

Criterion A: Planning

Defining the Problem

As an environmentalist, I think that it is important to decrease the amount of waste humans produce. When I became the leader of my school's announcements team last year, I soon realized that the announcement submission system at my school is physically inefficient (physical sheets are carried to the main office) and wasteful (each announcement made uses and wastes half a sheet of paper).

When I heard about the internal assessment on CS, I was immediately reminded of this problem; after some thought, I thought that developing a java-based announcement submission program would help to digitalize the current system (which is more efficient and less wasteful).

I asked my computer Science teacher about my idea, and she approved it. I then decided to interview Ms. L, the supervisor of the announcements team, for inspirations and suggestions.

At the interview, Ms. L told me that she would need to have control of the system as well, and that this could also restrict the lengths of certain announcements. As both someone who sends announcements and is in charge of the announcements team, she suggested that the sender of the announcement should also be recorded when the announcement is sent. Since the application will allow her to manage and send the announcements easier, she is my project client and supervisor.

Rationale for the proposed product

My application will have simple functions (e.g., editing, formatting) that will allow my client (and other potential clients) to send announcements virtually and also manage the system.

I decided to use Java because:

- I learned it at school (familiar with the language)
- It is platform-independent and multi-threaded
- It has runtime check to encourage error-free programming
- Creating an interactive interface is rather simple in Java
- It is object oriented, which allows the reuse of code and the building of a clear structure

Criteria for Success

- Store and use login information (ID and password) for account verification
- Edit and save announcements
- Send announcements via email
- Store and display past announcements sent from this user
- Order the announcements in a specific order for the announcements team members

- Limit the length of the announcements read every morning (to shorten the overall announcement length)
- Give the administrator access to the other users' login information

Word Count: 217 + 82 + 65 = 364