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CART 351

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Project 2: This or That

The goal for this project was to create an interactive experience combined with a data visualizer to display information stored server side to the user client side. I was creatively inspired by various short YouTube clips of people asking quick-fire questions, for example pineapple on pizza or no pineapple on pizza and the receiver of the question providing their response. In this variation of it, I decided to do a similar concept, however, I wanted to ask more generalized questions and more popular debate topics, such as the old cats vs dogs debate to get other people's general verdict. I also wanted to display the user's results in a visually pleasing way, by using a bar to measure the results that is clear and obvious to the user. Upon the corresponding button being clicked, thus confirming the user's vote, it sends a fetch request to Flask and stores it using POST. The information stored by Flask is then sent back using fetch and visually displays it into a bar.

During my project, I had some structural and technical issues. At first it wouldn't read my JavaScript file upon initializing the page and afterwards had some issues with Flask sending the results to the json file. For some of these issues, like the JavaScript issue, I was able to find a fix myself, but for the issue I had with Flask I had attempted to consult various sources to find a hot fix for these problems, however, I had to consult ChatGPT since I wasn't receiving any constructive solutions from the web. Despite my reluctance it enabled me to get some quick fixes that helped to advance the project. It told me that my scriptblock in my HTML was placed in the wrong place and I had a few errors within my JavaScript code that it fixed for me. Most of the workflow otherwise was smooth sailing and I didn't have any other significant issues.

At first I thought that I would have a difficult time with the project. I had some creative blocks and didn't really have a set direction to aim towards. I then found inspiration through finding the YouTube clips which gave me the platform to progress. I didn't really have any huge artistic expectations for this project, since I just wanted to focus on the technical aspects of the project and getting everything to work properly. I wanted to keep this project as simplistic as I could, and I believed that this was achieved. I wanted to use colours that I never normally use, such as warm colours, and it proved to look more modern than I thought it would look like. At this point I was quite satisfied with the look and how everything all turned out in the end, despite the minor setbacks and issues that I had in the beginning and the bugs that I was getting annoyed at. I am fairly content with the overall outcome and feel quite accomplished with my first Flask project.

REFERENCES:

ChatGPT (GPT-5, OpenAI): Used for solving bug fixes and syntax errors

Prompts:

- I've changed a question from Red or Blue to Pepperoni or Cheese and changed everything related to red or blue out in the code. It seems to have screwed up my code and when I click the button it gives me an error in the console saying POST 500 (INTERNAL SERVER ERROR) and a syntax error for submitting vote, whats the fix?
- It works now but the votes are not updating on the json file