Heuristic Evaluation Report for: AniRate

1. Problem Statement
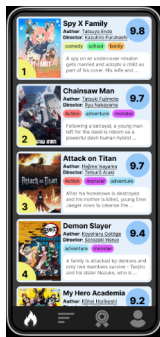
An app to share, rate and find recommended animations.

2. Violations Found

1. **H1 Visibility of System Status / Severity 3 / Found by: A**
   Description: When I press login and enter the **Trending Page**, I'm confused with what the list is at first glance.
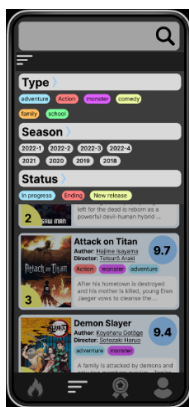   **Screenshots**:

   Fix: Add a title on the top of the list, or add a top navigation bar.

2. **H1 Visibility of System Status / Severity 3 / Found by: A**
   Description: The filter doesn't show which conditions are selected. Also, there is no button to finish setting the filter.
   Screenshots:

   Fix: Make the unselected ones gray and the selected highlight color. Also, add an OK button at the bottom of the sheet.

3. **H1 Visibility of System Status / Severity 3 / Found by: B**
   Description: On the search page, the system is not showing the sorting method. The user could not know the default sorting (sort by score, time, or popularity). And the filter options should also be shown. (I could not see because they did not present the step after selecting an option in Figma)
   Screenshots:

   Fix: Display the default sorting beside the sort button.

4. **H2 Match b/w System and World / Severity 1 / Found by: A, B**
   Description: Some icons in the app do not reflect their meaning. For example, an ascending sorting icon is used in the search tab.
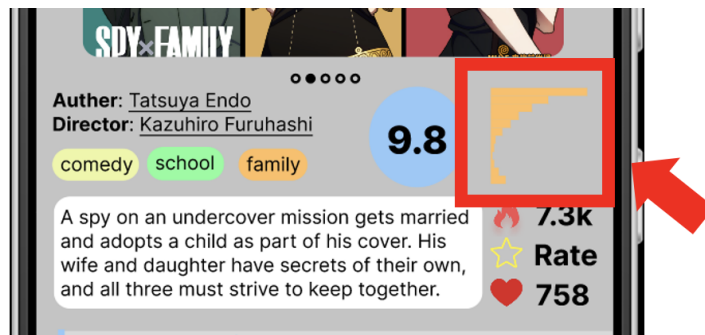   **Screenshots:**

   Fix: Use a magnifying glass icon instead of an ascending sorting icon for the tab.

5. **H2 Match b/w System and World / Severity 1 / Found by: A**
   Description: In **Anime Profile Page**, I don't understand the meaning of the stats. I'm unsure whether the graph on the right of the average rating is a bar chart of the count of each score.
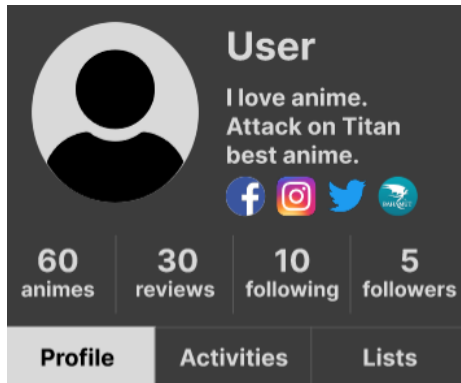   **Screenshots:**

   Fix: Add some labels to the graph so that it intuitively looks like a bar chart, or remove the graph.

6. **H3 User Control & Freedom / Severity 2 / Found by: B**
   Description: There is no option for users to customize their preferences. Seem like users can not even edit their profiles after signing up. (Or are the buttons missing?)
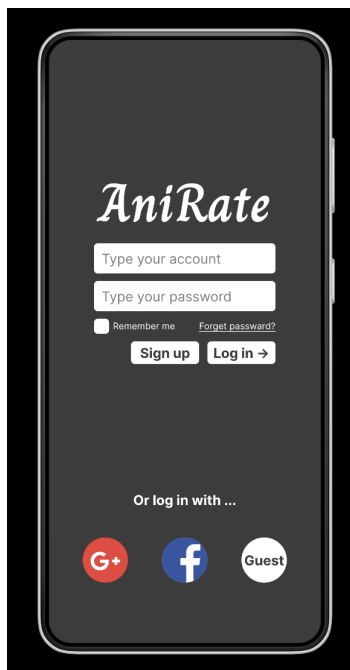   **Screenshots:**

   Fix: Allow users to edit their profile.

7. **H3 User Control & Freedom / Severity 3 / Found by: C**
   Description: The interface requires login at the first screen that limits the freedom of the user to sign in or not.
   Screenshots:

   Fix: Perhaps move the login page to the time when people are trying to leave comments or create a favorite list.

