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Subject: Change in XmlParser

Posted by [mirek](#) on Mon, 04 Oct 2010 18:22:13 GMT

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I am putting this here, because interface behaviour of XmlParser, XmlTag and XmlNode has changed to degree that it is even possible (but unlikely) that some apps would break....

The purpose of change is to handle whitespaces correctly, as was for long time suggested by aftershock. He was right about this and the change had to come.

So here we go:

First of all, for practical purposes and also for good degree of backward compatibility, we now distinguish "all-whitespace" texts (consists only of chars <= 32) and "significant" texts.

In XmlParser, calls to markup consuming functions (like "Tag") are now allowed to skip all-whitespace texts.

XmlParser::ReadText now "works always", returning even "all-whitespace" texts between tags, e.g. line-endings. However, if the parser is at "significant" texts, ReadTexts causes parser to "consume" it. Moreover, all texts are returned "complete" with trailing and leading whitespaces.

IsText method is now changed to indicate "significant" texts.

xml:space = "preserve" or "PreserveAllWhitespaces" now forces ALL non-null texts to be "significant" even if they are "all-whitespace".

There had to be another change in XmlTag - the issue at hand is that fancy block formatting of xml; if the text is multiline, this is detected and block formatting is suppressed for that.

So far, the only change I had to do with my code was to remove "PreserveAllWhitespaces" in one case (I believe introducing this mode was a bad idea anyway).