PERSONAL REFLECTION

MULTI-TIER APPLICATION ASSIGNMENT

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For this project, I decided to go with an e-commerce website because I believed it will appropriately test my web development skills and I would be able to be familiar with the way an e-commerce website function. I aspire to get a job in this line and would like to gather as much experience as possible in it.

Also, I decided to go with a not-too complicated project, so as to complete the project within the stipulated deadline.

During this project, I was able to learn new tech stacks (MERN stack) which is a very important tool in web development nowadays. I was able to build a rest API using a non-relational database. I also picked up skills using Node.js to design the backend of my web app and hosting my database in the cloud using mongo Atlas and Heroku.

I never worked with this software before, but this project exposed me to their usage, which is paramount to my success as an e-commerce website developer in the future.

During the course of the project, I was also able to develop more problem-solving skills. I was working with software I never used before and had to figure out how to master and use them within a short period of time. This I achieved by watching online tutorials, reading books and taking on short projects in-between.

However, I was faced with challenges also during the course of the project. Learning new technologies wasn't as easy for me as I thought it would be. I had to spend more time on how to apply these techniques on my project. This led to me changing methodologies a lot of time, till I was able to master one and apply it to my project appropriately. A good example was when I tried to use the REACT framework for my frontend design... this seemed a bit cumbersome for me to learn within a short period of time and apply appropriately. So, after many tries, I decided to use pure vanilla JavaScript.

Also, there were times I didn't have access to university computers because I had to go through COVID isolation. This slowed down my work tremendously as I also couldn't meet up with colleagues and classmates with more experience in software development, to put me through.

What I did that seemed effective and helped me complete the project was to not shy away from asking for help from more experienced colleagues. I scheduled meetings with them, where they put me through and helped solved some of the persistent problems that was slowing my work down.

Another effective method I use was to stick to a methodology that was easier for me, such as ditching the REACT framework that I didn't know much about, for a more

familiar vanilla JavaScript. This proved more efficient for me in completing the project

An eye-opening experience in everything is the fact that I learnt to start my assignment/project as soon as I can, even if it means building the project bit by bit and not pile up huge pressure on myself while the deadline for delivery is around the corner.