8. **H3 User Control & Freedom / Severity 4 / Found by: A, C**
   Description: The top bar is hidden after scrolling down the page. It's not convenient to go back.
   Screenshots:

   Fix: Fix the top bar on the top of the screen, and avoid moving it when scrolling.

9. **H4 Consistency and Standards / Severity 2 / Found by: A, B**
   Description: On this page, the view count, rating button, and favorite count are put together. This may lead to confusion about whether they are clickable buttons or not. (Since I did not see any favorite button beside that heart?). Instead of the rating number, the button is showing 'rate' text, making it inconsistent with other buttons.
   **Screenshots:**

   Fix: Add a background or border for all buttons and make them seem clickable.

10. **H4 Consistency and Standards / Severity 2 / Found by: C**
Description: at the function of leaving a comment, the leaving button usually will be at the left side, while the cross sign closing bottom will be on the left side, and the stars number out there usually is five not ten.
**Screenshots:**
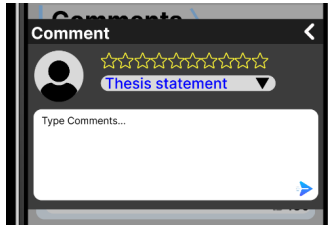
Fix: the leaving button usually will be on the left side, while the cross sign closing bottom will be on the left side, try to choose one that appears better.

11. **H4 Consistency and Standards / Severity 3 / Found by: A**
Description: In the **Personal Profile Page**, only the **Popular Reviews** part can be scrolled. However, we usually scroll the part under the tab or even the whole page.
**Screenshots:**
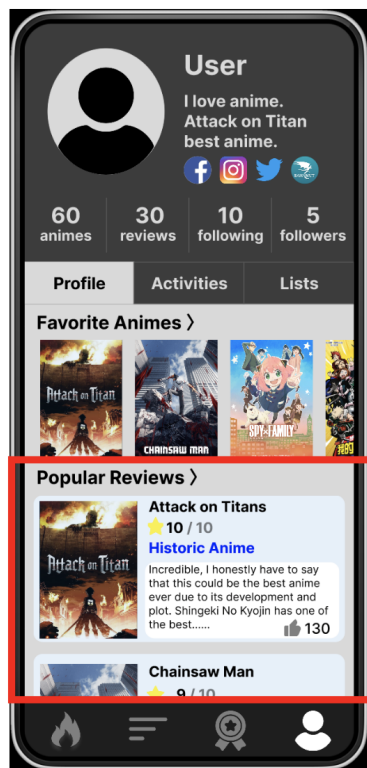
Fix: Redesign the page so that the scrollable part is not only the current one.

12. **H5 Error Prevention / Severity 3 / Found by: B**

    Description: Tapping the back button from the comment dialogue directly takes users back without confirmation. Users may lose their editing text and need to type again if they accidentally press that button. Similarly, there is no confirmation on submitting a review. Seem like users could not edit or delete their ratings or reviews after submission.

    Screenshots:
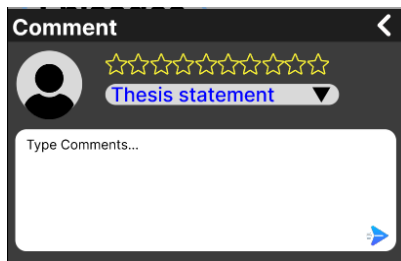
    Fix: Prompt for confirmation before users discard their edit or submit a comment. Enable users to delete or edit their comments.

13. **H5 Error Prevention / Severity 4 / Found by C**

    Description: at the function of leaving a comment, there's a dropdown list to select some statement about this comment, which I didn't notice at the first sight, and people may neglect this selection and send the comment without choosing one.

    Screenshots:
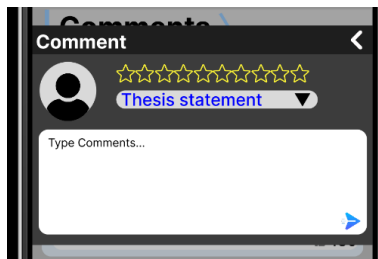
    Fix: Try to explain what the dropdown list does and force people to choose one statement before leaving a comment.

14. **H6 Recognition not Recall / Severity 0 / Found by B**

    Description: Users may not recall what they have been searching for in the past.
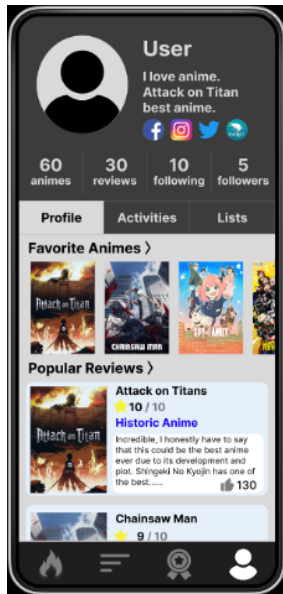
    Screenshots:

    Fix: Display search history on the search bar.

