EECS 130: Homework 1

Intro to HTML

Overview: First Three Assignments

The first three homework assignments are organized around re-implementing aspects of this website...

https://americanliterature.com

...in order to practice some design and coding principles. I have selected this website because it has interesting content and is working in some ways, but could also be refined and enhanced across multiple dimensions to be more accessible, mobile-friendly, aesthetically pleasing, organized, etc. For the purposes of this assignment, we're going to focus on a few different aspects of web design:

1. hw01: Making the page semantic and accessible to blind and low-vision users, web crawlers, and people with slow internet connections
2. hw02: Creating a look and feel (colors, fonts, textures, etc.) that matches the website's values and purpose
3. hw03: Making a strong and functional layout, which includes making the site responsive and mobile-friendly

Homework 1

For homework 1, you will only be focusing on HTML (no CSS or JavaScript for the moment). I realize that looking at unstyled content can be difficult for some of you, but it is important to separate form and content, given that bots and screen readers are one of the primary consumers of web content. The goal for hw01 is to make your HTML machine-readable, well-formed, and semantic. As you begin implementing, make sure that you...

1. Mark up the content using semantic HTML tags (h1, p, section, figure, caption, etc...)
2. Use alt tags and other attributes to make the page screen reader friendly
3. Follow the accessibility guidelines
4. Validate your HTML using a Markup Validation Service to ensure your tags are well-formed (we will be doing this as well when we grade you).

Please complete the following 4 tasks:

1. Create a homepage

Create a new version of the "American Literature" homepage (https://americanliterature.com) by creating a new file called **index.html**. Make sure your new page has the following:

- A heading
- A navigation menu (keep the same top-level categories, but they can just link to dummy pages).
- Some explanation of the purpose of the website (which is currently absent)
- A set of featured categories that a user can easily browse (children's stories, great short stories, stories for students, etc.), along with exemplar images (feel free to use the same ones or replace them). Feel free to reorganize the categories if you can think of a better way of organizing them.[1]
- Make sure that the "Children's Stories" category is hyperlinked to the "Children's Stories" page (described below).

2. Create a Children's Stories page

Create a "Children's stories" listing page called **story_list.html** (based on this one)... https://americanliterature.com/short-stories-for-children

...that shows the user their available short story options. Feel free to organize it anyway that you like, but ensure that it includes the following:

1. A heading
2. A navigation menu
3. 6 story titles / descriptions / images (for now)
4. A way to link each story to a detail page

Note: you can take some creative license here. Feel free to make modifications that you think would improve the overall usability.

3. Create a story detail page

Pick one of the stories to feature, for example...

https://americanliterature.com/author/margery-williams/short-story/the-velveteen-rabbit

...and create a page called **story_detail.html** that includes the following:

1. A heading

[1] Note: in the real world, you would want to empirically test these categories with users in order to create a coherent information architecture, but for now feel free to make an executive decision.

2. A navigation menu
3. The text of the story (laid out semantically)
4. Images (with alt tags)
5. A link to a page that gives author information (see below).

4. Create an Author page

Finally, create an Author page called **author.html** that includes:

1. A heading
2. A navigation menu
3. A brief biography of the author
4. An image of the author (if available)
5. A list of the author's notable works (using list tags)
6. A link back to the story detail page.

If the content is sparse, feel free to borrow images and text from elsewhere on the website (but cite your sources).

What to turn in

1. Name the folder that contains your 4 files (index.html, story_list.html, story_detail.html, and author.html) hw01.
2. Zip your hw01 folder (ask someone how to do this if you've never zipped a file before) to create a hw01.zip file.
3. Submit your file to Canvas.