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CS615

Requirements Analysis

1.) User Analysis:

Population Characteristics:

- Target population age would be young new comic readers to older well-read comic readers and everything in between; if I were to set an age range, I would say 15 – 60 years old
- Familiarity with computers would be average- meaning, they know how to use a computer in a general sense and have used it for various purposes like email, social media etc.
- The desired domain experience would primarily be for newcomers to comics, but this is not meant to deter those who may have a more in-depth working knowledge
- The user should not be distracted by any other task while using the website
- Users would primarily use the website on any computer, however most likely would be their home PC
- Persona 1: Tim, 41 year old who read comics when younger and would like to re-ignite his hobby and learn more about stories he was not aware of
- Persona 2: Jake, 17 year old fan of Marvel live action movies who would like to start reading Marvel comics but isn't sure where to start
- Persona 3: Sara, 29 year old veteran comic reader who reads both physical and digital comics and would like to view how stories relate to each other chronologically in an easy centralized location

Representative User Interviews:

- Anonymous Female, Age 26. Domain experience: has watched Marvel live action movies but has never read a comic. She's curious as to what the comic versions of certain stories told in live action are like and wants to understand more about the original origin stories of characters. Can be distracted by social media and school assignments. She is ideally looking for a way to get easy entry into reading comics that does not feel overwhelming. Overall, her goal is to find an accessible way to begin reading comics without feeling lost and to have a clear explanation of a timeline of events.
- Daniel, Male, Age 30. Domain experience: Has read some comics in the past, main series ones such as X-Men and Spider-Man. However, he does not feel confident in his overall understanding of the Marvel universe, and wishes to have a deeper dive into it. He can be distracted by work and personal commitments. Ideally would like to have a way to see how different story arcs connect, explore crossover events and expand his Marvel universe knowledge, and made mention of preferring a user-friendly design.

Overall, his goal is to have a better understanding of comic events and to explore iconic/important stories in an organized way.

- Anonymous Male, Age 45. Domain experience: has been an avid comic book reader for almost two decades, and has an extensive collection of both Marvel and DC comics and has a fascination of tracing the histories of different characters across multiple different stories. He feels there should be a more organized way to accomplish this task. When reading or interested in certain comics he has no distractions. He wants a tool that will help him explore the timelines of these comic universes in an efficient and organized manner.

2.) Task Analysis:

Three High-Level Tasks:

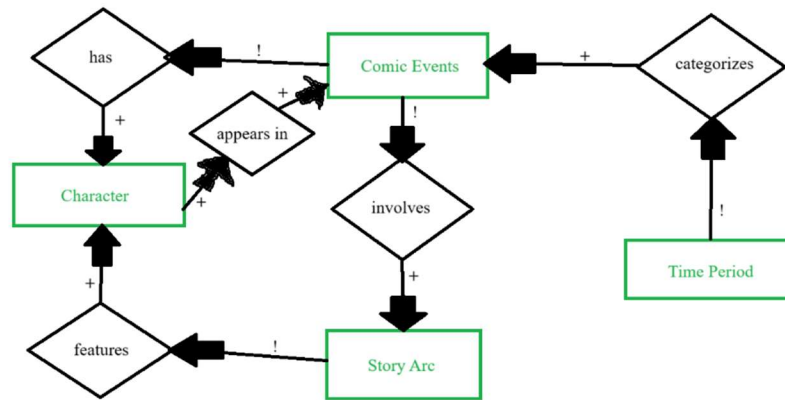
- Browse a Marvel Comics Timeline to allow users to view a chronological order of events and stories
- Filter by character (in replacement of publisher, as for now I will only focus on Marvel comics due to time constraints)
- Read summaries and event/story information when clicking on an event or point in the timeline

Hierarchical Task Analysis:

- Browse the Marvel Comics timeline:
 - Open the timeline page
 - Scroll or navigate timeline
 - Hover or click on certain events or stories
 - View the highlighted event(s)
- Filter by character:
 - Access filter window/pop-up
 - Select character(s?)
 - Apply filter to update timeline
 - Remove or change filters
- Read summaries:
 - Click on the event
 - View the summary of the event
 - Explore characters involved
 - View related stories
 - Return to timeline

3.) Domain Analysis:

Entity-Relation Diagram:



Note that “!” represents exactly one and “+” represents one or more.

Multiplicities:

- A comic event has one or more character in it
- A comic event involves one or more story arc
- A story arc features one or more character
- One or more character appears in one or more comic event
- A time period categorizes one or more comic event