Software Development Unit 1, 1.6

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# I can describe how the purpose and outcomes have been met by the chosen IT systems and tools.

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| **Software** | **Purpose** | **Outcome** |
| **GIMP**  Alternatives:  *Adobe Photoshop*  *Corel Draw*  *Inkscape* | The purpose of GIMP was for photo editing and completing the following specific tasks:   * Cleaning and editing my art which is the main content of my website. * Saving images in various formats such as JPG and PNG and deciding which is more appropriate and fit for purpose. * Amending the resolution size of my images accordingly to improve bandwidth and loading times of my website. | GIMP has been really useful in editing photos since it has the ability to save in various image formats and scale to the exact pixel requirements. It has the ability to work with layers, brushes, filters and more which I find useful for editing my own art as well.  I haven’t used GIMP in a while, so I had to refresh my memory and took my time re-exploring it’s features to get the job done, but apart from that, things worked well. |
| **Google Slides**  Alternatives:  *MS PowerPoint*  *Websites that offer free customised buttons* | I used Google slides specifically to create shapes, ergo for the navigation buttons.  I’ve also managed to find other website where I can create customised buttons such as <https://www.clickminded.com/button-generator/> . I found that these websites were useful, but had limitations when it came to font choices, therefore decided to create my own button anyway. | Gimp isn’t that create with creating pre-existing shapes, so as long as I manage to get the shape I need from Slides, I was easily able copy this over to Gimp and do further editing on there. This worked well for me as all I needed was the shapes tool within Slides.  I did attempt to use Inkscape to create some vector images and saw that it would’ve been useful for creating shapes. This would’ve been helpful for creating navigation buttons too. This is something I can explore in future, but I have created my buttons from screenshots of shapes from Google Slides. |
| **Visual Studio**  Alternatives:  *Dreamweaver*  *Notepad* | Visual Studio (VS) ’s purpose is to assist me in creating the HTML and CSS coding for my website. | Visual Studio to coding is the equivalent of autocorrect to Word. It is great for picking up unclosed tags, drag and drop and even intuitively guesses what attribute/code I want to use based on the first few letters I’ve typed. This has made me more efficient with using HTML. In comparison, I tried coding on Notepad and found it harder to pick up on my errors.  Although Visual Studio is great, I had issues with running it on any browser. I find that I would save my amendments, re-run it again on Chrome, and my saved changes wouldn’t take place. In this situation, I decided to open the HTML file directly from Visual Studio’s file folders and refresh it manually which worked for me.  An alternative to Visual Studio is Dreamweaver which is owned by Adobe and is a premium product. It is said to be easier to use since it allows the user to simply drag and drop elements into the page, but the impact is that the coding bloated which isn’t ideal when you want a fast website. It is also expensive and cost approximately $20.99 per month. |
| **Notepad** | Visual Studio is linked with notepad whenever it creates an HTML file. I need Notepad if I needed to view the HTML coding without the use of VS. VS can be demanding for my hardware and it’s much easier to open directly on Notepad in some instances.  In addition, Notepad is a great tool for typing content that’s free from styles attached to the text. | Notepad has always been reliable, especially since it’s been available to Windows users since 1980s. Therefore, it worked as expected and I didn’t encounter any issues with it. |
| **Chrome & Edge**  Alternatives:  *Safari*  *Firefox*  *Opera* | Since my project is creating a website, I needed to make sure that my site displays as expected on majority of popular websites. | For this project, I chose Chrome and Edge since it’s one of the most used web browsers in Windows. I could have also used other alternatives such as Safari, Firefox and Opera, but I only needed to check compatibility on a couple of browsers. Although web browser compatibility had issues in the past (I.e., the box model issue with IE), there aren’t much nowadays. |
| **Filezilla** | The purpose of Filezilla is to upload my website to the webhost provider. | I don’t have much knowledge of uploading websites myself since the only experience I have with actual publishing websites is through Wix, which allows me to create and publish my website within their website. But, if I’m creating a website from scratch and I’m not relying on third party services, I will need to know how to utilise software such as Filezilla. I currently don’t have a domain name I can use for this project, so I have researched and captured the steps I need to take if and when I do need to upload via FTP on Filezilla. |
| **InShot**  Alternatives:  *Filmora*  *Windows Video Editor* | The purpose of InShot was to create my video and upload the content to YouTube, so I can then embed this in my website. | InShot is a great little nifty tool as an android app. It allowed me to create a video and embed music within my video as well. To create my video, I had scanned my art work at different stages whilst I was making it. I then collated this in order, added some music and transition effects. This went really well since the app is quite intuitive and packed with features. InShot also has a great sharing feature so I was able to upload my files directly to my Google drive for back up and then to YouTube.  I could’ve also used Filmora or Windows Video Editor and both would’ve potentially had the same quality, but different available effects. I was spoilt for choice but was already happy with InShot. I could’ve really just uploaded it as a GIF image, but I wanted to demonstrate the ability to embed videos. |