Documentation of e-tutor Software Design & Operation- As Is

This file documents the user interface design and operation of e-tutor software as it currently exists. I did not make use of any screenshot, because I believe we can always do a demonstration of it to the developers/software development team.

Double-clicking the application’s icon on the desktop brings up a “*Select a Tutor*” screen. There are three tutors available. Any of them performs two basic functions. One is that they read out the step by step instructions on how to use and navigate the e-tutor software. Two is that they read the e-tutor software contents to the user (whether lesson notes or questions & answers depending on the choice made by the user). Their function is made possible by a text-to-speech feature embedded in the software.

After selecting a “*Tutor*” by clicking on any of the options given, a “*Welcome to e-tutor*” screen appears. This screen contains four buttons.

Button1: labelled **Anthem**, when clicked on, launches the sound and beat of the Nigerian National Anthem alongside a dialog box with the prompt “*To stop the National Anthem, and recite the pledge, click on Ok*”. If a user clicks on the “*Ok*” button, the Nigerian Pledge is recited, otherwise, if he clicks on the “*Cancel*” button, the dialog box disappears, and he is left on the “*Welcome to e-tutor*” page.

Button2: labelled **Exit**, when clicked on, launches a dialog box with a prompt “*You are not leaving me, are you?*” with two buttons labelled “*Yes*” and “*No*”. If the user clicks on “*Yes*”, he is taken to a “*Thank You*” page that gives credit to different professionals that contributed to the content and development of e-tutor. On this page is a button labelled “*Exit*”, that when clicked on, takes the user out of the application. And if a user clicks on the option “*No*”, the dialog box disappears and he is left on the “*Welcome to e-tutor*” page.

Button3: labelled **Help**, when clicked on, launches the “*e-tutor Help System*” where information (user manual) on how to use e-tutor software is documented. On the “*e-tutor Help System*” page, a link labelled “*Click here to continue*” is provided, on which a user must click in order to have access to the “*e-tutor Help System*”. The “*e-tutor Help System*” is well documented and easy to use. All a user need do is to click on either of “*Next*” or “*Back*” link provided on the “*e-tutor Help System*” to navigate from one topic to another.

Button4: Labelled **e-tutor**, when clicked on, launches the e-tutor application. A page that contains info about e-tutor comes up. To the right of this page are contact details of Cognitive Solutions Plc (Address, Phone numbers and email address). On this page also are two buttons; “*Proceed*” and “*Exit*”. The “*Exit*” button attempts to take a user out of the application by launching a dialog box with a prompt “*You are not leaving me, are you?*” with two buttons labelled “*Yes*” and “*No*”. If the user clicks on “*No*”, he is left on the current page. But if the user clicks on “*Yes*”, he is taken to a “*Thank You*” page that gives credit to different professionals that contributed to the content and development of e-tutor. On this page is a button labelled “*Exit*”, that when clicked on, takes the user out of the application. The “*Proceed*” button on the other hand, takes a user to the “*e-tutor Login Screen*”.

The “*e-tutor Login Screen*” requests that a user provides a login name in a text field provided on it. Two buttons are placed on that screen labelled “*Login*” and “*Cancel*” respectively. If a user clicks on the “*Cancel*” button after providing his name, a dialog box comes up with a prompt “*Are you really sure you do not want to proceed?*”, and if the user’s response is “*No*”, the user is left on that same page, but if his response is “*Yes*”, the user is returned to the previously viewed page that contains contact details of Cognitive Solutions Plc with the “*Proceed*” and “*Exit*” buttons respectively. To have access to e-tutor contents, the user must click on the “*Login*” button after supplying his name in the text field provided on the “*e-tutor Login Screen*”. Clicking on the “*Login*” button takes the user to “*e-tutor Home*” page which contains nine (9) buttons that are links to different sections of the software. Let’s pick the buttons one after the other.

**The “Exit” Button**:

When clicked on, this button launches a dialog box with a prompt “*You are not leaving me [+ the Login name provided on the previous screen], are you?*” with two buttons labelled “*Yes*” and “*No*”. If the user clicks on “*Yes*”, he is taken to a “*Thank You*” page that gives credit to different professionals that contributed to the content and development of e-tutor. On this page is a button labelled “*Exit*”, that when clicked on, takes the user out of the application. And if a user clicks on the option “*No*”, the dialog box disappears and he is left on the “*Welcome to e-tutor*” page.

