

Heuristic Evaluation

Project Theme: Female oriented gaming community

Group Name: Lost Stars

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TA Name: Danielle

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Combined Heuristic Evaluation Results

Landing Page

The screenshot shows a landing page with a central sign-up form. The background features a grid of small profile pictures of women. At the top left, there's a banner with the text "here Are More Girls!" and a "We Need You" section below it. On the right side, there's a "Share Your Game-related" section. The sign-up form is titled "Welcome!" and contains four input fields: "Enter your username", "Enter your email", "Enter your password", and "Re-enter your password". Below these is a pink "Sign Up and Log In" button. To the right of the form is a "Submit" button and a link "I'm a traveler". At the bottom left of the form area, there are "Sign up" and "I'm a traveler" links.

Welcome!

Enter your username

Enter your email

Enter your password

Re-enter your password

Sign Up and Log In

Submit

I'm a traveler

We Need You

Do you know some games that fit the following description?

Share Your Game-related

Join Us

Username

Password

Submit

Sign up | I'm a traveler

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
"I'm a traveller" might be confusing for some users	1	Reality	3
Sign up window does not have close option	4	User Control and Freedom	2
No "Forgot Password" Option	4	Error Recovery	1
password should be hidden	2	Consistency & standards	1

Navigation Bar



Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
"Connect" might be confusing	1	Reality	1
Cannot directly click the Explore and Connect button	3	Flexibility and efficiency	2
Explore menus never leads to the top of the page	4	Flexibility and efficiency / User control and freedom	1
user name should be showed as specific name instead of general 'user'	2	Visibility of system status	1

Home Page



The banner features a scene from Super Mario Odyssey where Mario and Luigi are flying through the air, with a large green ring floating above them against a blue sky with clouds and a crescent moon.

Quest + I want to put up a quest

How to beat Irish Broodal in 'Mario Odyssey'?

Anyone ever encountered a software crushing during gaming?

How to install the OpenGL and C++ support for 'Tomb Raider'?

Explore Different Worlds

Tech Talk Game Reviews Wikis Walk-through

Meet New Friends

The play the same games

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
Slider grey area and lack of explanation	3	Aesthetic and minimalist design	2
User information display privacy issue (no option set info private)	4	User control and freedom	1

Profile	Name	Favorite Game	Action
	Lily	Favorite Game: Life is Strange	+
	Ashley	Favorite Game: Tomb Raider	+
	Hester	Favorite Game: Mario Odyssey	+
	Cara	Favorite Game: Brawl Stars	+

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
Slider grey area and lack of explanation	3	Aesthetic and minimalist design	2
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Content Editing Page

The screenshot shows a content editing interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Explore, Connect, and My Page. A user greeting "Hello, User" is also present. Below the navigation, there is a search bar labeled "Enter the title of your quest" and a dropdown menu labeled "Select a type". A radio button labeled "Anonymous" is visible. A large text area with a placeholder "Start typing" is centered. At the bottom of the page is a red "Submit" button.

The screenshot shows a confirmation message box. It contains the text "We have posted your quest!" and "Let's wait for someone to solve it." Below the message is a red "Confirm" button. Above the message box, there is an error notification with an exclamation mark icon and the text "Please fill out this field." This indicates that the user must enter a title before posting.

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
No save and exit button	4	User control and freedom	4
No autosave	2	Error prevention	3
No autocheck	0	Error prevention	2
Opens a new page but doesn't automatically close (forced direction to homepage instead)	2	User control and freedom / Minimalist	2
No autocomplete	1	Flexibility and efficiency and use	1
Empty input generates conflicting messages: error	4	error prevention	1

and success			
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Connect Page

Friend Suggestion

-  Lily
 Favorite Game: Life is strange
-  Li
 Favorite Game: Candy Crush
-  Ashley
 Favorite Game: Tomb Raider
-  Hester
 Favorite Game: Don't Starve

Activity Timeline

- Alice invites you and other friends to this activity
-
-
- Your friend Sarah posted a quest.
- Your friend Sarah updated her favorite game to 'Life is strange'.
- Your friend Ashley invited you to answer a quest.
- You have accepted a new friend request from the user Ashley.
- You are invited to a chat group created by Anna.
- Irene has accepted your friend request.
- You changed your favorite game to 'Tomb Raider'.
- Your have accepted a new friend request from the user Anna.

Teammate Search

Want to find some new friends to play with you? Start a teammate search here!
Once you post your search, other people will be able to contact you.

