

Bookwyrm

Project Report

TU856

Web Development 1

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Declaration

I hereby declare that the work described in this dissertation is, except where otherwise stated, entirely my own work and has not been submitted as an exercise for a degree at this or any other university.

Signed: *Artyom McNiff*

Artyom McNiff

18/12/2020

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# Problem Description

Bookwyrm is a website designed to promote literature in the modern era. It contains a recommended reading list on what books to read as well as a blog section about a certain author. The site also has a contact page and a detailed section about the site. The home page contains the featured blog post, the latest in literature news, and a variety of facts about various books and authors, as well informational videos. The home page also lists the numerous benefits of reading.

The users of this site would be those who are interested in literature and want to know more about the topic, those who know nothing about literature but are curious learn about the topic, or people simply looking for a good book to read.

The site attempts to solve the problem of the neglect of literature in the modern era. Not enough people read books despite how enriching it can be on a person’s life. The site aims to convince people who have dismissed reading as a waste of time to give literature a second chance. There aren’t enough websites on the Internet that have this goal in mind, which is why I think my website is important.

# Research

The website <https://lithub.com/> has a variety of content dedicated to literature. The home page has a featured content section where it displays various blog posts of interest. Below that is a display of the latest essays written by the website’s staff categorised by topic. The home page also features their podcast, an online newspaper related to the website, a form where you can enter your email to subscribe to said newspaper, the latest tweets from the website’s twitter account, and an option to enter their daily book giveaway, to name but a few examples.

The website also has pages dedicated to craft and criticism, fiction and poetry, news and culture, a radio show and reading lists. They also have links to two separate websites, Book Marks and crimereads.

The site layout is a standard affair with a header, footer and navigation bar. The main content occupies the centre of the page with the side content populating the left and right parts of the page. I did however find one thing out of the ordinary, and that is the fact that there is no “About” section on the website.

The website <https://electricliterature.com/> according to the site’s authors, is a “non-profit digital publisher with the mission to make literature more exciting, relevant and inclusive.” The home page shows a featured article first and foremost, with two of the most recent interviews just below that. Below the interview section is a button that takes you to the Support page, where you can offer financial support to the website by becoming one of the site’s members. There are other pieces of content as well, for example, a section dedicated to featured contributors to the website, an offer to subscribe to the website’s magazine and a section featuring the most popular content on the site.

The navigation bar and the footer both contain links to other pages of the website. The other pages are a section dedicated to essays, a section about interviews with different authors, a reading list, the latest news about the website and their magazine. They also have webpages dedicated to their store and a section on how to become a member of their website.

Finally, the website <https://www.englishtrackers.com/english-blog/> is a website about improving the syntax and grammar of your everyday writing. I researched the blog section of their website as the content was like that of my own website.

The site’s home page offers help with writing English in business environments as well as helping those who are not native English speakers with improving their social English skills. They also have links to opinion pieces the site’s contributors have written.

The blog is part of a wider website which provides an English editing and rewriting service for documents. They have a section dedicated to editing and rewriting, as well as an about page and a contact page.

# Technology Selection and Site Architecture

Version of HTML/CSS to be used

Plan for site layout and responsive design.

How do we expect users to view the site (Phone/tablet/PC etc...)?

Cross Browser Compatibility strategy?

The version of HTML to be used is HTML5. The version of CSS to be used is CSS3. The site layout will use the box model and all margins, font sizes, padding, widths and heights will use REM and viewport widths and heights respectively. Media queries will be included in the style sheet.

I expect that most users will view the website on their laptop or PC, but I have considered the phone and tablet users by making the design of the website responsive.

The website will be tested on multiple browsers to ensure cross browsers compatibility and the contact form validation will use JavaScript to facilitate this.

# Low Fidelity Prototype



# Development Plan

After researching the topic of my website and creating the appropriate wireframes, the next step I took was writing the content of my website. The lengthy written sections of my website was written separately on a Word document. I wrote the blog section of my website first, then the recommended reading section, then the about section. I made sure that the content being written was relevant to my target audience. I then copied the contents of the Word document and translated it into HTML.

I then compiled a list of images from Google images, without fear of copyright infringement since the website was not to be deployed. I then matched the images up with the corresponding written section using HTML on Notepad++.

After writing the content of my website I set about designing the layout of the website. I made sure the design of the website was in tune with the literature theme of the website. I also made sure that the design of the website was responsive, meaning that it would function on a device of any screen size. I made sure to include a logo for the site, which I included in the header section of the website to make the website more memorable. I made the navigation bar stick to the top of the screen so that users can easily navigate between the pages of the website. This was all done using CSS3.

Finally, I added some JavaScript to spice up the content of the website. Firstly, I made it so each time you move to a new page, a different literary quote would appear on the header of the page from a set list. I made the list big enough to make it unlikely to see the same quote twice.

Secondly, I used JavaScript to put together a “Did You Know?” section on the home page. The user can click on the arrows to go to the next fact or to see a previous one.

Finally, I used JavaScript to validate the contact form on the contact page. I used JavaScript in conjunction with HTML5 validation to ensure cross browser compatibility. By validating the form using JavaScript, the user would be unable to enter a blank form successfully.

# Testing Plan

Explain in detail the strategies used to test the website. (eg. HTML validation, CSS validation).

Is the site Cross Browser Compatible?

I validated the HTML of the site using the W3C Markup Validation Service to check for any errors. Similarly, I validated the CSS of the site using the W3C CSS Validation Service.

I then made sure all the links worked correctly and that they sent you to the correct page. I also tested the JavaScript buttons on the “Did You Know?” section to make sure they displayed the next fact on the list.

Finally, I checked all the written content of my website for any spelling and grammar mistakes, and fixed them accordingly.

# Site Evaluation

I made especially sure that all the content on my site was clear and concise for the viewer. I made sure the images were of a high quality, and that the font was legible, especially on smaller devices. To ensure that the user is always aware of what part of the website they are on, the navigation bar highlights the link that is currently being used. I also made sure that the user was able to easily access each part of the website by making the navigation bar stick to the top of the page.

# Deployment

The first step to deploying a website (assuming you have a website ready to go) is to find a web hosting company. Web hosting is rented file space on a hosting company’s web server. You put website files on the web server. The web server provides website content to website visitors. There are a variety of web hosting companies that offer this as both a free and paid service.

You then need to make sure that you add meta tags to your HTML markup. A meta tag is a HTML tag containing information about your website. This is used by search engines to learn about the content of what is on the page

In addition, you will need a File Transfer Protocol program to actually transfer the website files over to the server. The File Transfer Protocol, or FTP for short, is a standard network protocol used to transfer computer files between a client and server on a computer network. FTP programs vary widely, but generally, you have to connect to your web server using details provided by your hosting company, typically a username, password and hostname. Then the program shows you your local files and the web server’s files in two windows, and provides a way for you to transfer files back and forth. This is how Filezilla operates, for example.

Once you’ve completed all those steps, you simply add the link to Google or any search browser of your choosing and your website is fully online and operational.

# Appendices

