Everything that will be displayed on the page will be put between these tags.

Links

HTML stands for HyperText Markup Language. What is hypertext? Hypertext is text that does more than just convey words. Usually that means that it links to something else. The whole reason HTML was created was so scientists could link to documents that they referred to in their papers. This is how you turn regular text into a link:

```
<a href="https://jamesrumsey.com/">Click here to visit our website.</a>
```

The `<a>` tags makes it a link. The href attribute tells it where to link to. You can use this same tag to turn an image into a link.

Email Links

You can also use the `<a>` tag to create an email link. When the user clicks on it, their email app will open. Use the "mailto:" attribute for the destination.

Example:

```
<a href="mailto:potterfan1@gmail.com">Send me an email</a>
```

Absolute vs. Relative Links

Absolute links include the full address. Use this when linking to something on a different website.

Example:

```
<a href="https://jamesrumsey.com/"></a>
```

Relative links are used to link to a file that is on the same website. Instead of including the protocol and domain name, you just point to the file and the folder it is in.

Example:

```
<a href="/mystuff/bestbands90s.html">
```

In a file address, a slash indicates a folder. `"/mystuff/things/goofy.jpg"` indicates that within the folder I am currently in, there is another folder called "mystuff" and inside that folder is another folder called "things". The "goofy.jpg" image is inside the "things" folder. To go up a folder, use three dots like this ``

Instructions

Create a webpage that contains images and links to other pages or websites.

Use this website to look up tags and to learn more about writing HTML: www.w3schools.com

Image file formats that work on websites:
JPG, PNG, GIF, SVG

Things to try

- Turn an image into a link.
- Create multiple pages and make a navigation menu to connect them.
- Add a CSS style sheet and get creative with the design of your pages. See the W3Schools website to learn how.