

Template Standards

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Standards (DRAFT)

Identify the Language in the Head Tag

The HTML element must include the lang attribute. `<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" lang="<?php echo _LANGUAGE; ?>">`
`<head>`

Note: From Joomla 1.1 onwards it will be possible to use `$_LANG->isoCode()` instead of `_LANGUAGE`.

Reference:

- ISO 639 language codes
- Identifying the primary language

Provide a Summary for Tables

The TABLE element should include the summary attribute to describe it's structure and purpose.

```
<table summary="Hits on news compared to help">  
  <caption>Hits on news compared to help</caption>  
  <!--table cells here-->  
</table>
```

The use of the summary attribute for layout tables is at the discretion of the designer but is generally not recommended.

Reference:

- Providing summary information
- Layout Tables

Link Text

Make link text phrases make sense when they are read out in context and also ensure that different link addresses have different text. For example, avoid the use of "click here".

Reference:

- Link text

Associate Form Controls with the LABEL Element

A LABEL element is able to directly associate a description of a form element to the element itself. The LABEL for attribute must uniquely match the id attribute of the form element. `<label for="mod_login_username">`

```
<?php echo $_LANG->_( '_USERNAME' ); ?>
```

```
</label>  
<br />  
<input id="mod_login_username" name="username" type="text"  
  class="inputbox<?php echo $moduleclass_sfx; ?>" alt="username" size="10" />
```

With this association, some browsers allow for the clicking of the label to acquire focus for the control.

Reference:

- Labeling form controls
- Forms - Section 508 Accessibility