Team 21 - Product Backlog
"Expressionary" - a ranked user-created dictionary and joke sharing website.
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Problem Statement:
In the current age we use social media to express our ideas, emotions, concerns, and beliefs. However, we still don't see the full exchange of culture that is possible only in the real world. Certain words used in unique parts of the world have contrasting meanings and uses, and accents and localizations create new words entirely.

Our project is a website made for that purpose, to familiarize people from about different cultures and promote diversity. Expressionary will make use of different words from the English dictionary and let users tell their own definitions. Everyone will have their own meaning to a word, hence, exposing people to different cultures. We will have an interactive leaderboard system which keeps the users' interest in the website (with constantly updating scores, comparisons with other competitors, and new content at every moment). For example, a US citizen would define a comforter as "A quilted bedspread" while a UK citizen would define it as "A baby's pacifier".

Background Information:

The Problem:
The internet has the capability to create a new way of communicating. Expressionary is the platform for people to be able to express, promote, and embrace diversity through a unique style of communication; the posting of definitions and phrases.

The Domain:
Expressionary is a progressive linguistic platform.

Targeted Users:
This website is directed at internet users interested in online cultures and creative expression. It could also be a useful learning tool for people of different cultures to learn how people use different words in different places. This 'learning tool' perspective would also be useful for students of literature to dissect and analyze why certain words have certain definitions.

Similar Applications
There are several existing websites that encapsulate parts of what Expressionary is. Sites like Reddit have the same up/down voting system we intend to pursue. A site like Urban Dictionary allows users to define words, but they also allow them to post the words. They are usually fake or slang words with obscure meanings. We intend to use words from the dictionary.

Limitations

Both of the above mentioned websites serve their purpose well. Reddit is a great place to share information, pictures, and discuss the platform. However, it lacks the focus that our website will have. Reddit's formatting would not allow it to do something similar to Expressionary. Urban Dictionary is great for funny slang words to use at parties. However, the tone of the website is too offbeat to include real words, and it allows users to post the words; we are looking to provide real words and funnel discussion into the definitions. Also none of these definitions provide an interactive environment for the users to compete, Expressionary plans on encapsulating all of that and make a better platform for culture exchange.

Functional Requirements:

1. As a user, I would like to be able to post definitions, captions, etc. so that I may compete with other users on the site/program.
2. As a user I would like to have my own unique username so that I can be easily identified.
3. As a user, I would like to be able to up- and down-vote posts so that I may contribute to the rankings of the posts on the site/program.
4. As a user, I would like to see the user leaderboard so that I can see how I compare with other users.
5. As a user, I would like to see the word leaderboard so that I can see the words that are receiving the most attention.
6. As a user, I would like the graphical interface to be clean and usable so that I can navigate and interact with the site easily
7. As a user, I would like to have a profile that stores my points and contributions so that I can easily keep track of all of my activity on the site.
8. As a user, I would like to have the option to provide my country of origin in my profile so that other users can see where my culture comes from.
9. As a user, I would like a page that is dedicated to showing me my profile and contributions so that I can see how I am performing compared to other users.
10. As a user, I would like to have a search engine so that I can easily find entries on the site that I am interested in.
11. As a user, I would like to also be able to use the search engine to look for specific users so that I can find users whose other content I'd like to see.
12. As a user, I would like to be able to register for an account on Expressionary so that I can create a user profile.
13. As a user, I would like to be able to login to my account on Expressionary so that I can access my user profile.
14. As a user, I would like to be able to manage my account, such as change my password or contact email if necessary so that my account remains secure.
15. As a user, I would like the option to receive emails related to my contributions on the website so that I can be up-to-date on my progress and impact on the site.
16. As a user, I would like a random word option so that I may explore different words on the website so that I can discover words I may not have thought of before.

17. As a user, I would like a contact page so that I can send bug reports or suggestions to the developers so that the bugs I find get patched.
18. As a user, I would like to see the name of the contributor next to the submitted definition so that I can find their other content.
19. As a user, I would like to see the point total of the contributor next to the submitted definition so that I can compare myself with other users numerically.
20. As a user, I would like the ability to share a page to social media so that I can easily add my friends and share my activities and achievements on the site.
21. As a developer, I would like a "Developer's Update" page where I can share our latest changes to the website so that the users can be informed about all of the on-goings with the further development of the site.
22. As a developer, I would like a database that contains all user profiles, words, images, etc. so that I can easily access this data for future development.
23. If time allows, as a user, I would like to have a profile picture associated with my account so that I can be more easily recognizable to other users.
24. If time allows, as a user I would like to have the ability to make captions and descriptions for images on the site so that I have a more diverse base of content to interact with in the website.
25. If time allows, as a user I would like to be able to expand from words to phrases, quotes, lyrics and more so that I can diversify my experience and make interacting with the site more enjoyable.
26. As a user I would like to be able to see the latest words so that I can add my contributions as soon as words are added.
27. As a user I would like to see the most trending words so that I can go to those pages and see what the community is saying about them.
28. As a user I would like to be able to view the website from my phone as well as computer so that I can make contributions to the site even when I am on the go.
29. If time allows, as a user I would like to be able to change wallpaper on my home page so that I can have a pleasing image to see on the website.
30. If time allows, as a user I would like to be able to add people as contacts so that I can keep up with their new content.
31. If time allows, as a user I would like to be able to change the organization of content on my home page so that I can make my homepage how I like.
32. If time allows, I would like to be able to have the search engine have an autocomplete feature so that I can find words that I don't know the spelling of.
33. If time allows, as a user I would like to have a spotlight feature that features important people so that I can feel inspired to get there too.
34. If time allows, I would like the website to learn my behaviour and understand me so that it can recommend words that I would like.

Non-Functional Requirements:
1. As a user, I would like to be guaranteed that my information will be kept encrypted so that I can use the site without being concerned for the safety of my information.
2. If time allows, as a user, I would like to make sure that no bots access the website and it can only be run through human interactions so that all users have a fair chance at getting points.
3. As a user I would like the website to be fast and smooth (respond to any action within 200 ms) so that I can make content as much as I want, as quickly as I can.
4. If time allows, as a developer, I would like the search engine autocomplete to respond within 50ms of a keypress so that the users can easily navigate to pages that they are searching for.

Framework

We are currently considering a few options for our frontend and backend, but our front runners are as follows. We plan to have an Express.js front end with Node.js being used to host the server in the backend. Being able to host the project locally on our machines will allow for constant change and improvement. We are planning on using SQL for our database to store user and posting information.

Usability

We are planning to use dynamic CSS code so that our website can also be viewed on mobile devices. We want the versatility to be able to attract users from all computing devices.