

Introduction

(Following informed consent...) Thank you for agreeing to participate. For the next 30 minutes, we will be looking at a website to gain insight into how you would use it and how to make it easier to use. Keep in mind though, that this is not a test of you, we are evaluating the website.

We will be video recording this interview for note-taking purposes so I can go back and review it in case I missed anything. At the end of the study, we will delete the recording. Your name and any other personal information will not be included in the notes and will be kept strictly confidential.

While you use the website, I would like you to “think out loud” and let me know what you are doing and thinking – what you like and dislike, what surprises or confuses you, and any other thoughts you have.

Do you have any questions before we begin?

Background

First, let me ask you a few questions about your previous experiences coding.

1) Do you know how to code?

Languages (Python, C++, ect):

Where (School, self taught, ect):

2) Are you familiar with Bash?

Proficiency (beginner/ adept/ expert):

Scripting (makefiles):

3) Have you used websites to answer questions regarding your code?

Debug Code:

Search for function/ syntax/ or usage of code phrase:

4) Have you used any websites to learn how to code?

Websites (ie codecademy):

Videos (ie Youtube):

Forums (ie Stackoverflow):

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Task 1

<testing: Usage w/o Login>

You are a first time visitor to this website and want to learn as much as you can about this command. You specifically want to read about the usage for this command to learn the basics and also hope to get some practice using it and read about what other users are using this command for. Now, I want you to imagine you want to learn more about some command that will let you see what is on your computer from the command line.

Note: order of navigation/ features used AND mistakes or backtracking (8 blank lines for writing space)

<i>Able to navigate to the man page:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Able to navigate to the practice page:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Completed practice problem:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Able to navigate to forums:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Read forum posts on command:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Task Completed:</i>	Yes	No

On a scale from 1-5, where 1 is "Very Difficult" and 5 is "Very Easy" how would you rate being able to use this website design to accomplish your task? Why? *(5 blank lines for writing space)*

Task 2

<testing: login>

Imagine yourself as a repeat user to this website and wish to make an account on the website. Since you are aware that other people can view your profile, you would like to create a full profile using any available features on the site.

For privacy reasons we will be providing you with all of the fake information necessary for you to use for the sake of this task.

Note: order of navigation/ features used AND mistakes or backtracking

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<i>Could make an new account:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Was able to edit PI on account:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Was able to upload a photo for account:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Task Completed:</i>	Yes	No

On a scale from 1-5, where 1 is "Very Difficult" and 5 is "Very Easy" how would you rate being able to use this website design to accomplish your task? Why?

Task 3

<testing: practice scripting>

Imagine yourself being new to programming. You want to learn how to use some basic command line prompts, while also learning how to apply them. Ideally, you want to get some kind of hands-on experience with this particular prompt.

Note: order of navigation/ features used AND mistakes or backtracking

<i>Find an easy/ beginner section:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Find a prompt to search folders:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Able to get hands on experience:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Task Completed:</i>	Yes	No

On a scale from 1-5, where 1 is "Very Difficult" and 5 is "Very Easy" how would you rate being able to use this website design to accomplish your task? Why?

Task 4

<testing: using the forum>

Imagine you are learning a new Bash topic and are receiving errors on a script. You are not sure what is causing these errors and would like to solve them to get your script working.

Note: order of navigation/ features used AND mistakes or backtracking

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<i>Able to navigate to forum page:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Able to search for particular question:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Able to create new forum question:</i>	Yes	No
<i>Task Completed:</i>	Yes	No

On a scale from 1-5, where 1 is "Very Difficult" and 5 is "Very Easy" how would you rate being able to use this website design to accomplish your task? Why?

Wrap Up

Now that you have used the website, I want to know more about your impressions of it.

Overall, what did you like most about the site?

What did you dislike the most about the site?

How did you feel about the layout and look of the site?

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On a scale from 1-5, where 1 is "Very Difficult" and 5 is "Very Easy" how would you rate being able to use this website? Why?

Are there any additional features you would like for it to have?

Now, I'd like to look back at certain parts of the search tool and get your thoughts on them:

"More" –

Any other thoughts or comments?

Thank you again, your feedback will help the team improve the website!