Sophias individual reflection: Week 8

What do I want to learn or understand better?

This is the last individual reflection and I have chosen to summarize what I have learned so far and where it started. At the beginning of this project I had some knowledge of HTML/CSS and backend programming but not much about JavaScript or React Native. So this project has given me a really valuable understanding on frontend programming and creating apps whilst using an emulator. I have learned so much by choosing a different programming language and have realised how much I have gained from other courses because it has been very helpful in this project.

For the next project I would definitely choose to further deepen my knowledge in JavaScript and React Native or choose a new language to broaden my knowledge on different programming languages. It was really fun to finally be able to create something after having studied for 2 years. This course will absolutely help me when doing my thesis and in future projects. It was really interesting to work in an agile way and it has been very helpful when collaborating in such a big group. I have learned a lot of valuable things through this course and I will definitely apply what I have learnt for future work.

How can I help someone else, or the entire team, to learn something new?

Throughout this course I have tried to make everyone comfortable enough to ask questions and also try to arrange work sessions. What I thought in the beginning was that I only could answer questions if they were asked but I learned that I could actually do more to both learn myself and then teach others. If I show that I am comfortable to ask questions and try to learn something then others will too and if I actually learn from the issues I have been having then I have the knowledge to teach others from my mistakes. This way everyone will learn from one mistake rather than everyone doing the same mistake again.

I have learned how to work with different people and more about teamwork. In the future I would want to work with people with similar backgrounds and about the same skill level. Hopefully it will be with people that want to willingly work together and help each other. Because it does drain energy to work with people that are at too different levels in skill and with people who only talk and do not listen. What I have done is just to confront and try to listen and then share my own opinions. It does work a short moment but it is exhausting to do it constantly. I will definitely bring this knowledge when working in the future and that it is certain that I will work with these kinds of people again. But that I know my limit and what drains my energy and if this would continue for years I would probably not be able to take it. So I would definitely confront about it as soon as possible to solve the problem and if it still continues I would probably hope to change project groups or similar to that. Because it would only be toxic for me to stay in such an environment.

What is my contribution towards the team's use of Scrum?

We have not really had any specific roles in our team but I think we have worked very well together, at least parallely and efficiently. It does not feel like we have been dependent on each other all too much. We have also worked quite well in vertical slices and applied the agile work way. Throughout the project I have written user stories, written issues on GitHub

Projects, and reminding people about current and coming meetings. I have been contributing in meetings and team reflections three times a week and on the big meeting on Fridays. I think that the workload during sprints overall has been quite equal. I am really happy to have learned more about Scrum because I have heard so much about it and I feel more confident in writing my user stories now and know what the terms means if I would ever hear it again, which I most likely will. In the future I will definitely use this in my work because it has been very helpful and more organized, which I am all for.

What is my contribution towards the team's deliveries?

What I have contributed throughout the whole project is of course helping with Scrum and with writing the reports. For the team's deliveries I was the one who came up with our idea and found which UN goals to use. I have also drawn the first Demo GUI and that was the base of our project. I also started to create the GUI prototype with Isabella to show how the layout should be. I have also drawn the Achievement Icons and created our Login Page but that page was later removed because it was not a priority. The main purpose of the application was not depending on the Login Page either way. I have worked mostly on the Trash Register Collection, the design of it and the functionality. It is at the end of this course and I have been very satisfied with my own and the end results. Of course I would have liked to have more time to focus on this project and develop it further. That is something I will get during my thesis work and hopefully when working. I would definitely have more knowledge when working and be able to create more rather than focus on new learning and studying.