Collaborative Creative Writing App

A creative writing app, where 2 people who have the app contribute to writing a novel or any piece of creative writing together. How it works is, once a pair have added each other on the app, either one of them can start writing a story or any piece of writing, however the user is only allowed a certain amount of time (maybe 15 minutes to write what they want). (NOTE: Not sure if it would be better to be timed or for the user to be limited to a number of words). Once done with their writing, the material is sent over to their partner, and now it is their turn to write with the same allotted rules. Each partner is only allowed to write until the other has finished their contribution. And you are only allowed to contribute to a single collaborative story, once per day. The goal is to collaborate and create something, and be encouraged to write more, and have fun steering the story in a certain direction. It is oriented towards people who want to be more creative and expressive, and for those who would like help staying encouraged while doing so in a time efficient, scheduled, and low commitment kind of way. I picture the app as having 3 pages, sort of oriented like snapchat with the menu at the bottom and starting in the middle page. In the middle page you would have the option to start a new collaboration, and then maybe it would show your most recent contribution to whatever story, and maybe some account information, or stats about your longest streak to contributing to a story. Swiping right to move to the left screen would show all your current stories being worked on with whoever. Again, there will be an option to start a new collaboration with someone within your friend group. Swiping left from the middle menu will take you to a page with all your completed stories. After tapping create a new story or continue existing story with friend, it will take you to a document looking page where your story exists, and you can make your contribution. I pictured having the first contribution to a writing piece to not having any time limit or word limit, as to encourage any ideas to flow and have a good foundation to write from and relieve any pressure to starting a new story/concept/idea.

I think the idea is more original and different, although I’m not sure how difficult it would be. It would require some extra work that is not necessarily required of us in the outline, specifically the app-to-app communication or “in-app communication” between collaborators, which I don’t exactly have much knowledge on or how hard it would be. Just an idea I had, just thought I’d throw it out there. Something that could make it simpler though is taking the same idea and just making it for one person, so it gets rid of any communication that is required and it becomes more of a self authoring app. Not as creative or original but it makes things simpler for sure.

Same thing more refined:

**Proposal for a Collaborative Creative Writing App**

A mobile app designed for creative writing enthusiasts, enabling two individuals with the app to co-create compelling stories and pieces of creative writing. The app fosters creative collaboration and provides a platform for users to contribute to imaginative narratives while enhancing their writing skills. The app aims to cater to individuals seeking a creative outlet, looking for encouragement, and wishing to engage in collaborative storytelling in a time-efficient, scheduled, and low-commitment manner.

**Key Features:**

1. **Collaborative Writing:** Users pair up within the app to collaboratively create a story or any creative writing piece.
2. **Turn-Based Writing:** The writing process follows a turn-based structure. Once a pair is connected on the app, either user can initiate the writing process. However, each user is restricted to a specific time limit for their contribution, possibly around 15 minutes, ensuring a fair distribution of writing time. Alternatively, word limits can be imposed instead of time limits, depending on user preferences.
3. **Sequential Contributions:** After one user completes their writing, it is transferred to their partner, who then continues the story, adhering to the same time or word limit.
4. **Daily Limit:** Each user can contribute to a single collaborative story only once per day, encouraging regular and consistent participation.
5. **Encouragement and Fun:** The primary goal is to stimulate creative expression and collaboration while making the writing process enjoyable. Users can steer the story in exciting directions, promoting creativity and spontaneity.

**App Structure:**

* **Snapchat-Style Layout:** The app layout is designed with user-friendliness in mind, featuring three main pages. The central page serves as the starting point, providing options to commence a new collaboration, display recent contributions, and access user account information and statistics. For instance, users can track their longest streak of contributing to a story.
* **Collaboration Management:** Swiping to the right leads to the left screen, where users can view all their current collaborative stories. This section allows for easy management of ongoing projects and offers the option to initiate a new collaboration with friends.
* **Completed Stories:** Swiping to the left from the central menu leads to a page showcasing all completed stories, enabling users to relive their shared writing experiences.
* **First Contribution Freedom:** The app encourages creative expression by allowing the initial contribution to a writing piece to be unrestricted, devoid of time or word limits. This approach eases the pressure of initiating a new story, allowing ideas to flow naturally and providing a strong foundation for the collaborative process.

**Conclusion:**

This creative writing app provides a unique platform for users to collaborate in the realm of creative writing, promoting creativity and encouraging consistent participation in a time-efficient and engaging manner. It targets individuals seeking a creative outlet and fosters a community of like-minded writers looking to express themselves and develop their writing skills in an exciting and collaborative way.

The proposal outlines a novel concept and an engaging approach to collaborative writing. With careful development and user-centered design, this app has the potential to create a vibrant community of creative writers and storytellers.

