

Requirements

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1.1 Requirements Elicitation

The requirements presented in this document have been elicited and negotiated through a collaborative process involving the customer and the members of the development team.

In order to ensure that our game meets the needs of the client, we took an iterative approach to requirement elicitation in which the team held a weekly meeting to discuss and document existing and changing requirements. As the project progressed, we adapted the priority of certain requirements to guarantee that our deliverable meets the expectations of the stakeholder.

Alongside these regular discussions, we consulted the client - both in arranged interviews and weekly practical sessions - to determine their specific requirements and personal preferences for design and implementation choices.

From these sessions we developed our Single Statement of Need (SSON): a clear, concise statement that details the overall goal of the system. It is presented in section 2.1 of this document.

We explored and expanded on this statement to determine our user requirements. Some of these requirements, such as UR_TIME_SCALE and UR_PLAYER_SCORE were elicited from both our own research and discussions with the client. Negotiation played a crucial role in determining the priority of each requirement. By engaging the client in an open discussion about constraints and conditions of each user requirement, we were able to define exact scales, values and priorities.

Each user requirement was then broken down into a series of related functional system requirements, presented in the tables below. These describe the functions that the system must perform in order to meet the user requirements. The third set of requirements are non-functional, defining the necessary characteristics of the system and providing measurable criteria for assessing their attainment.

1.2 Requirements Presentation

The Single Statement of Need (SSON) for our project is presented first in section 2.1 of this document.

We have chosen to utilise three tables (2.2-2.4) for the presentation of our elicited requirements. This approach to requirements specification and presentation incorporates distinct and meaningful identifiers that denote the type of requirement (UR for user requirement, FR for functional requirement and NFR for non-functional requirement) along with a keyword indicating the relevant domain. The tables also include supplementary details about each requirement, such as its designated priority, or dependency on other requirements.

Throughout the project, we have consistently updated the requirements tables with new concepts that emerged from client and group meetings. In instances where an entry has been surpassed by a new requirement, the original entry is labelled “_SUPERCEDED” to indicate that subsequently introduced requirements with the same name have a higher priority.

2.1 Single Statement of Need

“Develop an educational but entertaining single-player survival game that simulates the experience of a second-year computer science student navigating the final week before their exams begin, emphasising the importance of time management and well-being.”

2.2. User Requirements

ID	Description	Priority
UR_MOVEMENT	The player is able to move the avatar around a 2D map.	Shall
UR_INTERACTION	The player is able to make the avatar interact with buildings.	Shall
UR_INTERFACE	The interface of the game is simple and displays all the necessary information clearly.	Shall
UR_GRAPHICS	Have graphics showing core functionality of the game and look good	Shall
UR_ENERGY	The player is able to track and see their energy/condition	Should
UR_STUDYING	There is a building that the avatar can interact with to study.	Shall
UR_RECREATION	There <i>are three places</i> that the avatar can interact with to recreate.	Shall
UR_SLEEPING	There is a building that the avatar can interact with to sleep.	Shall
UR_EATING	There is a building that the avatar can interact with to eat.	Shall
UR_CONTROLS	The game's controls are intuitive and are clearly presented to the player.	Shall
UR_ACCESSIBILITY	The game is for new players, so it is easy to understand and play with no prior experience.	Shall
UR_OBJECTIVE	The objective of the game is presented clearly in a starting screen.	Should
UR_GAME_LENGTH	The game takes approximately 5-6 minutes to play.	Should
UR_GAME_OVER	A 'game over' screen is displayed if the player performs poorly.	Should
UR_PLAYER_SCORE	The player's score is displayed as a mark out of 100 with a pass/fail result. A score of 45 marks or more is a pass.	Should
UR_STREAKS	At least three events must give bonus score and a hidden achievement when completed multiple days the week	Shall
UR_SCORE_LEADERBOARD	A leaderboard is displayed at the end of the game with the top 10 highest scoring players	Shall
UR_ACHIEVEMENTS	Hidden achievements related to streaks are displayed on the game ending screen	Shall
UR_MAP_DESIGN	The map is a simplified version of the campus with space between each building.	Should
UR_CAMPUS_BUILDINGS	It is obvious which activity can be completed in each building.	Should

