Analysis of Group 9

Interaction Problems:

When clicking on something non-clickable it's very annoying that the blue boxes appear to show you where to click. Suppose a clip is being edited and the user would like to deselect, it would appear as if the user doesn't know what they're doing since the user was deselecting from the clip.

The slider buttons for text, adding effects, filters and more are difficult to use and are close to the other buttons. The buttons also do not navigate backwards and so users cannot access features that they have already passed.

When hovering over the trim, add effect, add text, etc, the description of the trim and add effect are not centered, would be easier on the eyes when hovering over the options that the description of the tools were consistently above the tool (i.e add effect) or consistently centered (i.e add text). The snap tool is missing a description.

Logic Problems (Logical use problems):

The sound control icon on the video player is a logical problem, since the icon used is the icon commonly used for microphone input. Changing the microphone icon to the more commonly used speaker icon would make the function more clear to the user.

Maximizing the video preview uses the proper button of two arrows indicating that the frame can be enlarged. However, when the preview is maximized, the same button shows that the preview may still be maximized. The button for minimization is not shown and the user must click on the maximization button in order to minimize the preview.

Design Principle Miscues:

There's a large empty space not being used in the program, this space is understandable reserved for the toolbox and media library. However, this space should be in use. It's a good idea to allow the user to clear this space to give extra room for the rest of the program. Using this space to the fullest extent and starting

with the toolbox and media library maximized so that the user understands where these features are would be good.

Usability Issues:
The grey timeline razor is small and difficult to see when the background of the timeline section is black. To improve this the razor could be made a different colour such as blue or red to make it stand out from the background and the razor could be made slightly larger to make it easier for the user to select.

The "Save to" option in the export video window appears the same as a text box. A button titled "browse" or "choose" would make the option easier for the user to use and understand.

What We Liked:
The Toolbox feature is very unique and very interesting. Allowing users to select the features that they want and keep those features at the ready will save time and keep the interface clean for the user. When the users become more advanced they would then be able to go back into the toolbox and choose more advanced features for their video editing.

While we thought that the help feature was not fully completed, we liked the idea. Having a help button for users which offers on a single click explanations about what all the features and buttons can do. This feature is very useful for new and inexperienced users so that there is no need to search through documentation of the program.

The Color scheme was nice and provided easy contrast to the program. The simple pastel colours both like and dark allowing the user to more easily view the separate boxes and features.

Rating:
8.5 / 10

If you were to award a mark to the project on a scale of 1 – 10, how would you rate it and why?

Based on this project's interactivity, hover functions, clean display, and working pop-up menus, we would give this project a 8.5 out of 10. The design colours are aesthetically pleasing, all editing functions are easy to find and readily accessible, and pop-up menus are well designed.

This project contains many comprehensive and user-friendly interactive abilities. The toolbox function ensures a clean work space, with the ability to customize main editing tools, minimize the toolbox, and easily access the Media Library from the toolbox tab. One critique to be mentioned about the toolbox function is the fact that it creates a large, empty space when not in use. This shortcoming creates a gap in the interface which could be better used or filled with additional features, or it could default to the video and audio options that are displayed when the user clicks the timeline.

Group 9 did an excellent job through implementing the ability to display tips and features when hovering over a tool or interactive area. Hovering over the tools shows a helpful, clear, and brief summary popup window for each. Additionally, the "Help" menu displays toggle-able short but useful information detailing the Toolbox and Media Library. These hover features are very key to new users and to keeping the software's usability simple and clear.

Lastly, pop-up menus and windows are designed with care, are centred, and contain straight-forward interaction ability. Clicking the "Export Video" > "Export" prompts an instant message confirming that the user has correctly exported their creation. The full screen function works well, as the viewport image increases in size, does not decrease significantly in resolution, and covers the majority of the screen while leaving important functions accessible such as play, skips, and the file bar.

Our team believes this project deserves a 8.5 out of 10. It is well designed, interactive, and has simple to use features. There were a number of minor issues that need to be corrected before this project can reach its full potential, but overall it is very well done.

Comparing the project to your own. Is it better, worse, or about the same in caliber:

Group 9 is much nicer as the user is presented with a much clearer view of the features immediately on launch of the software. Their program is concise, easy to navigate, and has a solid amount of user interaction. Compared to our program, which has more features initially on view, but the theme is less appealing and offers less functionality through pop-up menus (no full screen, no expanding/minimizing functions). Our project also offers the user more feedback on button hover and selection. This gives the user a visual understanding that a task has been completed.