**LionAuction**

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# 1. Introduction

LionAuction is a startup company which seeks to create an auction site for LSU, which can be used by students and local businesses alike to buy and sell products in an auction-style format. Students will be able to purchase products from other students and individuals as well as from local businesses and vendors. Items will have categories in order to help bidders find what they are looking for, as well as to help sellers classify their products. The site will also offer a customer support service known as HelpDesk, where buyers and sellers can submit tickets for their various issues and requests. Along with this, HelpDesk will continuously perform market analyses to continue improving the platform, potentially implementing feedback provided by the users.

# 2. Format Guidelines

Your report should have a title page including your name as the author. Following the cover page is a table of contents including entries for first and second level section headings. On the following pages are a list of figures and a list of tables (each on a separate page). It’s suggested that your document use a twelve-point font for ease of reading. Text is justified on both the left and right. All pages except the cover page are numbered. The length of the body of your document, excluding the cover page, table of contents, list of figures and list of tables, is expected to be no less than 10 pages. However, based on our experience, 10 pages are usually not enough to complete all the tasks in Phase 1 of the project with sufficient detail! There is no upper limit on the number of pages in your document. You may use as many pages as you like (hopefully not exceeding 50 pages) to produce a complete and impressive report.

## 2.1. Section Headings

First level section headings should be centered and numbered consecutively. They should be in bold font and should start on a new page. Second level headings (such as this one) should be numbered and left justified again in bold font. Third level section headings are not numbered. They are left justified, bold and italicized. The title is followed immediately by a hyphen and the text of the paragraph with no break.

## 2.2. Figures and Tables

Figures and tables must be labeled with a number and caption. Tables are labeled above while the caption of a figure appears below.

***Figures-*** See Figure 1 below for an example of proper formatting. A figure should immediately follow the paragraph in which it is first referenced. If this placement would leave a large white space, the figure can be delayed until the top of the following page.



Figure 1 - An Example of Meaningless Juxtaposed Shapes

***Tables-*** Below is an example of proper table labeling. Table placement rules are similar to Figure placement rules.

Table 1 - The Relationship Between foo and bar

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Column A | Column B |
| 1 | Foo |
| Bar | 25 |

## 2.3. Appendices

Appendices are labeled with successive letters of the alphabet, the first being Appendix A. Please note that the main body of the report should cover the project tasks. However, you do not want to overload the main body of the report with too much supplementary information to lost its focus. Appendix is a good place to include supplementary information related to the project, such as project plan.

# 3. Structure

Your report should begin with an introduction describing the project to give the reader a proper background. This may also a nice place to make the statement of the project objectives as appreciate. Please do not quote large parts of the project description. In addition, the introduction should provide an overview which previews the remainder of your report. As the project move forward, the report should incorporate more content based on the tasks specified in project description. For example, the report for Phase 1 should cover i) requirement analysis (with your own words/discussion instead of copying from the project description), ii) conceptual database modeling (presented by an ER diagram together with a detailed explanation of it), iii) technology survey (for you to research a breadth of various web programming frameworks, programming languages, tools, and database management systems as well as the trends in those technological areas) and iv) logical database design and normalization (apply both of translating the ER diagram to relations and then perform schema normalization, with a detailed explanation of the process). Please note that simply listing what you did for the project tasks does not produce a good report. In addition to elaborating what you did in the project, you need to explain your design decisions with justification, e.g., why you place a key constraint on the Departments entity set which is involved in a Manage relationship with the Employees entity set instead of the other way around or other alternatives. You need to let your readers know the reasons behind your design.

# 4. Conclusion

This document summarizes the format and structure for the project reports. I hope this will be helpful in completing your project reports. If you have further questions, please feel free to ask.