

CS 280 - Week 3

Question 1:



Subway Surfers is an endless runner mobile game from Kiloo and SYBO Games. User swipes left or right to change to a different railway. When player encounters an obstacle (as in the screenshot), even if player forgot the tutorial, the way golden coins arranges in the air can easily suggest that player can swipe up to dodge the obstacle.

Question 2:

In Dropbox application for Android, the user-interface is quite simple. There is just a horizontal menu bar fixed to the top of the screen and the rest of the screen is used to display the list of items in user's Dropbox archive. If user wants to find something based on its name, he can do it by pressing the magnifying glass icon on the right of the menu bar, and then a text box appears so he can type in the information he needs. Dropbox's user-interface used magnifying glass icon as a metaphor which suggests the action of searching or finding.

Question 3:

When Windows introduced Windows 8, they used a brand new user interface design (Metro) as a replacement for the traditional Start menu. However, it caused dissatisfaction for many users. Metro interface design was meant to be used in a multi-touch display, therefore using

mouse is uncomfortable (it is difficult using mouse to access applications hidden on the right side of the screen than simply swiping to the left with a finger). Besides, all Metro applications are opened in full-screen mode by default, which is not what every users wants, especially when they want to see more than just one or two windows. Despite the disadvantages, Metro design looks clean and simple, and it now becomes a trend in user interface design, especially in modern websites.

Question 4:

I work in a movie theatre and sometimes I work in box office. My main duty is assisting guests buying tickets from automated kiosks. The interface of these kiosks is really frustrating because for me as an employee, it takes time to get trained on it in order to use it properly. For the majority who buy tickets at these machines, the procedure is quite simple: pick a movie by touching on the screen, choose showtime, scan member card, choose prices based on ages, and pay for it. However, for those who bought tickets online and want to pick it up at the theatre, it is hard to find the button for that action because the button is at the bottom of the screen while most of the screen is used to display a bunch of movies' posters which distracts users from finding the button they need. For those who have coupons from Costco, there is no way to find the option to scan their coupons. The user-interface is bad for this action because for that situation, guests have to go through the steps as they buy tickets normally, except when they get to the price choosing step, there will be a button for scanning coupons (one again, the button is placed at the bottom, which make it difficult to realize even though some people get to that step). In addition, when a guest gets to the payment step and she realizes that she miss something in the previous step, she will have to cancel the process and do it from the beginning (there is an option for going back in each step except the payment step, which make it sometimes frustrating).

Question 5:

After Intel released patches which - as they declared - can fix Meltdown/Spectre issue, Linus Torvalds criticized Intel's solution which was - according to Linus's words - "complete and utter garbage". He used convincing reasons - despite of his harsh words - to point out the disadvantages of the method which Intel used to fix Meltdown/Spectre issue. Intel responded to Linus's criticism that they took his feedback seriously and were actively seeking to work with Linus and Linux community on solutions. Intel's action was obligatory based on utilitarian ethical framework because Linus's criticism was right and Intel has to do appropriate action in order to make their users happy. Otherwise, they will lose their users - which is also their profits - to their competitors.

Reference: <https://techcrunch.com/2018/01/22/linux-torvalds-declares-intel-fix-for-meltdown-spectre-complete-and-utter-garbage/>

Question 6:

::Question::Which type of fallacy does not belong to the type of relevance? {

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=Equivocation (word/phrase with multiple meanings)

~Ad Hominem (against the person)

~Red herring (distraction)

~Authority

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