**The “Help” Button**:

When clicked on, this button launches the “*e-tutor Help System*” where information (user manual) on how to use e-tutor software is documented. On the “*e-tutor Help System*” page, a link labelled “*Click here to continue*” is provided, on which a user must click in order to have access to the “*e-tutor Help System*”. The “*e-tutor Help System*” is well documented and easy to use. All a user need do is to click on either of “*Next*” or “*Back*” link provided on the “*e-tutor Help System*” to navigate from one topic to another.

**The “User History”** **Button**:

This button gives a list of registered users who have used a feature named “*Test Center*” in the software. This buttons records the user’s name, subject taken, score, date and time the test was taken for every time a test is taken.

**The “Hall of Fame”** **Button**:

This button gives a list of users with outstanding performance when they used the “*Test Center*” feature.

**The “Learning Center” Button:**

Learning center is a feature that contains tuitions (or lesson notes) for each e-tutor subjects. This button, when clicked on takes us to a screen where subjects available in the e-tutor software are listed. A user will select a subject of choice from the list and then click on button “*OK*” provided on that screen. The next screen that comes up is a screen that displays the table of content for the subject selected on the previous page. A user will select any of these topics and then click on button “*View*” provided on that page. Provided alongside the buttons “*Ok*” and “*View*” is a button “*Cancel*” that returns a user to the e-tutor Home page, when clicked on. After a user selects his topic and clicks on the button “*View*”, he would be taken to the “*Learning Center*” page. This page is divided into three sections. First contains the topic selected in the previous page. The second contains the lesson notes on that particular topic, while the third section contains buttons, links and controls.

To the top right of this “*Learning Center*” is a button, labelled “*Auto Mode*” which when clicked on, changes to “*Manual Mode*”. This button with **dual states** puts the software under the control of the system when in “*Auto Mode*”, or under the control of the user when in “*Manual Mode*” for page navigation. The computer changes the lessons displayed a page at a time (automatically) when in “*Auto Mode*”, while the user is in charge of changing the pages (manually) when in “*Manual Mode*”.

Another control on this page is the “*Voice Control*” buttons labelled “*On*” and “*Off*”. This is located at the bottom right of the “*Learning Center*” page. Clicking on the “*Off*” button puts the text-to-speech feature of the software to mute (quiet/silent), while the “*On*” button returns the text-to-speech feature.

The next control is a button labelled “*Search*”. This button, when clicks on takes a user to one of the most powerful feature of e-tutor software- the **search engine**. With this, a user can search/look for any term or concept or topic related to the subject he is currently learning/viewing.

The “*Lesson Graphic*” button is a button that calls up any diagram/image/graphic that accompanies the lesson currently in view.

Other buttons are;

**Home**: this returns a user to the “*e-tutor Home*” page.

**Start Again**: this takes a user to the first lesson under a particular topic.

**Previous:** this takes a user to the previously viewed page. A page that precedes the one he is currently viewing.

**Next**: this takes a user to the page that comes after the one currently being viewed.

**Stop**: this button brings up a dialog box with a “*Yes*” or “*No*” button. If “*Yes*” is clicked on the user is taken to the “*Learning Center*” end of session page from where he can either exit e-tutor software or go back to the “*e-tutor Home*” page. If “*No*” is clicked on, the user remains on the “*Learning Center*” page.

**Exit**: this takes a user out of the “*Learning Center*” to the “*e-tutor Thank You*” page.

**The “Practice Center” Button:**

Practice Center is a feature that gives e-tutor software its unique selling ability amongst other products in its category. It contains answers to **WAEC** past questions, plus subject expert’s analysis of why each of the wrong options is wrong and why one option is the correct answer in its multiple choice questions section. Solutions to its essay questions too are also rendered in a unique way that conforms to the examining body’s marking scheme/guide.

When a user clicks on this button, he is taken to a page where he will select an exam year plus the subject of choice and exam/question type. Then the user will click on “*Ok*” button below the page. This takes the user to the “*Practice Center*” page. The “*Practice Center*” page is divided into four segments; the first contains the exam question, the second contains options (A to E, or A to D) of the multiple choice questions out of which the correct option would be identified by putting the word (**CORRECT**) in its front. We call the third segment **Examiner’s Report** which houses the expert’s analyses of correct/wrong options as stated above. And then, the fourth segment holds the controls/buttons as contained and as described on the “*Learning Center*” page except that the button “*Lesson Graphic*” in the “*Learning Center*” is now labelled “*Solution Graphic*” which gives a link to any image/diagram/graphic that accompanies the solution. Also, there is a “*Question Graphic*” button attached to the first segment, which gives a link to any accompanied image/diagram/graphic that particular question might be referencing. There is one more button on the “*Practice Center*” page, and that is a “*Go To*” button which enables a user to jump to a particular question number. With this button, a user can jump from question number five (5) to question number twenty (20). Every other buttons on this page are as is on the “*Learning Center*” page and each performs its respective function as listed on that page.

