TOKA'S AMAZING BOOKSTORE

COSC2430: WEB PROGRAMMING

ASSESSMENT 1: STATIC WEBSITE

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1. Introduction

1.1. Summary

This project, aptly named "Static Website," is, as per the requirements of the assessment, to develop a user-friendly online bookstore website using the web-programming knowledge that we have learned throughout the course and implementing to hit every requirement given out. I have created just that, and the purpose of this formal technical report will be to go over all the aspects of the website and its pages, features, and design to get a better look into the thought process and steps that I went through while creating it.

1.2. Scope

It is crucial prior to diving into any new projects, to draw up a scope for it. This is to ensure that no matter what happens, we'll have pre-defined areas and objectives to aim towards as well as a general direction that we can base more specific plans and targets on to help us efficiently complete the project. In addition, having a scope is comparable to contingency planning. As we'll know when we are off-track or approaching aspects the wrong way, ensuring we always get from start to finish in the straightest and shortest pathway possible.

With all that said, let's define the scope. The general scope will be to create a final product that is a user-friendly website, using primarily HTML and CSS languages and minimal JavaScript, all the while making sure that our designs and code formatting and structure is up to standard.

1.3. Objective

With the scope defined, we can move to defining and drawing some specific goals and objectives for the website, which will assist us in achieving our final objective as quickly and as hassle-less as possible.

There are only a few main objectives for the website, they are as follow:

- Creating a Homepage:

- Creating a "Category" page:

- Creating a "Book Detail" page:

- ➢ !!! There is only one book that has a detailed page for it. That is "The Call of Cthulhu." Link to it: https://tokapie.github.io/static-website/detail.html

- A 'Contact Us' page with a contact form

2. Technical Description

This section will be mostly just a list of all the features that are present on the website. This will also add on to what was previously mentioned in the "Objectives" list, and they're mostly taken straight from the requirements of the Assessment 1 itself. Moreover, there will also be mentioning of some technical aspects and features that were needed to allow the website to work at all. Here is the list:

- Header that contains a horizontal navigation bar (vertical on mobile devices)
- Creating main book categories

- Add some books and their content(Name, Authors' name, Details, Images, etc.)

- Creating a footer with a nav bar (Contact us, Privacy Policies, Copyright, etc.)

➢ Add sub-categories that is smaller than a normal category and add books in them as well

➢ Create a detail page about a book

➢ Book description and pricing

➢ Book detail page needs back cover images and page samples to accompany the main cover

➢ Pages path to show user where they went to go to the book detail page

➢ 'Add to cart' button

- A contact form(Includes text inputs, drop-down selection menus, checkboxes, and radio-buttons)

- The field where the user signs up for newsletter submission or not is by default checked 'Yes'.

- Button to submit or reset the form

- Some general contact information(Phone Number, Address, Email)

Some crucial items of code that are used, required and are crucial to make the website work

➢ Semantic elements

➢ Website adapts to smaller screens (Nav bars, Images, texts)

➢ Custom Fonts

➢ CSS Flexbox: Crucial to format the website and put items exactly where I'd want them to be

➢ CSS Transitions (Hover effects): Adds life to the website

➢ Custom fonts

3. Implementation

Design process and choices:

1. The overall theme is a beige-color with white accents and some red for pop. This is easy on the eyes and gives it a unique look amongst the white background of every other website ever.

2. Logo was drawn in paint.exe in 20 seconds.

3. I used flexbox and hover effects for almost every image on the website (or class surrounding the image): This is to position it nicely amongst other images and also make it easier to code with @media query

4. There is a category of books called "Nerd" on the website. This includes Japanese Light Novels, Manga(Comics), and Western-style Comic books. The name of the category is confusing, but I found it to be the best way to put these in a category

5. I added boxes as backgrounds to each book items to make it pop from the background. I found that just by using box shadow, and background color, CSS will add an imaginary boundary around the shadow that you can manipulate instead of having to create one yourself.

6. I added empty spaces in the footer's link, so this is to format it more nicely without needing to further edit the CSS file.

7. Stickied the header because I thought it looked nicer this way, the following choice will also benefit from this.

8. I thought the user would have no clue where they were at once they clicked a link, so I added a feature that would highlight which page they were on in the header section.

9. I only had time to create one book detail page, so clicking any of the other books will lead directly to that page ("The Call of Cthulhu")

10. The contact form works, you can input what is required in each field as you would like. However, it does not function in reality. Clicking on the 'Submit' button would not do anything, it will fake the form being submitted but it will not send it anywhere (perhaps into the void).

List of completed features (some extra ones): Note that all the required features have been completed and works on the website, this is just a listing of main ones

- Interactive nav bar in header

- Footer with links

- Icons

- Working contact form

- Book details(Smaller images, Descriptions, Pricing, add to cart button)

- Categories and listing of books in sub-categories as well

- Working links where required

- Hover effect for all links + Book images

- Feature to tell user which page they are on (#Active) (extra)

- Google Maps location + Inspirational Quote and video in the 'Contact Us' page (extra)

List of known bugs/problems that has not been fixed:

➢ The vertical nav bar menu is by default active on mobile and on the left side when it should be on the right and not active by default. This could easily be written off as a feature, but it is in fact a bug that doesn't impede the user's experience that much.

