ASC Reflection | Clara Linanda, Sukanya Mukherjee, Angela Tsung

During the scope of this project, our team generally performed quite well in all areas, including teamwork, brainstorming, problem-solving, coding, and so on. Each time we encountered errors or logical issues, we came together to resolve the issue before moving on to the next stage of the project. For instance, during database design, we encountered difficulty with many-to-many relationships, and resolved it together on paper before proceeding to create the database on SQL. One thing we did well was be very effective in decision making. Every time a decision had to be made, we would come together, listen to the opinions of all members, and then make a decision based off of that.

Despite our busy schedules, our team committed to meeting during planned out times during the week. We were able to split up the queries and create the databases effectively to ensure that the work was split up evenly. In the comments in the database creation file, we split up the creation of sample data for each table by creating segments with comment blocks. We also made sure that each of us got a piece of each section to ensure that we all understood the whole assignment. Although we split up the work, we found that working while being physically together was very helpful and much more efficient than otherwise. Being together allowed us to communicate face-to-face in real-time, which helped a lot in resolving problems immediately.

One thing that was difficult for us in the beginning was starting on the project, as we spent a long time figuring out how to use github to sync our work. We wanted to make sure that all three of us could work in our own computers and still integrate after we were done with our tasks.

One of the aspects that we could definitely improve on is practicing SQL more on our own time and being able to work comfortably with the database. Because of our lack of practice, it made getting started with the database a bit difficult, but as we continued to work with the database, the project moved along easily.

The project was scoped well for the amount of time we had to complete the project, and we were able to capture most aspects of the company Soylent based off the real business model. However, in reality, it would be quite time-consuming to input all the old data from past orders and existing customers.

We also did some self-learning, which was challenging but very rewarding. Outside of classroom materials, we had to search up specific data types and their formats, such as for Date/Time and the syntax of inserting values into tables, as well as errors from misspelled words or minor syntax errors.

One thing that we would do differently next time was sketching out the database relationships on paper before implementing them on SQL. We ran into some error messages during the creation of foreign keys because we created the relationships out of order, and in the end, we figured out that we should create foreign keys after all tables have been created.