**The “Test Center” Button:**

This feature of e-tutor software contains questions and options as available in the multiple choice segment of the “*Practice Center*”. Users can use it to test their readiness for taking any exam. It can also be a preparatory tool for any user who is not yet used to a **Computer Based Testing**.

When a user clicks on this button, he is taken to a page where he will select an exam year plus the subject of choice and exam/question type. Then the user will click on “*Ok*” button below the page. A dialog box, titled “*e-tutor Test Timer*” shows up, which gives the user an option to set his preferred testing time if he desires something different from the default of **120minutes** provided by the system. It is divided into three segments. The first contains the question, while the second gives a list of the options or alternatives from which a user is expected to select the correct answer, after which he will be graded and the result be displayed by the system. The third segment contains buttons/controls. “*Question Graphic*” button is as used on the “*Practice Center*”. “*Voice Control*” buttons too, also function the way they do in the previous two Centers. The navigation buttons as contained and function in the previous Centers are also available here. The only addition here is the **timer control** which gives a countdown of time left to complete a particular test. When a test session is complete, a dialog box with the prompt “*Your time has elapsed*” and an “*Ok*” button comes up meaning the user cannot continue the test. A user will click on the “*Ok”* button to go to the “*Testing Center Result*” page. This page displays result of the test just taken in percentage. Simultaneously, a dialog box with the prompt “*Do you want to print the certificate*?” comes up. If a user clicks on “*Yes*”, the result information is sent to a printer, if one is connected. And if a user clicks on “*No*”, nothing would be sent to the printer. Regardless of the user’s response to the prompt “*Do you want to print the certificate?*”, a copy of the certificate will be displayed. On the certificate are details such as the user’s name, the subject/exam attempted, his score and the date he took the test. The user can then close the certificate when done. After a user closes the certificate, three buttons remain on the “*Testing Center Result*” page. They are the “*Home*”, “*Review*” and “*Exit*” buttons. Buttons “*Home*” and “*Exit*” perform their respective functions as mentioned earlier in this document. The new button here is the “*Review*” button which takes the user to “*Test Center Review*” page. This page gives the user a comparison of his selected choices and the correct options for each question by analysing the user’s response against the correct alternative for every question.

**The “Counselling Center” Button:**

This Center contains information on different counselling topics; such as the need for education, possible career opportunities, subject combinations for some professions, careers and their relevant subject combinations, and many more.

To use the “*Counselling Center*”, a user must click on the button labelled “*Counselling Center*”, which launches a page titled “*e-tutor Counsellor*” where information on different counselling topics is documented. On the “*e-tutor Counsellor*” screen, a link labelled “*Click here to continue*” is provided, on which a user must click in order to have access to the “*e-tutor Counsellor*”. The “*e-tutor Counsellor*” is a well-documented and easy to use information system. All a user need do is to click on either of “*Next*” or “*Back*” link provided on the “*e-tutor Counsellor*” page to navigate from one topic to another. To exit the Counsellor, a user will click on the Windows “*Close”* control/button located at the top right corner of the screen. Exiting the “*e-tutor Counsellor*” returns a user back to “*e-tutor Home*” page.

**The “Syllabus” Button:**

This center contains the **WAEC** syllabus for each of the year range available in the “*Test Center*”.

To use the **WAEC** Syllabus in e-tutor, a user must click on the button labelled “*Syllabus*”, which launches a page titled “*e-tutor Syllabus*” where the syllabus for each subject under each year range can be accessed. On the “*e-tutor Syllabus*” screen, a link labelled “*Click here to continue*” is provided, on which a user must click in order to have access to the syllabus. The user will select his preferred year range from a drop-down menu, and then click on “*Ok*”, and henceforth, all a user need do is to click on either of “*Next*” or “*Back*” link provided on the “*e-tutor Syllabus*” page to navigate from one page/topic of the syllabus to another. To exit the Syllabus, a user will click on the Windows “*Close*” control/button located at the top right corner of the screen. Exiting the “*e-tutor Syllabus*” returns a user back to “*e-tutor Home*” page.