15. **H7 Flexibility and Efficiency of Use / Severity 0 / Found by A**
    Description: In task 3, we need to find the anime to comment in the **Personal Profile Page**, and then scroll down and click the leave comment box. It's not convenient if we want to comment on multiple anime.
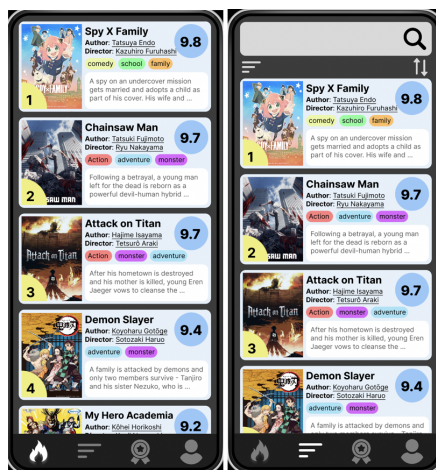   **Screenshots**:

    Fix: Add a leave comment button just on each item of the **Favorite Anime** list.

16. **H8 Aesthetic & Minimalist Design / Severity 3 / Found by A, C, D**
    Description: The trending page and the filter page are too similar to each other.
   **Screenshots:**

    Fix: I think the **Trending Page** can be removed, and in the **Filter Page** it can show the trending list by default. Also, the **Recommendation Page** can be the home page.

17. **H8 Aesthetic & Minimalist Design / Severity 2 / Found by: B**
Description: The spacing of the layout is not well considered, (for example, the button is too compact with other content making it difficult to tap, and there is no space left for the system status bar). And so are the font size (the text in News is too small to read, and the section title should be smaller than the page title on the animation page).
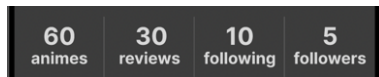**Screenshots:**
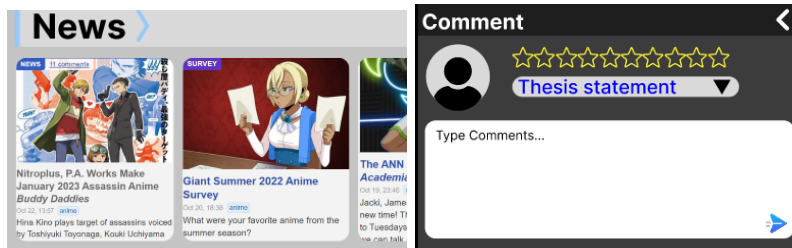
Fix: Make the section title smaller, and add a margin to the button.

18. **H8 Aesthetic & Minimalist Design / Severity 3 / Found by: D**
Description: When I see the profile page, I saw there is following and follower, but I can't find the page of the posts of my following account.
Screenshots:

Fix: Add a page to see the following person's post like IG.

19. **H8 Aesthetic & Minimalist Design / Severity 2 / Found by: D**
Description: I think the anime page is too complicated to view important information.
**Screenshots**:

Fix: You can hide "Casts, Staffs, News ..." to a button that can pop out the information. Make the screen cleaner.

20. **H8 Aesthetic & Minimalist Design / Severity 2 / Found by: B**
    Description: Too many colors are used, making it hard to focus on the content. Some icons are hard to distinguish from the background (such as the light blue title decoration on a light grey background, and a yellow star icon on a light blue background).
    Screenshots:
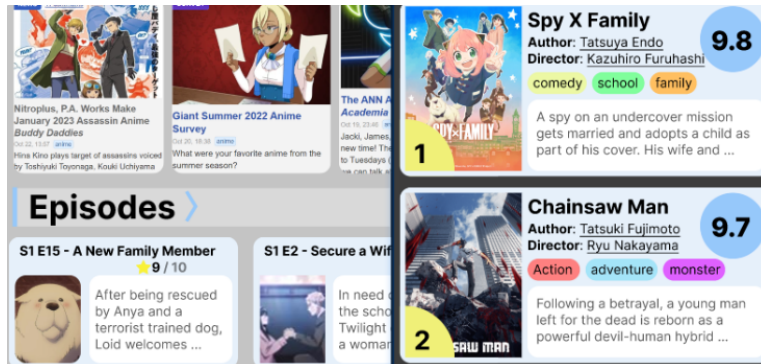
    Fix: Use color from a proper palette. Mind the contrast between all visual element and their background.

