Group Reflection

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| **Group Reflection**  **7.5 Marks** | **7.5-6 Marks**  You have reflected and discussed what worked well in your group. You have elaborated on what could be improved and how. You have included at least one surprising thing for each team member. You have deeply discussed one thing you have learned about group work.  Contributions have been noted clearly with commentary. |

Group Reflection

Evidence you may have about the groups processes:

We have evidence of our group communication over MS Teams and Trello, where we have consistently kept in touch while working on tasks. The Tools section of this document contains an invite link to our MS Teams Team, as well as our MS Teams meeting evidence. Further information can be found in the MS Teams Info PDF “Group2-MS.PDF” submitted along with this document.

We also used Trello to break down the assignment into more manageable “cards”, which were then assigned to team members, where we could then provide updates on our progress, and move them to another “stack” once completed.

To view all our Trello data please join our Trello Board at <https://trello.com/invite/b/63b0a29a7d31fd04d45b041d/ATTI4b36907d71e02e8ed9b4d09d82719fa1CC0E3036/Intro%20to%20IT%20>

We have also used our Student Email (Outlook) and Collaborate Ultra (on Canvas) when corresponding with facilitators. The emails were relating to resolving an issue with an unresponsive team member, and the Collaborate Ultra sessions were in our weekly tutorial sessions where we discussed our progress and issues with Umera each week. All course facilitators were included on the emails, and the Collaborate Ultra sessions can be viewed via Canvas as evidence.

What went well?

Our team is made up of a good diversity of skills and aptitudes. When comparing our Myers-Briggs results from A1 it is apparent that there is also a range of personality types. This has worked in our favour to provide a good balance of different strengths and experience.

Good communication and transparency with team members has also served us well. Each team member has been contributing and actioning tasks, while being accountable for their assigned work. Lachie’s leadership of our group has also helped – regularly being in touch, being approachable, and reliable.

We feel that our group handled the issue of an unresponsive and non-contributing team member well. It was a difficult situation, but our team was cohesive and overcame it.

What could be improved?

Our team agrees that developing our technical skills would be beneficial. Being more structured at the beginning of the assignment while delegating tasks will also help. More structure would also help while keeping a task list up-to-date so it’s easier to see what is still outstanding.

Our GitHub audit trail doesn’t reflect our group’s work very well, as team members have been learning how to use it over the course of this assignment. It would be good to have a heavier GitHub audit trail, and use Git in more advanced ways (e.g., multiple branches).

Having set expectations of communication, regular contributions (i.e. Git Commits), and attendance of meetings – this would assist with identifying any potential repeat of our previous issue of an unresponsive team member.

Over the course of this assignment we have each reviewed other members’ work, and this hasn’t always been in a uniform way. We have now agreed as a group to using the Comments function when suggesting changes to Word documents.

At least one thing that was surprising

Lachie - I’ve been surprised by the fact that each of the remaining team members have jumped into every part of the assignment – writing, editing, and web design.

Ida - The functionality of the website has exceeded my expectations. We have all learnt more about HTML, CSS, and JavaScript throughout this assignment – which has resulted in an impressive website.

Alex – The fact that the group has worked so well while spread across different timezones has surprised me. The team members have all been mindful of each other’s availability when scheduling meetings.

Ash – I have been surprised by how well our team has worked together. Each of the team members have been friendly, approachable, and willing to help each other.

Chris – The most surprising thing for me was that a group member would suddenly stop communicating with us, and not contribute. I had not even contemplated the possibility of that happening. Luckily we were able to work through it as a team.

At least one thing that you have learned about groups

Despite the majority of members being introverted, the team still operated effectively. We learned technical skills from other group members (e.g., GitHub, HTML, CSS, JavaScript) and how to implement a team project in an IT environment. We learned how to work as a global team, communicating asynchronously and in regular meetings to keep on track. We’ve also learned how to make meaningful and frequent Git Commits to reflect what we’ve done in a more visible and trackable manner.

Individual reflection (~200 words each member about your perception of the group)

Lachie:

Working as a group is both advantageous, and difficult at the same time. While at first glance, it may seem that multiple people would always result in multiple times the productivity, this is not always the case. Throughout this task, every member of the group has added something valuable, while increasing the overall complexity of workflow. As the group leader, more members meant more hands for any given task. At the same time, there was a lot more organisational work to be done, than what would be required for a group of three members or less. I learned how critical it can be to track the tasks and progress of many group members, so that no single element of the task falls too far behind. I also learned how valuable it can be to work with a wide range of people, especially when you find all of their strengths and weaknesses, and plan accordingly. This group task has been a great learning experience.

Ida:

Alex:

Chris:

To be honest, I was a bit apprehensive going into a group assignment, but I have ended up unexpectedly enjoying the process. Our group works quite well – the communication is good, and all (remaining) team members are engaged and want to do well. We are all willing to help each other which I feel helps the team be cohesive. I also like that every team member is genuinely friendly and approachable, without any arrogance or overconfidence. I have learnt a lot about how our group works well, and our individual strengths and weaknesses in an IT group environment. I felt we handled the issue of having a team member become unresponsive quite well – it ended up only bringing us more together. I’m looking forward to going into the next group assignment together and seeing how much more we grow together. I feel I am in a great team for my personality type – the team all make me feel comfortable to raise any concerns. I believe I will develop a lot of my skillset during our time together as a group, e.g., technical skills, communication, self-confidence in a team environment.

Ash:

Team work is not very new to me I have worked in team all my life but there I worked mostly with my colleagues and known people. This was a surprise group and obviously surprised me as everyone was very new to each other. We came to start knowing each other very well so quickly. We were lucky to have such a diverse team as everyone is having different skill sets and different age group. Got a first hand experience to work with a team where members were even in different parts of the world and from different time zone. This assignment has given us an oppertunity to know each more and whenever I ran into some issues my team members were there to help me in everypossible way. We have done very well as a team and will be able to achieve more in the coming assignments. I should be thankful that i am part of such a great team who knows how to handle issues very well and make every member included to contribute their best to achieve team goals.