➢ 'Contact Preference' and 'Would you like to receive weekly newsletters?' fields in the contact form are formatted wrongly. The Values and their tick boxes are in the wrong positions.

➢ Some small compatibility issues with smaller screen devices: Depends on screen size, but there are some sizes that cause the books' images to not be centered on the screen.

How to use the Website:

1. How to navigate the header: The logo is linked to the homepage; every other category name is a direct link to their respective category page. There is also a highlight that tells the user which page they are currently on.
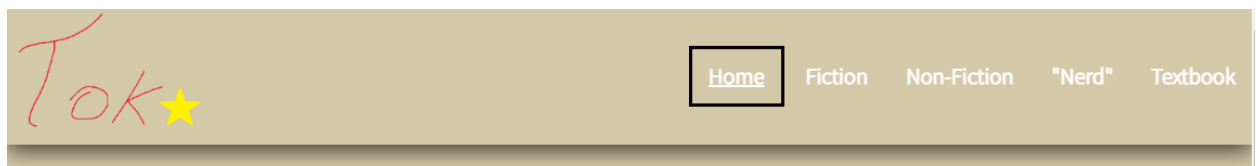
2. How to look at books and categories: Whenever you hover over a book (on desktop) it will have a bright glow behind it to show the user which book they're focusing on. The big red text(e.g., "Fiction," "Non-Fiction") are direct links to their respective category pages. You can also click anywhere between the boxes that contain the book images to access their details(pricing, description, etc.), however, there is only one book that has a book detail page so clicking any book will lead to that same page.
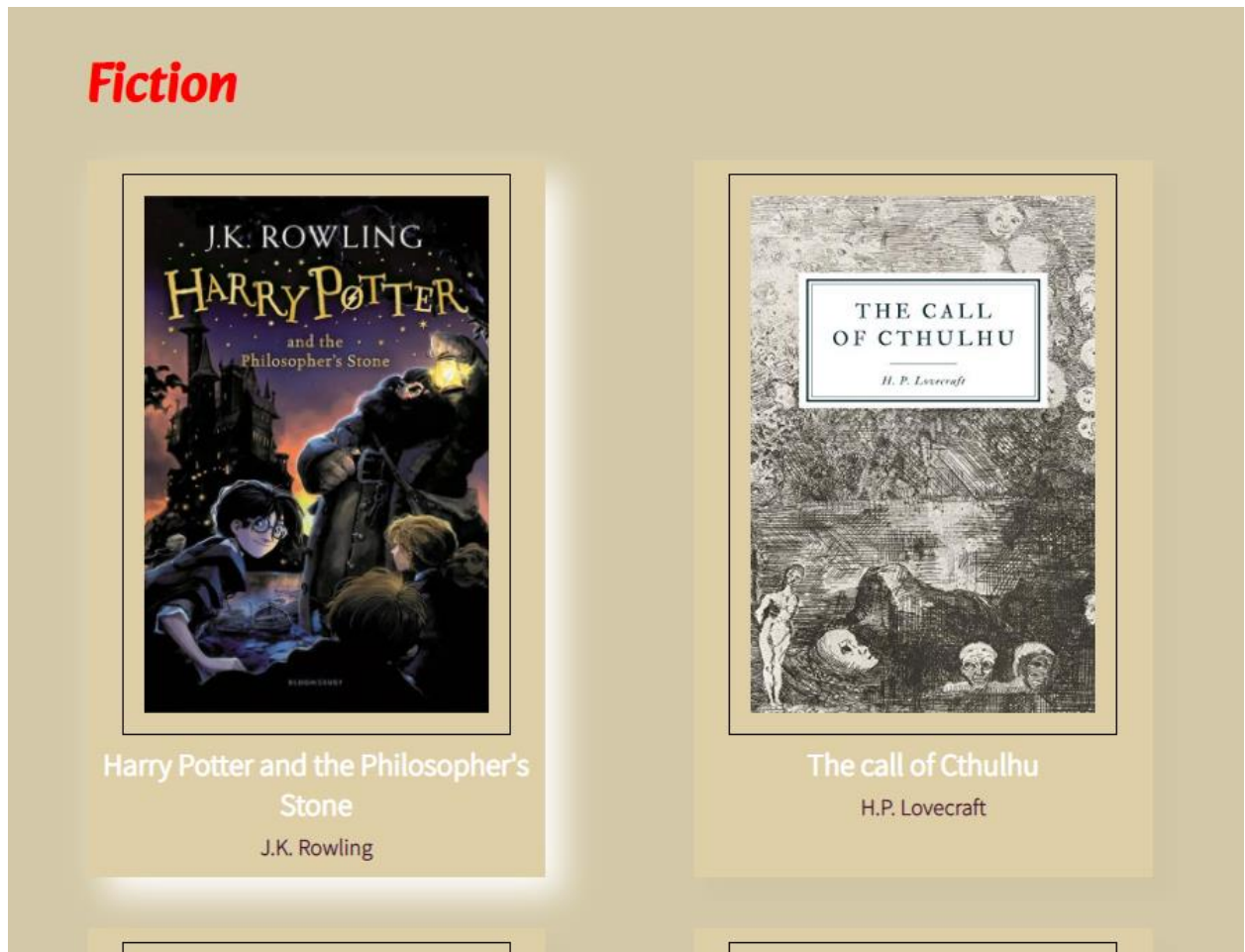
3. How to access the 'Contact Us' page: Go to Footer, when you hover the 'Contact Us' link, it'll be highlited like this. Clicking on this will take you straight to the contact page

