CPAN134 Assignment 1 Report

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Step 1: Plan Website

* My first idea for this website was to make it about metal music, but I felt that basing it off my entire music listening journey was more conducive to the multi-page layout.
* I like a lot of different music, but I settled on the main genres I’ve been into throughout my life: K-pop, vocal performances, and metal. I also decided to create a page for my favourite band, Ghost.
* I listed all the requirements that were mentioned in the assignment PDF on Blackboard and brainstormed how I could include each one. For example, I came up with the idea to make a table showcasing an artist’s discography.
* I tried to draw out a layout, but I ultimately ended up mostly winging it. I did look at some other websites for inspiration.

Step 2: Create Basic Structure

* I made sure to include all the important elements of an HTML website on every page: <!DOCTYPE>, <html>, <head>, and <body>. I also ensured I had included semantic elements such as <header>, <footer>, <nav>, and <main>.
* I ensured that my CSS document was linked inside every <head> element. I also added a <title> to every page.
* I decided to put the <nav> element inside my <header> so that it could be on the same level as my website title. I turned both <header> and <nav> into flexboxes using CSS and used those to align the items inside. I added “margin-right: auto;” to the site name element to make it so it was on the left and the nav bar was on the right.
* I added some simple text to my footer that links to a fun song.
* I decided to have special title sections on each page that include a header and some <p> text that describes the page. I put both elements inside a <div> so that I could format some of their properties together.
* Outside of the HTML, I tried my best to keep my CSS file organized by using comments to denote page sections. Everything I consider to be general is at the top of the file, and everything related to a page is in its particular section.
* It is worth noting that I formatted almost every size using % rather than px due to differences in devices and browsers. I found that doing this made my site look the same on Chrome and Firefox, which is an improvement from my previous website.

Step 3: Add Content

* I knew that every page would be different, so I had a rough idea of what I wanted to include in each one.

Home Page

* My home page has an audio element inside of its <header>. It is set to play automatically, but it does not work in every browser. Thus, I included a player as well.
* I added an image from a concert to the home page, which I felt represented my musical journey well. Underneath, I included an introduction to the website.
* I decided to add my fake feedback form on the home page, which includes the elements <textarea>, <input>, and <button>. None of these work because I would need to use tools other than HTML and CSS to make them do so, as far as I know.

K-pop Page

* This page went through a lot of changes. It was originally not centered the way it is now. Additionally, the <p> elements were not the same size as the <iframe> elements. I believe it is more visually appealing this way (thank you for the suggestion, Professor!).
* I wanted to talk about a few of my favourite K-pop groups on this page, so I added three <div>s that I turned into flexboxes for formatting purposes. Inside each <div>, I placed an <iframe> with a YouTube link and a <p> element for text.
* I formatted each <iframe> to have a width equal to 40% of the page. I made the height auto to keep the aspect ratio the same. Interestingly, the aspect ratio did not stay the same after all! I needed to include “aspect-ratio” property to make it so. Every <iframe> on my website is formatted similarly to this.
* I staggered the group elements so that not all <iframe>s and <p>s would be on the same side of the screen. I think this makes the page look more interesting.
* I originally typed more text than I included in my final version; I decided to be more concise so that readers do not get a sense of overwhelm or boredom.

Vocal Page

* I originally formatted this page very similarly to the K-pop page, but I decided I wanted to make it different.
* Each row on this page is a flexbox and includes two YouTube videos as well as two <p> elements beneath them that serve as captions.
* I made sure my flexboxes each had the “flex-wrap: wrap;” property so that the text would appear beneath the <iframe>s.
* I made sure the <p> elements are the same width as the <iframe>s so that everything aligns correctly.

Metal Page

* It was on this page that I decided to include my unordered list, since I like a lot of metal bands.
* The list is simple, but I put it inside a flexbox so I could have it displayed next to an image of a band I love called Battle Beast. I made both elements a similar height so they match well.
* I decided to include a grid on this page as well and used it to display <iframe>s of some songs I really like.
* I had some difficulty formatting the sizes of each square in the grid, since I was trying to format the <iframe>s the same way as the other ones on the site (aka using the “width: 30%;” property). I discovered that the way to make the <iframe>s the size I wanted was actually to set the width and height to 100%, presumably meaning that they take up 100% of the cell space.

Ghost Page

* I began this page with a standard <img> element followed by a <p> element to introduce the band.
* I made sure to include a numbered list on my website by listing Ghost’s albums in order of my enjoyment. For the record, this was very hard for me. All their music is so good. I included this list in a Flexbox with an <iframe> element, like the elements on my K-pop page.
* I included the same kind of flexbox just beneath because I simply had to link my favourite Ghost song.
* Finally, I added a table to the website with information about Ghost’s discography. I put the table inside a flexbox to allow me to center it. I also centered all of the text in the table.

Step 4: Make It Pretty

* To be transparent, I did not do this step entirely last. I spent a lot of time formatting the visuals of the website as I was adding content, as it helped me develop my vision. I still believe that this step should be the final one in my website creation process.
* I knew I wanted a dark theme for the site, but I decided on dark grey rather than black. I think it fits a little better and is a bit easier on the eyes. As for a secondary colour, I chose my favourite colour, which is orange. I think the orange I chose goes well with the specific shade of grey.
* I also used an even darker shade of grey for a few elements, including the title section on each page, the table, and the feedback form. This was to provide a bit more contrast.
* I chose white for most of the text on the site, as it contrasts well with the background and doesn’t add any more unexpected colours. I used my secondary orange colour for the header, the <th> element on my table, the outlines of the feedback form, etc.
* I chose a cool font for the titles of the website and pages, but everything else is the same sans-serif font. I find that it is easy on the eyes but still fits the theme of the website. I am aware that these fonts are not web safe; I just thought they would be fun for this project.