

NOTE: Today is a computer lab lesson. Please make sure you have signed up for the lab in advance.

TITLE OF LESSON

English 2 Unit 3 Lesson 38 -- Dreamweaver Review (CSS)
How do cascading style sheets help convey information?

TIME ESTIMATE FOR THIS LESSON

One class period

ALIGNMENT WITH STANDARDS

California – W1.8; W/O1.0-1.3; L/S1.0-1.2
NETS for Students – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

MATERIALS

Computer lab with Internet access
Macromedia Dreamweaver
Adobe Photoshop

LESSON OBJECTIVES

- To gain knowledge in Dreamweaver, in order to exact more precise control over the design of a web page
 - To learn about cascading style sheets (CSS), a way to make web pages in a site have a uniform look and feel
 - To understand why cascading style sheets are useful
 - To learn the pros and cons of using Dreamweaver Page Designs
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EXPLANATION OF LESSON

In this lesson, students will learn about a new concept: cascading style sheets (CSS). This is an advanced concept that will allow them to have control over the look of a large number of pages, and to easily make changes to the look of those pages if necessary. They will also learn about the ready-made Page Designs and CSS that are built into Dreamweaver. With their new knowledge of CSS, students will be able to use these Page Designs to their fullest.

FOCUS AND MOTIVATE STUDENTS – WARM-UP ACTIVITY

- 1) Computer Protocol – Remind students of appropriate computer lab behavior. Computer monitors should be turned off until the teacher says to turn them on.
- 2) [Daily Log](#) – Copy [Daily Log](#) below.
- 3) Mini - Lecture – Introduce the concept of CSS. Give the example of a large web site with a hundred pages. If you want to change the font used, or your color scheme, or the size of your headings, it would be a huge job—you would have to open every single page of the site and make the changes you want, right? This would take a long time. If you're using CSS, there's an easier way. CSS allow you to set rules for how certain elements of your page will look, everything from font size and bullet type to background color and borders. You put all this information in one file, and the HTML pages all get their formatting from this file. This makes updating very easy, because all you have to do is make a change in your CSS file, and all the pages that use it will be automatically updated. This also ensures that you won't accidentally forget to format something, which would take away from the cohesiveness of your site.



Date	Journal	Lecture Discussion	Activity	Readings	Homework
		Pro/Cons of using CSS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual Work: Dreamweaver Tutorial 2. Mini Lecture: Page Designs 3. Teacher Demo 4. Discuss: Prox/Cons 5. Choosing a Page Design 6. Web Page Design and Requirements 		Continue reading novels

ACTIVITIES – INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP

1. Individual Work – Students will now begin the CSS Tutorial in Dreamweaver (Help > Tutorials, click the *next* arrow until the What You Will Learn page, where you will click on Designing With Cascading Style Sheets Tutorial.) Students already defined their Tutorial site, so they can simply choose it in Dreamweaver to access the files they need. (Since students are working on their actual projects for this lesson, it is still wise to use the Tutorial files to learn the basics of CSS, so that none of their project pages gets accidentally messed up. After they understand the basics with the Tutorial files, students can move to their actual project pages and apply what they've learned.) Walk around the classroom as they are going through the tutorial to assist students if they get stuck. If it's possible, try to have a computer lab tech person assist the students as well. If that's not possible, just remind the students to go slowly and use each other as a resource.
2. Mini Lecture: Page Designs – After students are done, introduce the idea of Dreamweaver Page Designs. Page Designs are pre-built HTML pages in a variety of formats. You choose a format, and Dreamweaver opens an HTML page in that format. You then replace the existing text with your own text, and the image placeholders with your own images. This allows you to quickly build a well-formatted page. Dreamweaver also contains ready-made cascading style sheets that can be applied to the page designs. Or, you can define your own CSS and apply it.
3. Teacher Demo – Show the Page Designs and pre-built CSS to students, using a projector if possible, or just have students follow along with you on their own computers. (File > New, then look for Page Designs under Category.) Click on Page Designs, and a list of options appears to the right. Click once on each of the page designs to get a small preview of what it looks like in the window to the right. Many of these are meant for e-commerce websites, but the ones labeled Image or Text might be very useful for students. They can pick a pre-designed page template and combine it with a pre-designed CSS, to quickly create a page with clean, clear layout and design. But is this the best way to make a page?
4. Discuss: Pros/Cons – Ask students what the pros and cons are for using this feature. Get as many responses as you can, and make a list on the board that students copy down. Pros would include increased speed when creating pages, the ability to create well-crafted pages with less technical knowledge, etc. Cons would include everyone's page ending up looking the same, not really knowing how to change the formatting, etc.
5. Choosing a Page Design – Using Page Designs can cut down on some of the time required to build the students' web site projects. Students can choose pre-designed stuff to quickly get the basics of the site down, which will allow them to spend more time on other aspects of the site: graphic design/images, charts/graphs, image maps, etc. The sites can still be very personalized and creative even with the Page Designs. **Each student must choose either a Page Design or CSS template to use and make at least four changes to it.** The best choice would probably be to choose a Page Design, then apply a custom CSS to it. This will give the page a clean layout, but also a unique look. Students will also find that there isn't a Page Design that will fit every type of page they need to create. The homepage, for example, will probably need to be created by hand. Take into account the specifics of your class's project so you can guide students and give them clear requirements.
6. Web Page Design and Requirements – Now, using all they've learned in Dreamweaver, have students begin to work on the pages for their final project. Make sure they have the requirements, and make sure to alter/add any

other requirements that are necessary to your class's specific project. Give students any remaining class time to work on their pages.

HOMEWORK

Continue reading novels.

GROUP ROLES

None

DOCUMENTATION FOR PORTFOLIO

Unit 1

Evaluation Essay #1
Evaluation Essay #2
Project 2
Evaluation Essay #3
Project 3 – Planning Your First Image
Project 4 – Planning Your Second Image
Novel Evaluation
Project 5 – Planning Your Third Image
Evaluation Essay #4
Final Project Image
English 2 Unit 1 Final Exam

Unit 3

Memory Poem
Essay 1: Novel Evaluation
Essay 2: Bless Me Ultima
Essay 3: Novel Evaluation
Research Project Essay

Unit 2

Essay 1: War
Essay 2: Communication
Novel Evaluation 2
Project 1 – Letters to the Editor
Evaluation Essay #5
Project 2 – Political Cartoons
Project 3 – Editorials
Project 4 – CyberSpeech
Project 5 – Hard News Stories
Novel Evaluation 3
Final Project – Online Newspaper
English 2 Unit 2 Final Exam

Unit 4

None