# Section 2 – Design

## Part (A) – Methods, Variables, Classes & Parameters

### Methods

Due to the nature of my project (A website), while there are still a few helper functions, the majority of the code is in the form of method like segments separated by HTML content. For this reason, I will treat relevant segments similar to anonymous (lambda) functions and include these in my method table along with the functions in the helper classes.

Method tables

*Note: All method tables subject to change*

*Note: Only page with methods have a method table*

index.php

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Parameters | Purpose | Output/Return | Possible error output |
| anon | None | Log user’s IP Address, time and date into the database | None | Connection error message  MySQLi error message |

connect.php

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Parameters | Purpose | Output/Return | Possible error output |
| connect | None | Reads database access tokens from server HDD and connects to the database using said access tokens | MySQLi database connection object | Connection error message  MySQLi error message |

downloadsearchq.php

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Parameters | Purpose | Output/Return | Possible error output |
| anon | q (POST from prev page) | Uses MySQLi LIKE clause to query the database for questions where the query POSTed to the page (q) is either in the title or question body. The returned questions are then outputted in a format where searchq.php can output them. | Title, id and number of votes from matching questions returned from the database | Connection error message  MySQLi error message |

question.php AT TIME OF WRITING I HAVE NO IDEA WHY SetCookies EXISTS AND WHAT ITS PURPOSE IS

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Parameters | Purpose | Output/Return | Possible error output |
| SetCookies | None | Store the current question id in a cookie called “current\_qid” and store a Boolean value in a cookie called “logged\_in” depending on if the user is logged in or not. Also creates a cookie called “current\_username” and sets it to the user’s username if the user is logged in.  However, if no question id is specified in the URL, redirect the user to error.php specifying the error URL parameter as noquestionid. | No output, but can create and set cookies and redirect the user to the error page. | Connection error message  MySQLi error message |
| Anon | None | Queries the database for the question with id specified in the URL parameter “id”. Stores the relevant data from the result in the database | No output, but creates 5 variables and stores data fetched from the database in them. | Connection error message  MySQLi error message |
| Anon | None | Creates an array of lines in the question by using the build in method explode with the parameters “\n” and $qContent.  Split the newly created array using the SplitLines function from questionFuncs.php.  Iterates through the lines in the $questionArray array using a for loop  Checks to see if the index of the iteration is in the $splitArray[0] array. If it is, output the value stored in $questionArray[$i] where $i is the current iteration.  If it isn’t, check if the index of the ireratopm is in the $splitArray[1] array. IF it is, create a variable called line and make it equal to the value stored in $questionArray[$i] stripped of starting and trailing whitespaces where $i is the current iteration of the loop. Whitespaces are removed using the building method trim().  Check if the length of the line is more than three and the first three characters of the line are equal to “```”. The length of the line is given by the build in method strlen() and a substring of the first three characters is given by the build in method substr(). If these conditions are both true, then that start of a code block must have been detected. Calls StartCodeBlock() function from questionFuncs.php  If the above condition is not true, and the lengh of the line (given by the built in method strlen()) is equal to 3 and the first three characters of the line (given by the built in method substr()) is equal to “```”, the end of a code block must have been detected, and the EndCodeBlock() function from questionFuncs.php is called.  If neither of these conditions are met, then the current line must be code that needs formatting using the code block markdown. This is handled by simply outputting the line, but first any “special characters” (characters that have significance in HTML) need to be converted to HTML entities, to prevent the browser interpreting the < symbol as the start of an HTML tag. This conversion is done using the built in method htmlspecialchars(). | Outputs text formatted as code using a primitive code markdown parser I wrote. | None |

questionFuncs.php

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Parameters | Purpose | Output/Return | Possible error output |
| UsrVoted | $id, $qID, $connection |  |  |  |