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Spreadsheet Methods Project

B20028

The Project

Attached is a Lotto Syndicate document generated using the ability of a spreadsheet to produce tidy grids and attractive presented documents *etc*.

However, there is no facility for automatic calculations in this sheet. All operations using this document are carried out manually. Your task is to convert this manual system to an automatic one.

The spreadsheet should be re-designed and functions added to enable automatic calculations to be performed. At a minimum you should enable:

- Calculation of the value of each persons share in the Syndicate
- Whether the Syndicate is in overall positive or negative equity
- The calculation of each persons contribution to the Syndicate
- 2 other useful functions

Follow the guidelines below for best results, referring to the module descriptor as required.

Project Guidelines

The project consists of three main sections, which in turn can be broken down into sub-sections:

1 Design (40%)

> Overview

Environment

One paragraph that gives some details about where the spreadsheet will be used, *e.g.* whether it's a household budget, a stock control or payroll spreadsheet *etc.* Make up name for the people, company family *etc* here.

Purpose

Briefly mention what the spreadsheet is expected to do listing any significant features.

Aims

Have clearly identifiable aims. Make it clear what the spreadsheet will do.

Benefits

Briefly list the expected benefits that will accrue from using this spreadsheet, e.g. assisting with making decisions, better presentation of data, faster calculations etc.

Methodology

List the steps you intend to take, such as generating sample data, designing the layout of the spreadsheet, creating formulae.

> Planning

Data

Explain what sort of data you expect to have to deal with, where it would normally come from, how it gets recorded and how and when it gets transferred to the spreadsheet.

Processing

Explain what will happen to the data in the spreadsheet when it is entered. Explain in English what one of each formula should do, then list one of each of the formulas in

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Excel format. There is no benefit in listing every individual formula if many of them are similar to each other.

Presentation

Document what sort of formatting you intend to use, indicating whether you'll use colour and if so for what purpose. List what numeric formats will be used and why. List anything (relevant) to the appearance of the sheet.

Layout

Make a hand-sketch of the expected layout and scan and include this. The sketch should be done before the implementation; as it is part of the design mistakes are actually expected. It will help to make the sketch before doing the Processing section above as you can then go through each of the columns and rows listing the formulae required.

2 Implementation (50%)

➤ Completed spreadsheet

Create the spreadsheet in accordance with the design and print it out.

➤ Modified spreadsheet

Change some of the values in the spreadsheet so that the formulas will recalculate; print this out to prove that you have used formulas and that they work.

> Printout of formulae

Print the spreadsheet showing the formulas. This is done via the menu bar. Choose Tools/Options/View/General. Note that columns may have to be adjusted to make longer formulae fully visible.

3 Modifications/Review (10%)

Modifications and improvements

Suggest any suitable modifications and improvements that could be made to the spreadsheet. Note that you are not actually required to carry them out – just suggest them. That being said, if some of the improvements are minor you could implement them and include a copy of the changed spreadsheet.

NOTES:

- The whole project should be covered by a 'My Own Work' form.
- The whole project should be stapled top left, and punched for inclusion in an A4 folder.
- Page numbering is preferred this may need to be overprinted manually.
- Each section should be preceded by a simple section page stating 1. Design, 2. Implementation *etc*
- The project text should be standard formatted as appropriate. Marks may be lost otherwise.
- The Design Overview section should *not* exceed 1 A4 page.
- The Design Overview and Planning sections should be so labelled at the top of their pages.
- The Design Planning stage is not limited in length and can be as long as required to correctly specify the intention for the project.
- Each of the printouts in the Implementation phase should be marked to indicate which is which.
- Ensure you have some form of IF statement in your project. If you have a LOOKUP formula you won't be required to use an IF.
- No handwriting of any form (except in the scanned design, and 'My Own Work' signature) should be on any page.
- Submission is by paper in the submission box in Room 15.

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To simplify accounting only a full line (€30) may be paid for at a time. If you have not paid in advance you will not benefit afterwards.