**A Level computer Science**

Component 3

Physics Homework App

Perhaps a Logo / Picture

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# Chapter One: Analysis of the problem

## Problem Identification

While studying Physics at A-Level, we used multiple websites to do our homework. This was due to the fact that all of the different websites had their own flaws. The main flaw that I found is that no website that is available to us allows for both calculations and long answers to be entered as answers.

This is an example of a website allowing to answer a calculation question. As you can see in this example, you can only enter a value as an answer and then the website tells you if it is right or wrong. This is a big problem because, if you get the question wrong, you and your teacher will not be able to see where the problem in the calculation is and how to fix it.



As shown in this example, this particular website allows for a long answer to be entered as an answer. However, the limitation of this is that when you are marking your answer, it can only be marked as right or wrong. The solution to this problem is to allow the student to give their answer a mark, by checking their answer against the mark scheme, out of the number of marks that the teacher set. This will allow the student to see what they would score in the real exam.

## 1.2 Possible Computational Methods

## 1.3 Stakeholders analysis

1.3.1 Stakeholder Introduction

The demographic for my project is for teachers and students in the Physics A-Level. For my stakeholders I picked one Physics teacher and three Physics students. The teacher stakeholder is {INSERT LATER} and my student stakeholders are Ali, {INSERT REST LATER}.

I asked each group of stakeholders seven questions. I asked the teacher group the following questions:

1. What resources do you currently use to set physics homework?
2. What are some good features of the current resources that you use?
3. What are some bad features of the current resources that you use?
4. If a new homework website was made, what would you like to see included in it?
5. As a teacher, what are the biggest challenges when setting and marking homework?
6. What would make the website easier to navigate for you?
7. Anything you would like to add that wasn’t included in the questionnaire?

I asked the student group the following questions:

1. What resources do you currently use for your physics homework?
2. What are some good features of the current resources that you use?
3. What are some bad features of the current resources that you use?
4. If a new homework website was made, what would you like to see included in it?
5. What would make the website easier to navigate for you?
6. How can the website motivate you to do your homework?
7. Anything you would like to add that wasn’t included in the questionnaire?

1.3.2 Stakeholder Interview

{ADD TEACHER INTERVIEW HERE WHEN DONE}

My first student stakeholder interview was with a student called Ali. He currently does Computer Science, Maths and Physics at A-Level. His responses were as follows:

What resources do you currently use for your physics homework?

“I currently use Isaac Physics and Carousel Learning for my homework”

What are some good features of the current resources that you use?

“I really like that there is a menu that allows you to review new and completed assignments. I also really like that there are hint options for when I am struggling with a question”

What are some bad features of the current resources that you use?

“One thing I dislike about Carousel Learning is that if I accidently go to the next question, I can’t go back to the previous question. I also really dislike that I can’t do theory questions on Isaac and calculations on Carousel which makes it really inconvenient to do my homework. Another thing I dislike about my current resources is that I don’t get notifications when new homework is set.”

If a new homework website was made, what would you like to see included in it?

“I would really like to see a feature that show how much progress I am making on my homework and how much progress I am making overall.”

What would make the website easier to navigate for you?

“My current resources have a bunch of useless stuff on the screen which makes it hard to navigate so I think a clean UI and design would make the website easier to navigate for me.”

How can the website motivate you to do your homework?

“A point reward system or a praise system when I get a question right and also a class leaderboard to see where I am compared to my classmates”

Anything you would like to add that wasn’t included in the questionnaire?

“No”

My next student stakeholder interview was with a student called Jahin. He is studying Physics, Computer Science and Further Maths. His responses were as follows:

What resources do you currently use for your physics homework?

“I use past papers, Isaac Physics and Carousel Learning”

What are some good features of the current resources that you use?

“They let me work at my own pace, there’s no timers that rush me and stress me out”

What are some bad features of the current resources that you use?

“Some resources don’t have hints on how to solve questions I am stuck on”

If a new homework website was made, what would you like to see included in it?

“An option for hints for when I am stuck on a hard question”

What would make the website easier to navigate for you?

“A simple UI with no over-the-top styling”

How can the website motivate you to do your homework?

“Maybe a leaderboard comparing you against classmates”

Anything you would like to add that wasn’t included in the questionnaire?

“I would like to see that the app has a low bandwidth usage because the Wi-Fi in some places is really bad”

1.3.3 Stakeholder Conclusion

## 1.4 Research of solutions for similar problems

1.4.1 S**imilar existing solutions**

Seneca Learning

How does it work?

A screenshot of a video game

Description automatically generatedOne similar solution to my problem that I found is a website called Seneca Learning. This website has pre-made modules for many subjects and exam boards. The layout for homework does not allow students to do calculations. When completing a homework on Seneca Learning, the answer is given to you as an explanation and you are then given a question to answer (usually a complete the sentence question). This is website would be really good for students at the GCSE level but for A-Level students it would not be useful.

What components and features can be borrowed?

Seneca learning has many features that are very useful for a student to have. It has a class system that allows for teachers to create their own classes and then set homework for all the students in those classes. This feature will be borrowed because it will make it easy for teachers to set homework for their classes and it would allow teachers to group their students in their respective classes.

One feature that I find to be a bad feature, is the ability for a student to create their own account. I think this is bad because, when students are signing up, they can choose if they are a student, teacher or parent. Having access to this feature means that a person with malicious intentions can create multiple teacher accounts and cause a big problem in a school system. Due to this, for my solution, I will only allow teacher to create student accounts and then having the system send the student an email with their details.

Physics & Maths Tutor

How does it work?

This solution does not help my problem but it is a good example to use. How this solution works is that it allows a student to choose a subject, exam board and topic and then do past papers and questions on that topic. It doesn’t allow for any answers to be entered as it only gives the student access to pdf files which they can print out and write on.

What components and features can be borrowed?

I think the only feature that I can borrow from this website is the ability to choose exam boards. When incorporating this feature in my solution, I will allow the teacher to pick what exam board an assignment would go under when setting a homework assignment. I will be borrowing this feature because, if the students know what exam board a question is from, they can see how an answer is structured in that specific exam board and they can see what structure they would need in the exam.

## 1.5 Hardware and software requirements

Specific

Measurable

Achievable

Realistic

Time-bound

Hardware

Software

## 1.6 The requirements of the solution

## 1.7 Features of the solution

## 1.8 Success Criteria

## 1.9 Limitations of the solution