

Scroll

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Introduction

Scroll, the entertainment forum web application that I have created is an application that gives users a place to write posts about anything they want, and it get displayed on one giant table. I wanted to create this web application as I haven't seen any forums or social media sites that's sole purpose is to write anything down without any context or order, I believe this will make the site exiting and entertaining to use. The I wanted the web application to be constructed with the use of HTML templates and a sqlite3 database that contains the usernames and the users post. The site was inspired by my personal interest in forum pages and discussion sites.

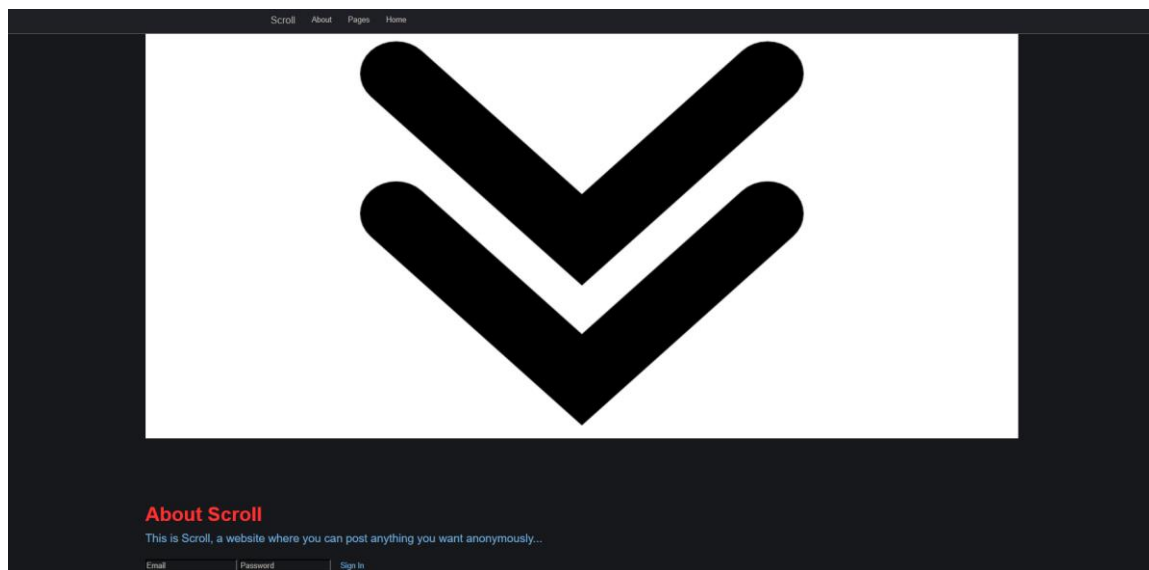


Figure 1: Home Page – The home page of Scroll

Design

In my design, I wanted to make sure that users could have quick access to the submissions and could make an account if they wanted to claim their username for themselves.

I decided that I wanted to keep my application easy to navigate through, so I implemented a navigation bar at the top of the page. The navigation bar stays locked to the top of the

screen allowing the user to click the links included no matter where they are on the page. I implemented this using the class workbook [1].

The links About in the navigation bar takes the user to the about section in the home page and the home link takes the user to the sites default page, whereas the pages link takes the user to the content page of the site using flask to pull a new HTML template which displays a form and the table filled with user entries.

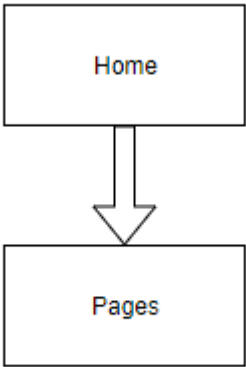


Figure 3: HTML Navigation Map

Instead of using lots of HTML templates I decided to keep the design simple and only use two html templates, I wanted to do this, so I could display all the aspects of the site but space it out in an aesthetic way. As you can see in Figure 3 I decided to keep home and pages separate so that the home page would not go on forever due to the large table that it would produce.

To create the database for the games I chose to use sqlite3. I chose this because I have had more experience with SQL and thought that it would be easier to store and display the user posts.



Figure 4: SQL database posts table display

The screenshot shown above shows the layout of pages, this includes the logo, the form and the table that holds the user entries. However, I did not manage to get the form to function properly, because of this the only way I could enter data into the table was from the console. I tried to get the form to work by using the method shown below but I could not get it to work in time for my hand in.

```
@app.route('/postadd', methods = ['POST', 'GET'])
def postadd():
    if request.method == 'POST':
        try:
            user = request.form['username']
            body = request.form['scrollpost']

            with sql.connect("pagesDB.db") as con:
                cur = con.cursor()
                cur.execute("INSERT INTO posts (user,body)
                    VALUES (?,?)", (user,body) )
                con.commit()

        except:
            con.rollback()

        finally:
            return render_template("pages.html")
            con.close()
```

Figure 5: Non-functional method to insert form into table

Enhancements

There are many features that I would like to have added a fully functional registration and login feature. This would make it easier for users to identify who is posting what and would allow users to claim their username so that no one else could use it.

I would like to add a photo upload section so that users could do the same as the forum section but post any photo and description that they want.

If I would like to add error handling so that when users input wrong usernames or passwords, they would get an error popup telling them that the entered details were wrong.

Critical Evaluation

The SQL database was implemented well into the HTML template but has not been fully completed to my criteria.

I am satisfied with the navigation bar as it allows the user quick and easy access to the other sections and links on the application.

I am happy with the design of the page but the form section of the pages need to be scaled to the right size as the post body form section does not provide enough space for the user to see their full post before submitting.

Personal Evaluation

I believe that I did not perform well on this assignment and did not display my level of skill. I need to practice my SQL and my python so that I can become more familiar with the module. Once I do this I believe I can perform to my fullest

I believe that I should manage my time more and try not to focus on the look of the page and apply myself to making the framework of the application, where it matters most.

References

[1] S. Wells. Advanced Web Tech Workbook. (2018).