MY REFLECTIVE WRITING

Part two of the ICA had some group work included in it, there were three of us in my group, one of which has never attended any lectures. We were asked to create an Alpha test Plan template to test the websites we had built during the part one of the ICA, unfortunately due to personal reasons which are unknown to me, my colleague did not attend the remaining days at school before we closed for the semester.

This was a recipe for bad communication and misunderstanding. I did not feel the least bit unhappy that I had to do all the work as it wasn’t much. Creating the template was a learning curve for me, I had to put in extra hours and be patient because there was a lot of repetition going on. When I started building the template, I was clueless about what to do as I have never done this before. I searched online for ideas and clues, majority of the information I got were overwhelming, while the rest were inadequate. The template our tutor gave to us was very useful, I used it as a guide, and built on it. I was so happy to have gotten something I could work with that the extra work I had to do did not seem like a lot.

Sometimes I thought about sending a message to my colleague, but I never got around to it, now that I think about it, it was something I could have easily done but I was being lazy. Four weeks into our holiday, my colleague and I met for an examination at our university, we discussed his absence after which I promised to send a copy of the test plan to him. I felt a whole lot better that we both got our opportunities to do the right thing, and even though the deadline was really close, it was better late than never. If I get the chance to do this again, I would definitely contact my colleague sooner rather than later.

Testing my website helped me discover some errors that I originally would not have noticed, spelling mistakes, link that don’t work, scoring very little during the audit, and a few other things. I was able to update my website accordingly, I did not adjust the errors while doing my testing, I only started working on them after I had completed my testing, and this provided me with a list of things that I had to do to correct my mistakes. I prefer that method of working to others as it is orderly and prevents mix-ups. I am very particular about organization, and this reflects in every aspect of my life. Unfortunately, I was unable to add much to my website as I was short on time and I had other assessments to work on as well. I learnt that time management is very important and practicing my work immediately after lectures till it becomes memory muscle will help eliminate a lot of confusion that might arise especially from pile up. I felt a bit sad that I could not give all my assessments equal amounts of attention, that is something I would work on in the coming semester.

Adhering to standards and laws regarding creating websites is not easy for someone just starting out, but at some point, during the development process it suddenly hit me that I could try different methods that will help me create a website that almost anyone can use.

I had to take into consideration legal issues like copyright and referencing, web accessibility, student regulations, contents like violence, racism, sexuality and others. I also considered professional issues like code commenting, pair programming, adhering to deadlines and many more. I can’t leave out ethical issues, which appear in form of honesty and integrity. I believe that some of my actions may affect society one way or the other, why not make it a pleasant or at least a comfortable experience.

I have learnt so much during the course of this assessment, and I plan to build on it and be the best I can. I am happy that I made the decision to start university, and this has proven that my decision was not a bad one, I do not regret my tired or frustrating days as nothing good comes easy in life. I intend to rest, resume school with more enthusiasm that ever before, and have success follow me around like a shadow.