21. **H10 Help & Documentation / Severity 1 / Found by: B**
    Description: There is not any help or documentation indicating where the information (the images and description text, etc.) is from.
    Screenshots:
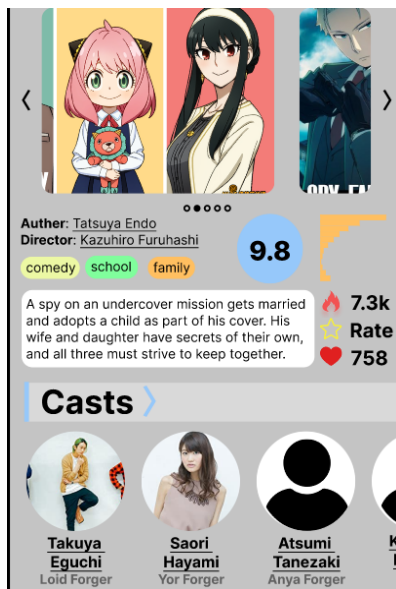
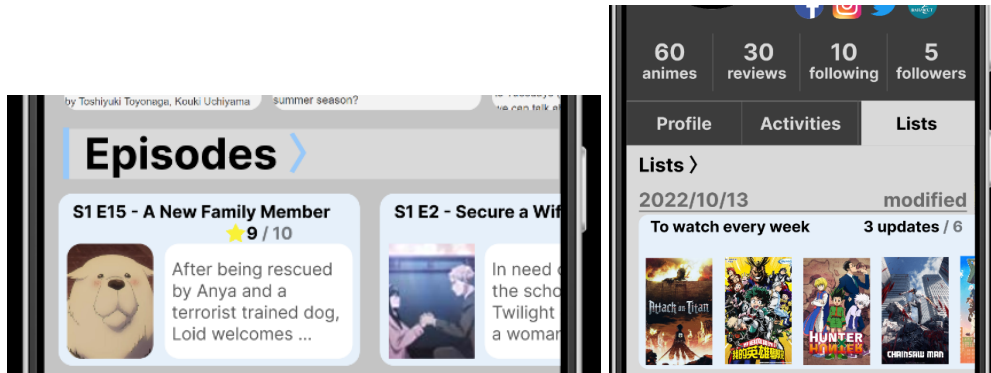   **Fix:** Credit the information sources and add clear explanations for how the data is counted.

22. **H10: Help & Documentation / Severity 4 / Found by C**

Description: There's a lot of information and cool features on the app, but I don't know how to use it, for example, the respective episode's rating, creating each favorite lists., following people…

Screenshots:

Fix: maybe more information in readme

3. Summary of Violations

Category	# Viol. (sev 0)	# Viol. (sev 1)	# Viol. (sev 2)	# Viol. (sev 3)	# Viol. (sev 4)	# Viol. (total)
H1: Visibility of Status				3		3
H2: Match Sys & World		2				2
H3: User Control			1	1	1	3
H4: Consistency			2	1		3
H5: Error Prevention				1	1	2
H6: Recognition not Recall	1					1
H7: Efficiency of Use	1					1
H8: Minimalist Design			3	2		5
H9: Help Users with Errors						0
H10: Documentation		1			1	2
Total Violations by Severity	**2**	**3**	**6**	**8**	**3**	**22**

Note: check your answer for the green box by making sure the sum of the last column is equal to the sum of the last row (not including the green box)

4. Evaluation Statistics

Severity / Evaluator	Evaluator A	Evaluator B	Evaluator C	Evaluator D	Evaluator E
Severity 0	50%	50%			
Severity 1	66.7%	66.7%			
Severity 2	16.7%	66.7%	16.7%	16.7	
Severity 3	50%	25%	25%	25%	
Severity 4	33.3%	0%	100%		
% identified (Severity 3 & 4)	45.4%	18.2%	45.4%	18.2%	
% identified (All severity levels)	40.9%	40.9%	27.3%	13.6%	

Note: that the bottom 2 rows are not calculated by adding the numbers above it. They are calculated by the [# of such violations identified by each evaluator] divided by the [total # of violations in the corresponding severity levels].

5. Summary Recommendations
[merge the general recommendations you made here]

We think the overall design is well completed. We can quickly understand the purpose of the app. However, there are still some problems that may need more discussion. For example, the violations mentioned above and there are still some missing pages and buttons. One of the evaluators found the app looks highly similar to IMDB. Thus, it is recommended to have references from more rating websites instead of just copying from one.

The app also requires some polish on its visual presentation. We think the overall interface is a little bit too complicated. The screen should be cleaner, with fewer buttons to tap. Otherwise, users will be confused about those buttons and are unwilling to explore them. The app is full of information, so more effort should be made on organizing all of the information to make it simpler for users. Some complex functions lack introductions. The team may acquire some aesthetic skills when presenting their information, such as having a palette for the App and making the proper decision for the color, layout, spacing, and size for all visual elements. Do not overemphasize everything using big and bold font, try making it look more harmonized.