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CS 2450

Homework 1

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1. When doing the program I considered that it would take me roughly a half hour to complete. I thought that since I had done this before, and I knew the language I was using had built in operators that I could get it done fairly quickly. The time to actually write the program took about a 57 minutes. I under estimated how long it would take me to learn the specific syntax of the commands I was using. I am most familiar with c++ and chose to write this in c#. The files are not handled the same way and so I had to learn how to do what I wanted. This and writing the documentation took longer than expected.
2. The program language could be viewed as a constraint. This can be viewed as a constraint because the programmers time to write the program costs money. If a programmer is not familiar with a language that is required it will take longer. However, if the programmer is allowed to work freely with what they have a knowledge of it may take the programmer less time to write the code, but are there other resourced needed to run that specific language. In any case, it needs to be considered even if the costs may be minimal.

6. I think that the command line interface is relative to the person who is typing in the file name. If it is someone well versed then the command line may be faster. However, overall I think that this is not easily done by the majority of computer users, and thus it is a bad interface in general. Most users would have a difficult time getting the write file in, especially if the instructions were unclear.

7. This would be a better interface than a straight command line. The reason being is that it gives more information back to the user. It does not necessarily mean that the user will make less errors, but it means that the user will have more information to fix the problem when one occurs.