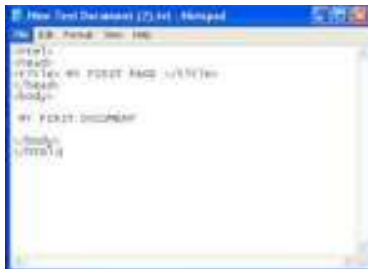# Year 4 - HTML Interface Design

What is HTML?

Web pages are files that are viewed using a web browser. They are written in a language called HTML, which stands for ***HyperText Markup Language***.

HTML is made up of sets of elements and tags, that are used as the instructions to tell the web browser how the web page should appear and it what order.

How to create a HTML file

HTML files can be created without the need for purchasing any software, you can write them in a *Notepad* (if using a windows PC) or *Text Wrangler* (a free mac download).

When using *Notepad* to create your HTML file you can write your HTML elements and tags and then when you come to save your file you save it with the file extension *.html* for example mywebpage.html. Once saved as a HTML file you should then be able to double click the file and it will open in your web browser for you to view.

If you are using *Text Wrangler* on a Macbook to create your HTML file you add your HTML elements and tags and then when you save the file add the .html extension instead of the .txt.

HTML file structure

HTML files are written by placing tags in an order that can then be understood by the web browser which will then turn those tags into a web page. Every HTML tag has a start tag and a end tag, for example <H1> is the start tag and </H2> the end tag.

Every web page has a basic structure of important HTML tags that need to be in place in order for it to work correctly, they are:

- **<html>** - tells the web browser that a page with HTML is to be read. This is the opening tag and will always be at the start of the document and its closing tag at the very end.
- **<head>** - the <head> tags are important because they will contain all the information about the web page, for example the title of the page.
- **<title>** - the <title> tag is used to give the web page a title.
- **<body>** - this rage begins straight after the <head> tag and in-between the <body> tag will be the main content of the web page.

Each one of these tags also has a closing tag, so the basic structure to a HTML file would look like:

```
<html>
    <head>
        <title> </title>
    </head>
    <body>
    </body>
</html>
```

Video: HTML structure.mp4

Activity 1

Open up either Notepad or TextEdit depending on which platform you are using and type out the basic structure of a HTML file as above. Save the file as a HTML file so that it can be used in the next activity.

Video: Activity 1.mp4