Project Plan

E-LEARNING WEBSITE

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**Introduction**

With the boom of the www and the enormous amount of websites online, many people now want to learn online. Many courses or lesson currently exist in the form of videos e.g. YouTube or articles posted on blogs or other websites. However, the reality remains that e-learning still faces some challenges. For some learners, it is a hard to adapt to e-learning. For some others, they find it too hard to use computers even harder to learn on the internet. I believe the main difficulty is actually the issue of communication between the tutors and the tutees when it comes to dispensing their tutorials online.

We at Cyberminds Ltd believe there is a way forward and our plan is to facilitate the communication aspect between those passing and those receiving knowledge online. And how we intend to do this is by adding facility for people to share and code together using a pair coding module, we will also use chat systems for people to pass messages around easily. In terms of the courses, we will put tutorials, accompanied by videos and tests to evaluate tutees. We will also provide projects whereby the learners will try their hands at real life projects so they can feel more confident with what they do.

For the start, this website will focus on software development courses with Microsoft technologies. At a later date, other types of course could be added if there are qualified tutors available.

We are aiming to provide adequate training for web/software developers so they can feel confident when doing their job.

Obviously, we will not try and solve all problems faced by e-learning as this is impossible.

**Core Functions**

1. Courses
2. Tutoring
3. Chat & Discussions
4. Pair Coding
5. Tests
6. Projects
7. Articles
8. News

**Core areas of the website**

1. Main Visitor's area
2. Members Area (For registered course takers or registered members)
3. Tutors Area (where tutors will register and prepare courses)
4. Admin
5. Test Environment

**1. Courses**

This will be the main module of the website.

We will have two types of courses:

* Single Module

This type of courses as the name implies, will be made of only one module e.g. C#, C++

* Module Bundle

This type of course will be made of multiple modules as the name implies. E.g. “ASP.Net Web Developer I” that can be made of mules like C#, VB.Net, SQL Server etc.…

A module will be categorized as back-end programming, front-end, graphic design etc.…

Each module will contain many chapters

In each chapter, we could have one or more lessons.

Lessons will come in the form of a videos, articles. Also lessons will be accompanied by assessments to show users how they progress. Moreover, they will be able to compare their performance with others who took the same course before.

The assessment will be in the form of tests. Subscribed users will be able to review their previously taken assessments in details.

Users of the site will get the option to search for courses either by category or module or topic simply.

Once they find their desired course, they will be able to subscribe for it. Some course will be free but some will be paid for. This will depend on the owner/creator of the course.

Courses will be prepared by tutors on the website. So there will be a tutor’s area that will enable tutors to enter details of their courses.

**2. Tutoring**

This part of the website is the one where a user will request a tutor to follow them up and help them on a specific course. This part of the system will demand a subscription. A user will be able to ask a tutor to only assist them for a lesson that they don’t understand or a chapter or a module or even the whole course. They should be able to request tutor assistance at any time fees will apply accordingly. And students will need to pay required fees in order for them to obtain help from the tutors. Unless certain tutors make themselves available to provide help for free.

We at Cyberminds Ltd will have our own accredited tutors. But other tutors will be able to register on the website and will need to provide their credentials and be vetted accordingly.

Depending on the agreement between the tutor and the tutees, the tutor will prepare course material and excercises for the tutee. He/she will also select appropriate test and suggest them to the tutee and follow the tutee’s progress until they complete the course or module.

External tutors will need to provide their terms and conditions and also the cost of their tuitions. This must be done before tutor details are displayed on the website.

**3. Chat**

The chat system will only be used by user who have been validated and are signed in. This is to avoid spamming and other people to come and used the system for other corrupt purposes.

Logged in tutors or tutees will be able to invite each other to converse through the chat room.

Also tutees will be able to invite available logged in tutors to provide answers to their questions. But this will be based on a prepaid fee and other arrangements.

**4. Pair Coding**

It is really hard to share code online when teaching someone. So we are going to develop the idea of pair coding whereby two users can connect their online coding environment and see each others code and event interact by putting comments, highlighting and chatting at the same time.

We will have an editor styled as Visual Studio or other code editors. This will be used online.

Obviously there will be security concerns here and there should be restrictions as stopping user from running their code on the server. The further they should be able to go to is to be able to compile their code.

There should also be option for subscribed users to store their code online and come back to it at later dates and review it.

**5. Tests**

Test will be run by an existing test engine that will be connected to this website.

Tutors and admin on the e-learning website will be able to go to the test site and prepare test, then use a URL or Id to link those tests to the e-learning website and then ask users to take those tests.

Users will then at a later date be able to go and review their tests results and see how well they have done.

This will form the main assessment method on this website.

Users will also be able to register or subscribe to the test website and be able to go and take many other tests that are over there.

Tutors that want to use the test website to assess their students, will need to pay fees to us.

**6. Projects**

Another way of assessment on this website is through projects.

There will be from big projects that cover a whole course and medium projects that cover certain topics, lessons etc… and small projects.

This will be a way for student to try their hands at real world application of the knowledge they have acquired on this website.

Projects will be set up by tutors or admin users.

It will be up to the tutors to decide the way they will mark the projects.

There will be a way for users/tutees to submit their project work on the website.

There will also be a way for tutors to be able to access submitted project work and mark them.

**7. Articles**

Articles will be provided/created by editors registered on this website.

They will be organised by category and users will be able to search for articles through a search engine on the website. Articles will be related to topics taught on the website. In other words, to create an article, you will be given the option to select a course, chapter or module to link your article to.

Articles submitted will need to be scrutinised before they go live. This is just to ensure that they follow the business rules as listed above.

**8. News**

This section is where we will publish important information for the website for the users.

News will also be organised in categories.

Users will be able to search for news items by date, topic, category etc…

News items will be published by our admin users and editors only. No other users that is not our employee will be able to write news unless we authorise them to do so.