UR_TIME_SCALE	<i>One minute of real time is equal to one day in-game.</i>	<i>Should</i>
UR_BACKSTORY	<i>Information about the context of the game is presented briefly to the player at the start of the game.</i>	<i>Could</i>
UR_CHARACTER	<i>The player is able to change the look of their avatar at the start of the game.</i>	<i>Could</i>
UR_ANIMATIONS	To have animations attached to each interactable object in the game	Should
UR_TIME_SKIP	<i>The time will skip when the player proceeds to an activity.</i>	<i>Could</i>
UR_TIME_SKIP_ANIMATIONS	<i>A short graphic or animation is displayed when the user is performing an activity.</i>	<i>Could</i>
UR_DAY_NIGHT_CYCLE	Have a visible day and night cycle throughout all days in the game	Could
UR_MUSIC	<i>Music is relaxed and creates a study environment.</i>	<i>Could</i>
UR_SOUND_EFFECTS	Appropriate sound effects are played when in interaction scenarios	Could
UR_ENDING	<i>A positive and constructive message is displayed at the end of the game, regardless of the player's score.</i>	<i>Could</i>
UR_STUDY_GAME	<i>A quick and fun mini game for the user to feel like they are doing a task when studying in the game.</i>	<i>Could</i>
UR_PLATFORM	The player is able to play the game without their OS being a constraint	Should
UR_MINI_GAMES	Create other fun mini games for the other buildings and activities	Could

2.3. Functional Software Requirements

ID	Description	User Requirements
FR_START_GAME	<i>When the game is first opened, the player is presented with a screen detailing the objective, controls and context. The player can press a START GAME button that begins the game.</i>	UR_OBJECTIVE UR_CONTROLS UR_BACKSTORY
FR_FULLSCREEN	<i>The game has a full-screen display on any window size.</i>	UR_INTERFACE
FR_START_SCREEN	<i>The starting screen has options to view the controls, adjust settings, or start the game.</i>	UR_INTERFACE
FR_SETTINGS_SCREEN	<i>The settings screen allows the user to adjust the music volume and choose a character.</i>	UR_INTERFACE UR_MUSIC UR_CHARACTER
FR_CONTROLS_SCREEN	<i>The controls screen contains instructions for how to play the game, and some backstory about the context of the game.</i>	UR_INTERFACE UR_BACKSTORY UR_ACCESSIBILITY
FR_MOVEMENT_KEYS	<i>The player uses the WASD keys to move the avatar around the map.</i>	UR_MOVEMENT UR_CONTROLS
FR_MOVEMENT_ARROWS	<i>The player uses arrow keys to move the avatar around</i>	UR_MOVEMENT

