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## Introduction to HTML

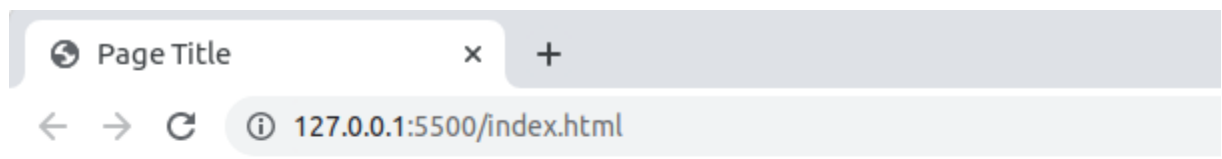
HTML stands for HyperText Markup Language and is used as the standard for creating and displaying web page content. Items are arranged in a tree-like manner using a structure known as a Document Object Model (DOM). It consists of a series of tags/elements that serve to indicate the various parts of a web page and provide semantic meaning to the content being displayed.

A basic HTML page consists of four major parts, including a declaration statement, a main html tag, a head tag, and a body tag. The figure below shows a simple HTML page highlighting the main tags of a basic HTML page.

- The `<!DOCTYPE html>` declaration statement tells the browser the version of html that is being used. For the example below, the declaration indicates that HTML5 is being used using the simple HTML5 declaration.
- The `<html></html>` tags are used to define the root of a html page. They enclose all the content of a given web page.
- The `<head></head>` tags contain details of a web page that are normally displayed on the title bar of a browser tab. It can also contain meta information that is vital when displaying web page data.
- The `<body></body>` tags enclose all the content that is mostly visible to the user on the browser.

```
index.html x
index.html > html > body
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3   <head>
4     <title>Page Title</title>
5   </head>
6   <body>
7     <h1>This is a Heading</h1>
8     <p>This is a paragraph.</p>
9   </body>
10 </html>
11
```

As mentioned, HTML contains a series of tags usually made up of an opening and a closing tag e.g `<html>` and `</html>`, respectively. The content to be added is then inserted in between these two opening and closing tags. For instance, to display a level 1 heading, the tags `<h1></h1>` are used to enclose the text to be displayed as a header. This applies to other content, as seen below. Browsers read this data and display it accordingly, as shown below.



# This is a Heading

This is a paragraph.

In conclusion, HTML is a markup language (rather than a programming language). It is used to instruct browsers to display web page content. The tags/elements that make up this language are key in providing structure and semantic meaning to the web page content.

### Works Cited

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