**Proposal features and functional requirements**

Criteria:     All features and functionalities of the app are listed. Features should include the functional requirements mentioned in the project description as well as a sufficient number of additional features and non-functional requirements. Each feature is accompanied by a brief description of its purpose and how/where it will be used in the app.

Features and Functional Requirements:

**Collaborative Writing:** Users pair up within the app to collaboratively create a story or any creative writing piece.

**Turn-Based Writing:** The writing process follows a turn-based structure. Once a pair is connected on the app, either user can initiate the writing process. However, each user is restricted to a specific time limit for their contribution, possibly around 15 minutes, ensuring a fair distribution of writing time. Alternatively, word limits can be imposed instead of time limits, depending on user preferences. (The use of dialogs and pickers will be used for this feature)

**Sequential Contributions:** After one user completes their writing, it is transferred to their partner, who then continues the story, adhering to the same time or word limit.

**Daily Limit:** Each user can contribute to a single collaborative story only once per day, encouraging regular and consistent participation.

**Layout:** The app layout is designed with user-friendliness in mind, featuring three main pages. The central page serves as the starting point, providing options to commence a new collaboration, display recent contributions, and access user account information and statistics. For instance, users can track their longest streak of contributing to a story. (This fulfills the requirements of multiple screens and navigation)

**Existing Collaborations/Starting new Collab:** Swiping to the right leads to the left screen, where users can view all their current collaborative stories. This section allows for easy management of ongoing projects and offers the option to initiate a new collaboration with friends.

**Showcasing Stories:** Swiping to the left from the central menu leads to a page showcasing all completed stories, enabling users to relive their shared writing experiences.

**Notifications:** Once a collaborator has

**Conclusion:** The app encourages creative expression by allowing the initial contribution to a writing piece to be unrestricted, devoid of time or word limits. This approach eases the pressure of initiating a new story, allowing ideas to flow naturally and providing a strong foundation for the collaborative process.

Features & Functional Requirements

**Collaborative Writing**

Users pair up within the app to collaboratively create a story or any creative writing piece.

**Turn-Based Writing**

The writing process follows a turn-based structure. Once a pair is connected on the app, either user can initiate the writing process. However, each user is restricted to a specific time limit for their contribution, possibly around 15 minutes, ensuring a fair distribution of writing time. Alternatively, word limits can be imposed instead of time limits, depending on user preferences. (The use of dialogs and pickers will be used for this feature)

**Sequential Contributions**

After one user completes their writing, it is transferred to their partner, who then continues the story, adhering to the same time or word limit.

**Daily Limit**

Each user can contribute to a single collaborative story only once per day, encouraging regular and consistent participation. (snack bars can be used here)

**Layout**

The app layout is designed with user-friendliness in mind, featuring three main pages. The central page serves as the starting point, providing options to commence a new collaboration, display recent contributions, and access user account information and statistics. For instance, users can track their longest streak of contributing to a story. (This fulfills the requirements of multiple screens and navigation)

**Starting new Collaborations / Updating Existing Collaborations**

Swiping to the right leads to the left screen, where users can view all their current collaborative stories. This section allows for easy management of ongoing projects and offers the option to initiate a new collaboration with friends.

**Showcasing Stories**

Swiping to the left from the central menu leads to a page showcasing all completed stories, enabling users to relive their shared writing experiences.

**Notifications**

Once a collaborator has submitted their piece of the writing, the other contributor will be notified when they have done so. Reminders will also be a function in which the user can set to their liking. (Notifications used here)

**Local Storage**

Local storage will be used to keep a log of recent documents, search history, and other frequency/time-based data. As well, compositions/media would be available for download to the local device.

**Cloud Storage**

The catalogue of all compositions (Documents created) will be stored on a cloud storage platform, which enables us to have backups, and makes collaboration easier.

**HTTP Requests**

HTTP requests will be used to fetch and update the compositions. GET requests will be used for fetching the latest compositions, while PUT or POST requests will help with new updates.

**Snack bars**

We will provide updates to the user once they save a composition, or make changes (e.g., add collaborators, change the user language, etc.) in the app.

**Internationalisation**

The project will include support for users around the world, and will have options to reflect that. This will include interactables (buttons, dials, etc.) that support multiple languages. **Data Tables / Charts**

In the stats page, users will be able to see statistics regarding the contributions they’ve made, in which a portion will be data visualisation (i.e. data tables or charts).

**Conclusion (Just added this, maybe we can have the scope part here if you want.)**

The app encourages creative expression by allowing the initial contribution to a writing piece to be unrestricted, devoid of time or word limits. Modern tools/software often overwhelm us with options, templates, and blueprints, which can hinder our creative processes and impair our artistic drive. We often spend too much time trying to optimise aspects of our writing that in the end, matter very little. Our approach eases the pressure of initiating a new story, allowing ideas to flow naturally and providing a strong foundation for the collaborative process.