4. How to use the contact form: Once you've navigated to the 'Contact Us' page, you can fill out the form. 'Contacting Purpose' is a drop-down menu choice, the others are just text boxes that take inputs. 'Contact Preference' is a checkmark, you can check none, one or both. And the Weekly newsletter subscription is by default checked 'Yes' but you can check 'No' if you don't want to.

CONTACT FORM
Please fill this out to reach us in the most efficient manner

Contacting Purpose: [I want to buy books ⌄]

Full Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Contact preference:

☐   E-Mail

☐   Phone

Would you like to recieve weekly newsletters?:

🔘   Yes

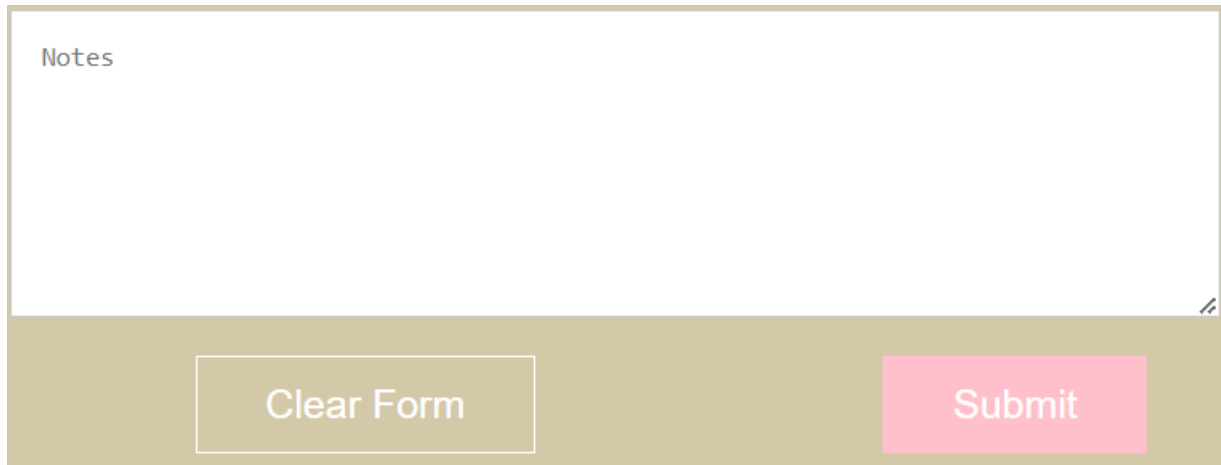⚪   No

5. Once you are done filling in the form, you can either click on the 'Reset' button to clear out all your answers if you messed up somewhere. Or click the 'Submit' button to send the form away to the website email.

4. Conclusion

The biggest hurdle that I ran into during the span of working on this assessment had to have been time constraints. An extremely unfortunate timing made it so that my family planned a 4-day vacation trip right the week before the submission date for this assessment. As a result, the time I hate to work on as well as when I could work on it was drastically cut short. Which is why the website is not as complete as I would like it to be, many bugs still present that could have been fixed if time allowed for it, many design choices and features that can be improved. This is a valuable lesson that I will take from and learn to plan much better as well as contingency plan and take into account time constraints for future projects and assignments.

Overall, this assignment has proven to be an invaluable testament to the knowledge and skill that I've accumulated over the span of this course. It has tested my abilities and thinking in more ways than I could have imagined. This assessment has also prepared me for future projects in ways of giving me experience regarding planning and drawing up ideas, executing them and managing immense pressure while getting miniscule amount of sleep. Despite it not being as fleshed out as could've had been, I am still satisfied with the final product of the assessment.

5. References

All credit for the books' images, names go to their respective authors and publishers

Credit to: https://www.amazon.com/ and https://www.goodreads.com/ for the description of "Call of Cthulhu"

Credit for some formatting and features approaches: https://www.youtube.come/@EasyTutorialsVideo

Credit for some design and user-friendly approach: Huynh Ngoc Giang My

Credit for the included B-Roll footage of book reading: https://www.youtube.com/@SohaibScripts