

TRAINER PREPARATION GUIDE 3.3: MANAGE THE FLOW OF TEXT CONTENT BY USING CSS

Lesson Objective 3.3:

Manage the flow of text content by using CSS.

Required materials to teach this lesson:

1. Microsoft® Expression® Studio 4 (preferred)
2. 98-375-ENU-3.3-LP
3. 98-375-ENU-3.3-Resources
4. 98-375-ENU-3.3-IC
5. 98-375-ENU-3.3-ICKey
6. 98-375-ENU-3.3-PC

Preparation tasks

Technical preparation activities:

1. The lesson demonstration requires a browser with CSS3 multi-column support.
2. The demonstration shows the students how to use new CSS3 properties to place text in fluid columns on the web page.
3. When you preview the page in a browser, discuss the possible uses of these new properties. Ask the students to think of existing websites that have a magazine, newspaper, news site, or book.
4. **Vocabulary:**

content: data that appears between the starting and ending tags of an element in an SGML, XML, or HTML document.

Document Object Model: a World Wide Web Consortium specification that describes the structure of dynamic HTML and XML documents in a way that allows them to be manipulated through a web browser. In the Document Object Model, or DOM, a document is presented as a logical structure rather than as a collection of tagged words.

hyphenation: the process of adding a punctuation mark (-) to break a word between syllables at the end of a line or to separate the parts of a compound word. This feature is normally associated with word processing applications, but the newest version of CSS3 provides this new property for web design.

pagination: the process of dividing a document into pages.

region: an area dedicated to, or reserved for, a particular purpose.

5. **Additional readings and resources:**

MSDN®:

Regions, Hyphenation, Multi-Column Layout: [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/hh673536\(v=VS.85\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/hh673536(v=VS.85).aspx)

Windows® Dev Center Positioned Floats:

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/windows/apps/hh453704.aspx>

Other resources (books, e-reference):

Adobe Developer Connection/CSS3: <http://www.adobe.com/devnet/html5/articles/css3-regions.html>

W3Schools: <http://www.w3schools.com/cssref/default.asp#multicol>

Note: Support for HTML5 and CSS3 is changing and developing quickly. The list of resources is current as of January 2012. Check resources for current and up-to-date information at the time of classroom use.

Instructor computer setup:

1. A workstation with Expression Web 4 (with Service Pack 2).

Instructional preparation activities:

1. Review the instructor notes in the notes view of Microsoft PowerPoint® presentation 98-375-ENU-3.3-LP.
2. Make copies of student documents available as needed.
3. Complete the instructions for the demonstration before class. Check to see if the available browsers support the HTML5 features in the demonstration.

Lesson sequence (50 minutes)

Activating prior knowledge/lesson staging (5 minutes):

Instruct students to answer each question in the "Guiding questions" section of the In-class Activity document or in their personal class notes.

Guiding questions:

1. **How can a website with Cascading Style Sheets 3 (CSS3) be used to display text for an online magazine or newspaper?** CSS3 provides new styling techniques that allow the developer to separate the content from the container and only combine them for presentation. This is done by using regions and multi-column display. The developer must provide an HTML page with the content, which is then merged with an HTML page that has regions defined as the receiving containers on the page. This automatically resizes based on the user's graphics device.
2. **Without using the new region or multi-column properties, how can a developer get continuous text to display in multiple columns?** The developer must manually place the text in each layer or table column on the page, causing the text to be static in that cell or layer. This can cause problems when the user wants to zoom in or if the user does not have the correct fonts installed.
3. **What new CSS3 properties can help when the words are too long to fit in the content container?** Using the new hyphenation properties allows the developer to work without concern for where words are split on the page. Instead, the browser uses a built-in dictionary and provides hyphenation when needed.

Lesson activity (35 minutes):

1. Teacher instruction (35 minutes)
 - a. Use the PowerPoint presentation 98-375-ENU-3.3-LP to review managing the flow of text content by using CSS.
 - b. An In-class Activity document is available for use as needed.

Lesson review (10 minutes):

1. Lead students in a discussion of the guiding questions.
2. During and after the discussion, have students list any questions they have or any topics with which they would like more assistance. Have students make a list of deprecated tags they have discovered during their research.
3. Have students work in pairs to answer the additional questions written by students. Answer any questions that cannot be answered by students, or collect them for follow-up later.
4. Provide the Post-class Activity document for additional review.