A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated

# Project Exam 1

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848 words

## Design

### **What went well on the project**

The design of the website turned out to be visually appealing and engaging. The overall feedback on the final testing was that the design was aesthetically pleasing, colour was pretty, and the site was logical and user friendly. The use of responsive design ensured that the website looked great on various devices, providing a seamless user experience.

### **What was difficult/didn’t go well on the project**

One of the challenges faced was maintaining consistency across different screen sizes and ensuring that all design elements were properly aligned. Additionally, achieving the perfect balance between aesthetics and functionality proved to be tricky at times. A mobile friendly alternative to the carousel on the home page was one of the issues I used some time to decide on what approach I should use.

### **What would you do differently next time**

I made the design before I had any of the content/pictures, which made me decide to change the colour scheme midway to match the hero picture and making the site come more together. When working with a company site a branding/colour scheme mood board would be the first thing I do. And in this blog site I didn’t have a complete picture of the site before I started just a general sketch, so next time I would maybe do more planning on the content. Additionally, conducting more usability testing early on would help identify and address potential issues.

## Technical

### **What went well on the project**

The technical implementation of the website was largely successful. The integration with the WordPress API allowed for dynamic content management, and the use of modern JavaScript frameworks improved performance and interactivity. The list of blogpost with the "Load More" functionality and carousel works well, and all the validation for the contact form is working as they should.

### **What was difficult/didn’t go well on the project**

One of the technical challenges was handling pagination and ensuring that all posts were fetched correctly from the API. In my earlier attempts the function would only fetch 10 posts from the API, which I had to fix by rewriting the function to handles pagination by fetching posts page by page until all pages are fetched. Debugging and optimizing the code to achieve the desired functionality took more time than anticipated, In some instances the issues I was having was because I was calling a function multiple times which I had some problem figuring out.

The phone menu was also crating some issues. When adding some new element to the page It seemed to stop displaying properly and not handling as it should. By moving the #navMobile <div> outside of <nav> and changing (x.style.display = "block") to (x.style.display = "flex") I got a solution that seems to be working properly.

### **What would you do differently next time**

Next time, I would prioritize implementing and testing key functionalities, such as pagination and dynamic content loading, early in the project. This would allow more time to address any issues that arise. Additionally, using automated testing tools could help ensure cross-browser compatibility and reduce debugging time.

## WCAG guidelines, content management and SEO

### **What went well on the project**

I felt I did a good job following the best practises for SEO and WCAG guidelines. I added alt texts too all the pictures and made sure each page had a structure of H1, H2 and H3 headings. I have a better understanding of Github, Netifly, WordPress and all the tools for content management. Which made it easy to deploy and update the site.

### **What was difficult/didn’t go well on the project**

Ensuring full compliance with WCAG guidelines was challenging, especially when balancing accessibility with design and functionality. I also feel like I could improve the content fetched from API. I did not priorities SEO when making posts and adding content in WordPress. The pictures could have been optimized. I would also have liked to improve the function fetching all the information about all content from the WordPress post improving alt text.

The main issue I was having is how I handle updating the code. I realize I need to use branches for deploying bug fixes and issues, always having a “working” code. In several cases I made some changes to the code or script that in testing it properly It showed to have made issues to other part of the site. In using a branch for development/testing I would save some issues with the site being down, while analysing the issue.

### **What would you do differently next time**

Next time, I would prioritize accessibility from the beginning and conduct regular accessibility audits throughout the project. I realized doing an accessibility test when the site was finalized that I had forgotten labels on certain links and button, which I had to fix to make the site more accessible. I also realized that the carousel on the home page was not accessible when browsing through the page using the tab. Something I could have looked into if I had done regular accessibility audits early on.

## References

* <https://www.w3schools.com/>
* <https://wave.webaim.org/>
* <https://developer.wordpress.org/rest-api/reference/>
* <https://stackoverflow.com/>
* <https://www.accessibilitychecker.org/>