Session Summary: Test Sample Data Implementation

Date: October 14, 2025
Session Focus: Development Testing Enhancement

Overview

Implemented a "Use Sample" feature to speed up development testing by allowing developers to create test listings with brief descriptions that go through the full AI analysis pipeline.

Changes Made

1. New API Endpoint: `/api/listings/sample`

File: `app/app/api/listings/sample/route.ts` (NEW)

Purpose: Creates test listings with random brief descriptions

Key Features:
- 10 sample item descriptions (cameras, sneakers, guitars, etc.)
- Creates listing with just `theGist` field populated
- Triggers background AI analysis via `/api/listings/{id}/analyze`
- Returns listing immediately to user

Sample Descriptions:

```
const sampleDescriptions = [
  'vintage Canon camera',
  'leather jacket',
  'Nike Air Jordan sneakers',
  'vintage vinyl record player',
  'MacBook Pro laptop',
  'designer handbag',
  'antique pocket watch',
  'gaming console',
  'acoustic guitar',
  'rare Pokemon card',
];
```

2. Updated Camera Screen Component

File: `app/app/camera/_components/camera-screen.tsx`

Changes:
- Updated endpoint from `/api/dev/sample-listing` to `/api/listings/sample`
- Changed navigation to go to `/listings` page (instead of directly to listing detail)
- Updated toast message to "Processing sample item…"
- Maintained development-only visibility

UI Location:
- Button appears in top-right corner of camera screen

- Only visible in development mode (`NODE_ENV !== 'production'`)
- Shows loading state while creating sample

Technical Details

Flow

1. User clicks "Use Sample" button on camera screen
2. API selects random description from 10 options
3. Creates listing in database with:
   - `theGist` : Random description
   - `status` : "DRAFT"
   - `userId` : Current user
4. Triggers background AI analysis (async)
5. Redirects user to `/listings` page
6. User can see listing being analyzed in real-time

Benefits

- **Faster Testing:** No need to capture photos for every test
- **Full Flow Testing:** Still exercises AI analysis, notifications, etc.
- **No Shortcuts:** Goes through complete analysis pipeline
- **Realistic:** Uses actual item descriptions

Development Only

- Feature gated behind `isDev` flag
- Uses `process.env.NODE_ENV !== 'production'` check
- Will not appear in production builds
- Safe for deployment

Testing Impact

What Can Now Be Tested Faster

✅ AI analysis pipeline
✅ Listing status transitions
✅ Notification system
✅ Title/description generation
✅ Price estimation
✅ Category detection
✅ Special items detection
✅ Premium feature gating

What Still Requires Camera

❌ Image quality checks
❌ Photo upload flow
❌ Image compression
❌ Visual item detection

Files Modified

1. `app/app/api/listings/sample/route.ts` - NEW
2. `app/app/camera/_components/camera-screen.tsx` - MODIFIED

Checkpoint

Name: "Add test sample data feature"
Status: ✅ Saved successfully
Build: ✅ Passed

Next Steps

- Test the feature in development mode
- Verify AI analysis triggers correctly
- Confirm notifications appear as expected
- Test with various sample descriptions