Feedback From Peer Review

Suggested changes:

1) Add more info in login page (otherwise not seeing what the application is used for)
2) Need extra explanation on what "Topics" and "Pushing Preference" are in registration page (user might get confused in understanding these two parameters)
3) Need "add more" button for "Topics" (to provide more customizable options for users)
4) May have different pushing preferences for different topics (to provide more customizable options for users)
5) May provide remove/manage previously entered topics (so the user can easily retrack their previous operations)

Actual changes:

1) Add more info in login page
2) Need extra explanation on what "Topics" is only in registration page. I am not going to add explanations for "Pushing Preference" because I believe that once the user understand the meaning of "topic" together with the meaning of this application (pushing topics that the user is interested in), he/she will get the idea of "Pushing Preference".
3) Need "add more" button for "Topics" when first register for an account

Heuristic Evaluation

Used heuristics:

1) Visibility of system status

   The prototype is always providing all necessary buttons that allow the user to do in the specific page, so that he/she will not get confused while trying to do some reasonable move in a scene/page but not having the right button/gesture to interact with. Therefore, I can say that my prototype satisfies/passes this evaluation.

2) Match between system and the real world

   The prototype is buttons that are similar to the ones from the real world so that users can easily understand the way to interact with it (simply by pressing on it). By providing extra explanation on words (which had been generally selected from frequently used words), users will not get trouble in understanding what the programing is asking for. Therefore, I can say that my prototype satisfies/passes this evaluation.

3) User control and freedom

   The prototype is having back or home button on every layer that allows the user to withdraw their last operation. By pressing the empty area on the screen when

typing text using the keyboard, the user can always stop the current typing process and do something else that they want to do on the same screen. Therefore, I can say that my prototype satisfies/passes this evaluation.

4) Consistency and standards

Most of the interactable functions on this protype was inspired by some other applications that have been commonly used for a long time, hence I believe that the prototype does contain solid consistency and standards that do need the user to spend extra time getting familiar with.

5) Error prevention

I think that my current protype is missing this kind of feature that prevent the user from making mistakes rather than withdraw their previous operation – which means that the error already happened. Therefore, I am thinking of applying this into the prototype. For example, when the user finished setting the personal settings, there will be a pop-up window showing all the changes/new inputs the user had made, so that the user can have a double checking on it before confirming the editing.

6) Recognition rather than recall

Similar to my answer in Consistency and Standards, the protype offers various of interactable functions that were designed based on the concept from some other similar applications that are already famous, hence I believe that the prototype does contain solid consistency and standards that do need the user to spend extra time getting familiar with.

7) Flexibility and efficiency of use

By providing keyboard shortcuts, back button that is stabled among all layers, personalization features that allow the user to customize their own favorite contents, I think the protype fits exactly with this evaluation.

8) Aesthetic and minimalist design

The prototype is only using rectangle buttons together with circle and triangle icons as interactable objects, which definitely maintains the minimalist design. By marking buttons as grey when not in use or not required for use, the user can focus more on what they need to perform specific operations.

9) Help users recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors

The prototype's back buttons are always providing the user a way for retracking their previous operation, hence it is doing a good job on this.

10) Help and documentation

The ultimate purpose of my project does not require any extra explanation; hence I think there's no need to do so in this prototype.

Actual changes:

1) Inspired from error prevention: adding a second pop-up window showing all the changes/new inputs the user had made after he/she finished editing personal preference, so that the user can have a double checking on the decision and can have a chance to go back and fix all the mistakes before confirming the editing.

User Test

Total number of users who participated in the test: 3

Suggested changes:

1) Providing more selectable topics (so the application can be used by more users)
2) Providing error alerts in case of wrong username or password (cause the testcases didn't simulate this scenario)
3) Providing blacklist on accounts (so that the user can decide if he/she does not want to get news from specific accounts anymore)
4) Allow the user to personalize the background color/image (which enhanced the application's modifiability)

Actual changes:

1) Providing error alerts in case of wrong username or password

The 3rd one is a change worth applying but I am not going to do this mainly because the whole process will be exactly the same as the feature of "adding preferred account" which does not put more emphasis on the design usage of this prototype.

Copy of User Study Script

Hi, thank you for taking your time to participate in this test. My name is Sitong Lu, and I am doing this interview for gaining data from general people to help me develop a UI for an application that collects and pushes information from various of social platforms that contains model-related information that the user needs the most. This interview will take about 10 minutes. Please have a seat. I am going to show you an application and you just need to follow my task instructions to operate the application. You don't need to worry about anything here, and you can just say I don't know or I don't understand it if you get stuck on any move that you want to operate on the screen.

Okay, here's the home page of the application. I am going ask you to perform three tasks. Here's the first one. You are a new user to this application so you need to register for a new account. You want to get timely news related to Gundam series only, and you already have a preferred twitter account, which is "@HobbySite" that publishes the information you need the fastest. Now, please try to finish the registration process based

on the requirements I just mentioned. If you forget about any requirement just let me know. I will repeat that for you.

Great, you just finished the first task! Let's take a break for 30 seconds so you can go over the experience of using the application in your head. Feel free to write down some quick notes about it so you can share with me later.

Now let's do the second task. You already created an account, but you think you also want to see Muv-Luv related posts. Therefore, you need to edit your preference of content you want to see to Muv-Luv starting from the home page.

Again, let's take another 30-second break so you can go through the experience in your mind just one more time.

Finally, here comes the last task! You have finished all the settings till this moment! Let's login to your account and check the picture in the newest post collected for you.

Congratulations, you just finished all the tasks! Now, I need to ask you some questions that are related to them.

First of all, how was your experience with this application? Do you think there was something odd with the operation logic?

Second, for the first task, the task about registering for an account. Have you found anything odd related to the registration process? Like, thinking that this specific step was totally unnecessary for the registration purpose, or am I missing any step that's important?

Third, were you facing any trouble with the re-customizing your own preference task?

Finally, do you like the UI layout in my application? What do you think about the picture-text ration in it?

Okay, these are all the questions I would like to ask. Thank you for taking the time to participate in this test! Have a nice rest of the day!