CSS Text and Font Formatting

CSS font controls

font-family property
This property allows you to select a particular font for your text. However, your visitor's browser can display text only in a font that has been installed on his or her computer. So, if you specify a font like Trebuchet, that doesn't exist on your user's computer, web browser will display text in a default font, such as Times New Roman or Times. To solve this problem, CSS allows you to specify a list of fonts to choose from:

```
p {font-family: Trebuchet, Verdana, Arial, sans-serif)
```

The browser will search for the font available starting with Trebuchet. If Trebuchet is not found, it will search for Verdana, and so on. If browser doesn't find any, it will look for any available font from the ***sans-serif*** group. Serif, sans-serif, cursive, and monospace – are so called generic font groups. Always specify generic font name - this will help to avoid unexpected results.

Another important point: if you use a font name that consist of two or more words, place the name of this font in quotation marks (such as "Coureir New"):

```
p {font-family: "Courier New", monospace}
```

Do not use serif font for smaller font sizes. Use Serif fonts for Headings, use sans-serif fonts for the body of the text.

font-size property
You can set the size of you font more precisely in CSS than with HTML, using a variety of options for the value of the font-size : points (pt), pixels(px), inches (in), centimeters (cm) and em's (em)

The preferable unit of length is **em** (equal to the width of the capital letter M). This font specification provides more flexibility to users when they increase or decrease the text size in the web browsers.

You can also use keywords, such as smaller, larger, x-large, xx-large, medium, small, x-small, and xx-small to specify the font size.

```
p {font-size:x-large;}
.note {font-size: smaller}
```

font-style property
You can create italic type with this property:

```
p{
font-size:0.8em;
font-style:italic;
}
```

font-weight property
You can set the font-weight to display font in bold

```
p {
font-weight:bold;
font-size:1em;
}
```

Font **color**
To specify font color, use color property

```
p {
color:#FF0000;
font-weight:bold;
font-size:1em;
}
```

CSS Text Controls

line-height property
CSS allows you to increase the space between the lines of your text.
You can specify line height using different units of length:
pixel (px) points (pt), ems (em).
You can also use integer numbers, such as 2 to double spacing, or percentage, such as 100% , 200%, and etc.

Example:

The rules below will set the line space to 1.5
```
p{line-height:1.5} or p{line-height:150%}
```

text-align property
This property allows you to align text horizontally using values: **left**, **right**, **center**, or**justify**
text-align:justify aligns text on the left and right margins.

Link Formatting

The hyperlink appearance on a web page changes depending on **four hyperlink states**. These four link states are controlled by CSS styles using **pseudo classes** of anchor (a) selector. Following are the HTML link states:

- **a:link** - a normal, unvisited link
- **a:visited** - a link the user has visited
- **a:hover** - a link when the user places the mouse over it
- **a:active** - a link the moment it is clicked

You can control appearance of each hyperlins state using CSS:

Example:

a:link {color:#FF0000;}   /* unvisited link */
a:visited {color:#00FF00;} /* visited link */
a:hover {color:#FF00FF;} /* mouse over link */
a:active {color:#0000FF;} /* link on focus */