**Teamwork Reflection – Alina (Microservice and Core Development Lead)**

As the Microservice and Core Development Lead, I was tasked with overseeing the development of the core microservice and ensuring its performance under high traffic loads. This role required me to focus on implementing scalable and efficient code, integrating structured logging, and ensuring the system could handle up to 10,000 requests per second. It was both a challenging and rewarding experience to work on such a critical component of our project while collaborating with a talented and motivated team.

I believe our team demonstrated impressive collaboration, leveraging each member’s strengths to drive the project forward. Jessie’s work on CI/CD pipelines ensured our deployments were smooth and efficient, eliminating potential bottlenecks in our development workflow. Eleanor’s rigorous load testing provided invaluable insights into system behavior under stress, helping us fine-tune the microservice for optimal performance. Jay’s ability to document our progress and present it clearly to stakeholders made our work more accessible, ensuring that both technical and non-technical audiences could follow our project’s development.

That said, reflecting on the project as a whole, there were areas where we could have improved. For example, we could have benefitted from more structured communication, particularly in the early stages when we were making architectural decisions. At times, the lack of clear and detailed documentation at the start led to misunderstandings regarding task priorities and dependencies. While these issues were resolved quickly due to our strong teamwork, they could have been avoided altogether with better upfront planning.

Additionally, although the team worked well under pressure, I feel that clearer task delegation could have minimized overlap and streamlined our workflow. For instance, there were moments when two or more team members ended up working on overlapping tasks, which sometimes led to duplicated efforts. Implementing a more formalized system for task tracking and delegation early on would have helped us operate more efficiently.

On a personal note, I believe I could have been more proactive in communicating progress updates, particularly during the early stages when we were setting up the initial framework for the microservice. While I focused on technical execution, I realize that sharing frequent updates and involving the team in design decisions could have fostered even stronger collaboration. This is an area I will focus on improving in future projects.

Overall, I am proud of what we accomplished as a team. We successfully developed a high-performing microservice that met the required benchmarks and delivered a robust system that exceeded initial expectations. I would grade myself as **A** for effectively driving the technical vision and meeting performance targets. However, I recognize that refining my communication and task delegation skills will enhance my contributions to future projects.