Oliver Roe, Personal Report

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with my group during the development of our project and feel that we worked very well as a team. Though we did not complete the task to its full extent, we stayed co-operative and well-spirited even in the darkest of hours.

With strong leadership from Chris and his deputy Ed, we succeeded in completing all of the deliverables asked for prior to implementation and testing week before each of their respective deadlines and with high standards.

Chris was strong, motivated and organised throughout the development of our project. He led the team very well through thick and thin and was always available to be asked questions about anything regarding the project. He didn’t make snap judgements; Chris discussed every decision with at least one other member of the group (preferably one relevant to the subject) and pulled conclusions from those discussions. He was a hard taskmaster, enforcing regular meetings with every member of the group to make sure we were all always working on the same page. In my opinion Chris did a very good job leading this project especially considering that he lost a lot of time over Christmas and in Implementation and Testing week due to illness.

Ed was a brilliant deputy to Chris, supporting him throughout the project’s development and filling in for him when he was not able to attend meetings etc. Ed made sure that everyone worked at a reasonable pace and kept a close eye on their working hours ensuring no one was over (or under) worked. He also helped out a lot with the documentation and produced various diagrams and our Gantt charts.

Our coders (Jacob, Rich and Ivan) chose to work on the parts of the project which they felt suited them best.

Jacob took on the back-end for the program which, in hindsight, was probably too big a workload for only one group member to handle even though he was able to complete fully functioning and well laid out code before his allotted deadline. Even after he had finished his part of the project, he was always on hand to help the other coders, explain anything regarding his code and help the testers create appropriate tests for his part of the code.

Rich wrote the HTML/CSS needed for the pages of our website as well as some JavaScript which was used for validation. He kept to the designs we had made in the design specification well, only making any unplanned changes after speaking to necessary group members. The look and feel of our game was solely down to him and they have turned out excellently.

Ivan took on the mammoth task of writing the servlets needed to make our back-end and front-end work together to make the game work how we wanted it. In hindsight, this may have been too big a task to assign to one person as, even though Ivan put a lot of work into completing the servlets on time and in a working state, he was not able to complete everything before the deadline. In my opinion it is through no fault of his own that he was unable to complete his work and maybe he would have been able to complete his work if we (the managers, Chris and I) had assigned him a smaller task.

Kit was the main tester and produced all of the test documents needed to outline any tests for the program. She helped write the J-unit tests for Jacob’s back-end, testing any that he had made previously against the requirements specification and making new ones where they were needed. She also produced any tests needed for the front-end and servlets respectively and made sure that they were carried out in a correct and professional way. When she had nothing to do she also helped the coders out with any coding that needed doing.

Sam was a brilliant deputy quality assurance manager. He assisted me throughout development, producing the first drafts of all documents and taking minutes for every meeting, writing up and distributing them accordingly. Sam was also a diligent documenter, producing new documents whilst ensuring that they were kept to any documentation standards. He worked together with Ed and I to create most of the documents needed for the project.

I was the quality assurance manager for the group and I took pride in ensuring that every document, piece of code or test was as close to what was stated in the requirements specification as possible and all the while made sure that any quality standards were kept to where possible. I always had the last read of any document (along with the leader, Chris) and made sure that any document could only be submitted after I had approved it. I kept a close eye on every member of the group, monitoring things such as their productivity, resourcefulness and general attitude throughout development. I always tried to keep everyone working on their appropriate ‘tracks’ and tried to pull things back to the correct direction when anyone attention swayed. I have learned a lot from this project and feel that I have improved mostly in my teamwork, communication and time management skills. I feel that the group as a whole made great effort throughout the development of the project and helped to maintain brilliant group morale even when things were not going as planned.