XPath

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"
The primary purpose of XPath is to address the nodes of XML 1.0 or XML 1.1 trees. XPath gets its name from its use of a path notation for navigating through the hierarchical structure of an XML document."

— XML Path Language (XPath) 3.0

Forward Axes

- child::
- descendant::
- attribute::
- self::
- descendant-or-self::
- following-sibling::
- following::
- namespace::

Reverse Axes

- parent::
- ancestor::
- preceding-sibling::
- preceding::
- ancestor-or-self::

Node Tests

- node() matches any node.

- text() matches any text node.

- comment() matches any comment node.

- namespace-node() matches any namespace node.

- element() matches any element node.

Abbreviated Syntax

- .   context node

- //   descendent-or-self::node()

- @   attribute::

- ..   ancestor::node()

- /   child::node()

Filter Expression

An expression followed by a predicate (that is, E1[E2]) is referred to as a filter expression: its effect is to return those items from the value of E1 that satisfy the predicate in E2.

E.g.,   //author[name/text() = "Anderson"]