Mahmoud: All right, let’s get started. This is an interview for our User Interface Design class (UI 5115). We’ve designed a prototype of a food-recommendation app, and today you’ll be testing how the design works in real-world tasks. After you explore it, I’ll give you specific tasks to complete. Please think out loud as you go.

Ana: Great, I’m a junior studying nutrition, and I’m excited to try out the prototype.

**[Mahmoud shows the “What’s Cooking? Good Looking” home screen on his laptop, simulating a touchscreen device.]**

Ana: I really like the title—“What’s Cooking? Good Looking.” That’s funny.

Mahmoud: Feel free to poke around and comment on what you see.

Ana: Okay… I see different cuisines listed. Hmm—“Mexican” with a taco icon. I love tacos… especially Chipotle.

Ana: (tapping) Not everything is fully functional in this prototype, but I see Chipotle here with 227 Mexican-food reviews and a burrito image.

Mahmoud: Good—this app’s main purpose is to help you discover new restaurants based on your dietary preferences. You can set restrictions (like allergies) and taste preferences (like “love meat” or “love Middle Eastern”) so your recommendations update accordingly.

Ana: Oh, neat.

Mahmoud: Let’s start with Task 1. It’s your first time using the app, and you’re concerned about privacy. Please go to your account settings and check that everything matches your preferences—no tracking, no unwanted notifications.

Ana: Sure… (navigates) I’d click the profile icon… then “Settings.” Here’s “Privacy” and “Notifications.” I can toggle off tracking and notifications. That was easy.

Mahmoud: Intuitive and easy—great.

Mahmoud: Task 2: You’ve just started a vegetarian diet and have peanut and gluten allergies. Adjust your personalization settings accordingly.

Ana: Okay, back to “Settings” → “Dietary Preferences.” I’ll select “Vegetarian,” then under “Allergies” I’ll check “Peanut” and “Gluten.” Save changes. Done.

Mahmoud: Now, when you go to the Discover page, you should only see restaurants that match those requirements.

Ana: Let me check… Yup, only veggie-friendly spots with no peanuts or gluten. Works well.

Mahmoud: Task 3: You and your friends agree you want Chinese food tonight. On the Discover page, find a Chinese restaurant.

Ana: (on Discover) I’ll filter by “Cuisine.” Select “Chinese”… There—“Express Chinese Kitchen.” I can see the address and rating. Perfect.

Mahmoud: In the final app you’d also be able to swipe left on places you don’t want until you find one you like.

Ana: That would be cool—just like dating apps.

Mahmoud: Before Task 4, is there anything you think you should be able to do but can’t right now?

Ana: I don’t see any way to share the app with friends—like sending them an invite or referral code.

Mahmoud: Good point—that’s not in the prototype yet but would be easy to add.

Mahmoud: Task 4: “Skyway Walk,” a Chinese restaurant on your Picks list, had a recent food‐safety issue and you want to remove it from your list. Please do that.

Ana: (opens Picks) There it is—“Skyway Walk.” I’ll tap “Remove from Picks.” Gone. Very intuitive.

Mahmoud: A quick question: what do you think of the color coding—green, red, yellow—for different cuisines?

Ana: Hmm… I’d guess green for Mediterranean or vegetarian, red for Chinese, yellow for Mexican. Once you point it out, it makes sense, but it wasn’t immediately obvious.

Mahmoud: Good feedback—we’ll work on making those colors more intuitive.

Mahmoud: Task 5: Open your “Explored” and “Ignored” lists to review restaurants you’ve visited or hidden. Then go to your “Collections” and pick a Mexican restaurant to go to today.

Ana: (scrolls) I see “Explored”—places I’ve tried—and “Ignored.” Now “Collections”… Oh, there’s “Mexican Favorites.” Let me choose “Tacos Locos.” That one looks good.

Mahmoud: Perfect. How was scrolling through those lists—any confusion?

Ana: Just that they were all expanded by default, which made me scroll a lot. Maybe collapse them initially so it’s less overwhelming.

Mahmoud: You’ve completed all five tasks. Any final thoughts on the homepage or overall design?

Ana: I like it a lot. Maybe a slightly bolder font on the homepage would make it pop more. And definitely location tracking in Settings so it shows nearby restaurants automatically.

Mahmoud: Great suggestions—thank you!

Ana: No problem—hope it becomes a real app soon!

Mahmoud: Thanks for your time and feedback. That concludes our interview.