Full-Stack Developer Intern Assessment

(48-Hour Challenge)

I'll create a 48-hour full-stack developer intern assessment task that tests MERN stack knowledge along with HTML/CSS/JavaScript skills while being difficult to complete using AI alone. Here's my recommendation:

The Challenge: Build a Recipe Management Application

Create a MERN stack application for recipe management with the following requirements:

Backend Requirements

- Create Express API with MongoDB integration
- Implement at least 3 API endpoints: GET all recipes, POST new recipe, and PUT to update recipe
- Include data validation for recipe submissions
- Implement a custom middleware that logs API requests with timestamps

Frontend Requirements

- Build a React application that consumes your API
- Create components for: recipe list, recipe details, and recipe submission form
- Implement client-side form validation with custom error messages
- Create a "surprise me" button that fetches and displays a random recipe

Technical Requirements

- MongoDB for database (local or Atlas)
- Express.js for API development
- React for frontend (create-react-app or Vite)
- Node.js for backend runtime
- CSS-in-JS or CSS modules (no frameworks like Bootstrap/Tailwind)

Unique Challenge Element

Implement a drag-and-drop recipe organizer that allows users to:

- 1. Sort recipes into custom-created categories
- 2. Enable reordering recipes within categories

- 3. Display a visual indicator when dragging items
- 4. Persist the organization to database

Submission Requirements

- 1. GitHub repository with source code
- 2. 5-7 minute loom video explaining:
 - Your thought process and architecture decisions
 - o How you implemented the drag-and-drop functionality
 - o Challenges you faced and how you overcame them
 - o Database schema design choices
 - o Code walkthrough of 2-3 components you're proud of

Judging Criteria:

Technical Implementation (40 points)

• API Development (10 points)

- All required endpoints implemented correctly (5 points)
- o Proper error handling and status codes (3 points)
- Custom middleware implementation (2 points)

• Frontend Development (10 points)

- Components structured logically (3 points)
- State management implementation (3 points)
- Form validation with meaningful error messages (4 points)

Database Implementation (10 points)

- Appropriate schema design (5 points)
- Efficient queries (3 points)
- Data validation (2 points)

• Drag-and-Drop Feature (10 points)

- Smooth user interaction (3 points)
- Correct persistence to database (4 points)
- Visual feedback during operation (3 points)

Code Quality (30 points)

• Code Organization (10 points)

- Logical folder structure (3 points)
- Component/module separation (4 points)
- File naming conventions (3 points)

• Best Practices (10 points)

- Consistent coding style (3 points)
- Use of modern JavaScript features (3 points)
- Performance considerations (4 points)

• Documentation (10 points)

- Code comments where appropriate (3 points)
- README documentation (4 points)
- o API documentation (3 points)

Project Completion (20 points)

• Functionality (10 points)

- All required features working (6 points)
- Edge case handling (4 points)

• User Experience (10 points)

- Intuitive interface (5 points)
- Responsive design (5 points)

Communication (10 points)

- Video Presentation (10 points)
 - Clear explanation of architecture (3 points)
 - Insightful discussion of challenges (3 points)
 - Quality of code walkthrough (4 points)

Extra Credit (10 points maximum)

- Authentication implementation (+3 points)
- Unit/integration tests (+3 points)
- Dark/light mode toggle (+2 points)
- Image upload for recipes (+2 points)
- Accessibility considerations (+2 points)

Shortlisting Criteria:

Candidates must score at least:

- 30/40 in Technical Implementation
- 20/30 in Code Quality
- 15/20 in Project Completion
- 7/10 in Communication

Total Possible Score: 100 points (110 with extra credit)