

# A Lesson in Vocabulary

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# Obligatory Introductions



# Warm-up

Are you ever overwhelmed with what you are expected to know?



# Warm-up

Remind yourself that the best solution to a problem is often the simplest.



# Warm-up

Complex solutions cost much more over time, and are bound to make you miserable.



# Warm-up

How can you possibly identify the simplest solution is if you don't know much about the problem you are trying to solve? You need education.



# Warm-up

Education is a long-term  
commitment, and should rarely be a  
short-term goal.



# Warm-up

Your best education will almost never happen in a classroom.



# Warm-up

While you are in the process of learning, of being "educated", you are going to make mistakes.



# Warm-up

Mistakes are ok. You need to make mistakes in order to get better ... In order to know where you need improvement.



# Vocabulary

- Overwhelmed
- Simplicity/Complexity
- Education
- Failure/Success



OVERWHELMED



# SIMPLICITY / COMPLEXITY



# SIMPLICITY

**Perfection is achieved not when there is nothing left to add, but when there is nothing left to take away.**

**Antoine de Saint-Exupery**



# SIMPLICITY

## HTML MarkUp - Headings

```
<div class="mainHeading">Heading Title</div>
```

vs.

```
<h1>Heading Title</h1>
```



# SIMPLICITY

## HTML MarkUp

```
<div class="list">
```

```
  <p class="list-item">Item Name</p>
```

```
  <p class="list-item">Item Name</p>
```

```
</div>
```

vs.

What would you do?



# SIMPLICITY

## An Option to Cancel

- The problem: Providing the user with an option to cancel
- Example: [jasonleveille.com](http://jasonleveille.com) administrator



# Simplicity

## Effective use of JavaScript

- The Good: [jasonleveille.com](http://jasonleveille.com) Administrator
  - Lite use of JS to enhance experience
- The Good: SimpleMC
  - Editable content blocks



# Simplicity

## My Idea ...

- An application that allows me to post status messages about what I'm doing
- The application allows me to follow what others are doing
- Oh, wait ...



# Complexity

**Complexity is a sign of technical immaturity.**

**Simplicity of use is the real sign of a well  
designed product whether it is an ATM or a  
Patriot missile.**

**Daniel T. Ling**



# Complexity

## Overuse of JavaScript

- The Bad: SimpleMC Administrator
  - Unnecessary behind the scenes complexity
  - Increased maintenance costs



# Complexity

## Busy Search Engine Pages

- Complicating search
- Yahoo/MSN/etc
- Enter Google
  - Simplified search
  - The result?



# Education



# Education

**Blogs**

**Books**

**Magazines**

**Podcasts**

**Story: Using points vs pixels**



# Failure / Success



# Failure / Success

**I embrace failure. It means I'm trying. I fail  
so that I can succeed.**



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