Tutorial 5: Client/Server Interaction

Today's tutorial will involve interacting with a Server via the use of forms.

Upload today’s tutorial to:


or


whichever is appropriate for you.

The first exercise (which you don’t need to upload but will be useful in developing the second exercise) is to place a form within a page, and use it send some data to this server:

http://wwwpeople.arch.usyd.edu.au/~rob/cgi-bin/echo.cgi

I’m going to leave this up to you, but here’s a clue: In Dreamweaver, choose Insert:Form>Form. Then Insert:Form>Button. Now, try and work out (from all that lovely research you did before the tutorial started) how to get the page you’ve just made to communicate with the ‘echo.cgi’ page. Here’s the kind of thing you should see:

Results of Form Submission with echoform.cgi

Script

button1 = Option1

Once you’ve got this working, add some more input elements to the page, and make sure you can each one to send data to the server. Notice that some elements won’t send data to the server when they’re used. Have a careful look at the code for the button (in particular, and the ‘method’ that is used for the button.
The main event:

Design a web page using forms that produces the following (exact) output. Use the same URL as for the test.

**Results of Form Submission with echoform.cgi Script**

- `txt_textarea = Nice site- I like the CGI stuff. You're awesome.
- `menu_gender = Other
- `menu_age = 18+
- `menu_opinion = is great
- `chk_understand = understood
- `chk_agree = agreed
- `but_submit = Let me in

This shouldn’t be too hard an exercise, but you’ll need to experiment to get it right. Upload your page once you’re done, and double check that it works as expected.