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Individual Project 1

Project Online Portfolio
Project Report

Conclusion/Project Specifications

In this project we were tasked with creating an online portfolio using HTML5, CSS3 and using a finished JavaScript/library. The website should also have responsive design, SEO (Search engine optimization) as well as being designed with availability in mind.

To go along with this is of course a README doc and a Documentation as well (Report).

For my portfolio I choose to go with a fairly simple design where I have a header ("navbar") that's fixed positioned to the top, a full screen banner, 3 navigation buttons and a long scroll page for the content.

For JavaScript I decided to go with a fake "loading screen" using JQuery and a simple "smooth scroll" function for when using the links to navigate through the content.

When It comes to the Responsive design, I decided to take the easiest option and use Flexbox. Flexbox seem to fix a lot of the positioning issues you commonly encounter when working with responsiveness so thought it was a good thing to learn and a perfect opportunity to do so.

Target vs. Accomplishments

I reached my personal goals with the project overall and I'm happy about the design specifically. Design is something I personally wanted to improve on and feel like I did a good job creating a "simple/professional" design that is very lightweight but has some neat features and is nice to read and navigate.

Over the course of the project there are things I've thought of and wanted to try out like doing more stuff with JavaScript (write myself) and working out a better workflow, planning and prioritization.

Some feature I wished to implement are for instance, but not limited to: Fade in effect on text, fade in elements on scroll. Look into more effects for when you hover or click and use more JavaScript in general.

Analysis

Overall, I think the project went well. I lost a lot of time during the last 1-2 weeks which I didn't expect and realized I had to make pretty major changes in my plans when It comes to JavaScript library and design. A lot of the time I had working during the last 2 weeks was "wasted" on design and functions which are not used in the finished product. Then with the Team project coming up I choose to focus on that and what we were doing currently and worked on the project whenever I had time outside of that. Mainly to avoid a domino effect where the first delay would push everything else back.

Design: The HTML and CSS part of the project went along very well. I feel very comfortable with the 2 languages so whenever I had an idea of something, I wished to change I didn't have much trouble creating it. The main issue I had was about the slider. When I did my project in an earlier front-end course, I used a slider which was very simple to implement and did the job. Not the most exquisite out there but it worked. But since I haven't done much in front-end since my graduation, I'm very rusty and frankly, a lot of the things I've learned are outdated. Which in turn creates confusion and issues when working since I have a mix of the 2 periods code, rules, structure which can be hard to separate at times. I might get stuck on a solution cause "its how you're supposed to do it" when that solution might in fact just be outdated.

I also struggled to find a theme and images to use, but luckily a good friend of mine gave me permission to use her photos for my project which really made things easier and it was at this point things really started to pick up and I quickly finished the design (apart from minor fixes towards the end of the project.).

I quickly went away from the idea of using a slider and decided to go with a "loading screen". I thought it was a good Idea because I found a good tutorial, it was easy to make and looked good, it fulfilled the JS library requirement and gave a better feel to the design overall.

One thing I need to think about and change for future projects is that I need to focus less on optional things and finishing touches. I spent way too much time changing fonts, font sizes, colors so on and so forth. I should have focused on getting the project done and meeting all the requirements first, then I could have spent all the

time I wanted on the rest. Something I really reflected on after the work methodology course. Frankly there are a lot of thing I would have done differently.

JavaScript: I used JQuery for pretty much all JavaScript functions on my portfolio and the one thing for sure I struggled the most with is figuring out what to do with JavaScript. What features I could do with JavaScript that would make sense and that would fit with the purpose of the website and finding something that didn't use JQuery or similar.

I want to do more with JavaScript in general and really need to practice it more because I feel like I have the understanding. For instance, I can read a code someone else have written and understand what it does and how it works (Like our JavaScript in the Team Project) but I struggle with writing it on my own. I get stuck very easily and I have a hard time just taking something and do "trial and error" because I feel very uncertain about the syntax. So, I get stuck before I get something going. But I think that's because I haven't gotten around to writing too much JS yet, but with this finished that's about to change. Now I need to focus 100% on the practical aspect of JS and so I get more confident and used to working with it.

Actions taken:

Focus going forward will be JavaScript and I will look for ways and things I can implement more JavaScript to the portfolio as well as having JavaScript focused projects on the side.

Focus on the work methodology more and make sure I focus on the points with the highest priority first and avoid spending too much time on a certain part.

Resources:

Loading screen:

https://ihatetomatoes.net/create-custom-preloading-screen/

https://ihatetomatoes.net/demos/css3-preloader-transition/

Photos: *Maren Sandvold.*

(Pictures I was provided aren't all featured in here gallery)

https://500px.com/marensandvold