	<i>the map.</i>	UR_CONTROLS
FR_INTERACTION_TRIGGER	<i>When the avatar collides with a building's door/entrance area, an interaction menu appears on the screen.</i>	UR_INTERACTION UR_CONTROLS
FR_INTERACTION_MENU	<i>The interaction menu tells the player what actions can be completed in that building. It can be navigated with the arrow keys or mouse.</i>	UR_INTERACTION UR_CONTROLS
FR_COMPLETE_ACTION	<i>From an interaction menu, the user can select an activity to complete. In assessment 1, this is displayed in a simple counter.</i> <i>When this happens, energy is lost and time progresses.</i>	UR_STUDYING UR_RECREATION UR_SLEEPING UR_EATING
FR_DISPLAY_ENERGY	<i>The amount of energy remaining is displayed clearly on the screen as a coloured bar.</i>	UR_INTERFACE
FR_AVATAR	<i>An avatar for the user to interact with the game through</i>	UR_INTERACTION UR_MOVEMENT
FR_DISPLAY_TIME	<i>The day (out of 7) and time is displayed clearly on the screen in the format HH:MM.</i>	UR_INTERFACE
FR_TIME	<i>Every 10 seconds, the in-game clock will be incremented by 30 minutes.</i>	UR_GAME_LENGTH UR_TIME_SKIP
FR_SOUND_EFFECTS	<i>Play the sound effects related to interaction completed</i>	UR_SOUND_EFFECTS
FR_SAVE_PROGRESS	<i>The game is not currently required to have a 'save progress' feature.</i>	UR_OBJECTIVE
FR_SCORING*	<i>The score is calculated from the player's activities during the game as a percentage. A 'grade' is awarded if their score is over 45.</i>	UR_PLAYER_SCORE
FR_HIGHScore_TABLE	<i>To have a table that saves the top scores recorded and displays them to the user</i>	UR_SCORE_LEADERBOARD
FR_END	<i>The game ends when 7 in-game days have passed. In assessment 1, this is communicated to the player using an 'end game' screen.</i>	UR_GAME_OVER
FR_LOSE_CONDITION	<i>A 'game over' screen is displayed if the player performs poorly.</i>	UR_PLAYER_SCORE UR_GAME_OVER
FR_WIN_CONDITION	<i>The game is won when the user has reached their quota</i>	UR_PLAYER_SCORE

2.4. Non-Functional Software Requirements

ID	Description	Fit Criteria	User Requirements
NFR_JAVA_VERSION	System is programmed using Java version 11.	The system is fully programmed in Java version 11,	UR_INTERFACE UR_INTERACTION UR_ACCESSIBILITY UR_OBJECTIVE

<i>NFR_SYSTEM_SIZE</i>	<i>The size of the end system is manageable such that it can be run on various devices.</i>	<i>The program executes in under 5 seconds and does not experience any memory-related crashes.</i>	UR_PLATFORM UR_INTERFACE UR_INTERACTION UR_OBJECTIVE
<i>NFR_COMPATIBILITY_SUPERCEDED</i>	<i>The system runs on Linux and Windows</i>	<i>The system has full functionality on both Linux and Windows operating systems.</i>	UR_PLATFORM
<i>NFR_COMPATIBILITY</i>	<i>The system runs on Linux, Windows and MacOS.</i>	<i>The system has full functionality on both Linux and Windows operating systems. The system has a minimum of 75% functionality on MacOS systems.</i>	UR_PLATFORM
<i>NFR_PERFORMANCE</i>	<i>The system appears to respond immediately to user input.</i>	<i>Keypresses are registered and acted upon within 10 milliseconds of input.</i>	UR_INTERACTION UR_MOVEMENT UR_CONTROLS
<i>NFR_SCALABILITY</i>	<i>The system supports further development by another team.</i>	<i>Each class is properly encapsulated with minimal dependencies on other classes.</i>	
<i>NFR_MAINTAINABILITY</i>	<i>The system is well-documented following relevant coding standards.</i>	<i>All classes and functions are accompanied by docstrings and necessary documentation.</i>	
<i>NFR_RELIABILITY</i>	<i>The system does not suffer from failures that affect player experience.</i>	<i>The mean time between failures is at least 50 hours.</i>	UR_INTERFACE UR_INTERACTION UR_ACCESSIBILITY
<i>NFR_COMPLIANCE</i>	<i>The system conforms to the current industry regulated standards relevant to its domain.</i>	<i>Regulatory information is documented.</i>	
<i>NFR_EFFICIENCY</i>	<i>The system minimises CPU and resource use while running to optimise performance.</i>	<i>The average response time for all user interactions is less than 10 milliseconds under typical operating conditions.</i>	UR_INTERACTION

Upon reflection, this iterative and collaborative approach to requirement elicitation was effective as it considered the client's needs and covered the projects' requirements. The scheduled meeting with the client was especially effective as this is where we got most of the requirements we wanted to add which weren't mentioned in the brief and gave us a different direction and new ideas.

References:

[1]I. Sommerville, "Requirements engineering", in *Software engineering*, 10th ed. Boston, Mass. Amsterdam Cape Town Pearson Education Limited, 2016, pp. 102-115