Game Name
Level
Goal
Available Time
Submit

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
Existing friends not explicitly shown	3	Visibility / Recognition rather than recall	1
Activity section not linked to each activity does not allow interaction	4	Flexibility and efficiency of use	2
Teammate Search does not have immediate feedback	4	Flexibility and efficiency of use /	2

(cannot view other searches)		Minimalistic	
Teammate Search Allows empty search	2	Error prevention	1
Teammate Search fields are not clear enough and there is no help information	4	Recognition rather than recall	2
Friend suggestion scrollbar style only applies in Chrome (In other browsers the scrollbar has default style)	0	Standard and consistency (across browsers); Aesthetic (in non-chrome browsers)	1
the input request 'Goal' seems ambiguous	2	Recognition rather than recall	1

Explore Page

Find Things You Need For Your Adventures

Where do you want to visit?



Trending games

[Recommend me something](#)

[A hat in time](#)

[Life is Strange](#)

[The last jungle](#)

[Lost in space](#)

Popular guides

Tips for female gamers

Essay: 'the role female gamers play'

Flying Turkey : gaming strategy

Your friends are talking about...

The last episode: 'Rise of the stars'

Question: where can I find good games?

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
Game review and guides are not filtered by games, which might be hard to find without search	3	Flexibility and efficiency of use	1
Style is different from the homepage and within this page	2	Aesthetic and minimalistic design; Consistency	1
The dialogue "where do you want to visit" is not clear enough	4	Reality	1
Game review and guides are not filtered by games, which might be hard to find without search	3	Flexibility and efficiency of use	1
reviews and guides are referred to the same page	3	Aesthetic & Minimalist Design	1

General Problems / All Pages

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
No technical support / help / tutorial	2	Help and documentation	4
Lack ability to customize	3	Flexibility and efficiency of use	3
No keyboard shortcut	0	Flexibility and efficiency of use	1
No search options	3	User control and freedom / Flexibility and efficiency of use	3
Cannot undo posts (should be in my page, which is not implemented)	4	User control and freedom	2
Most links not active and does not appear to be clickable	3	Reality	1
Cannot logout	4	User control and freedom	1

Game Recommendation

Game Recommendation

Type	<input type="checkbox"/> RPG	<input type="checkbox"/> FPS	<input type="checkbox"/> Puzzle	<input type="checkbox"/> Casual	<input type="checkbox"/> Action
	<input type="checkbox"/> Adventure	<input type="checkbox"/> Simulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> Indie	<input type="checkbox"/> Racing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Art Style	<input type="checkbox"/> Realistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Comic	<input type="checkbox"/> Anime	<input type="checkbox"/> Steam Punk	<input type="checkbox"/> Retro
	<input type="checkbox"/> 3D	<input type="checkbox"/> 2D-cutout	<input type="checkbox"/> Cell-shaded	<input type="checkbox"/> Illustrative	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Difficulty	<input type="checkbox"/> Easy	<input type="checkbox"/> Casual	<input type="checkbox"/> Challenging	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-level	
Graphic	<input type="checkbox"/> Best Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> High Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important	
Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Award-winning	<input type="checkbox"/> Original	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important		

[Start Search](#)

Top Match



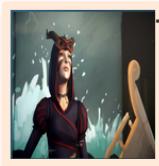
99%



99%



80%



72%

Don't Starve

Lost Sphere

Human Fall Flat

Life is strange

Problem	Severity	Violation	Number of Testers
The prototype does not reflect actual interaction: without selection there's still top match	3	Visibility of system status	1
Game recommendation does not support searching by name	1	3 User control and freedom	1
Clicking on some checkbox's name affect the other checkbox. (Prototyping technical issue)	4	5 Error Prevention	1

Appendix (each group member's heuristic evaluation)

Xinze Zhao

Page	Problem Description	Violation	Severity
All pages	We don't have accessibility well supported in our prototypes, e.g. we do not have alternative text for images.	2. Reality	2 / 4
#ContentEditing	Users can not undo their posting in this prototype.	3. User Control & Freedom	2 / 4
#ContentEditing	Spell checkers and autocorrect are not supported in this prototype.	5. Error Prevention	3 / 4
#ContentEditing	Currently don't support autocomplete while user is typing.	7. Flexibility	1 / 4
All pages	Currently no keyboard shortcuts	7. Flexibility	0 / 4
#ContentEditing	Don't support autosave temporarily.	9. Error Recovery	2 / 4
All pages	Don't have tutorials and FAQ's since our website is easy to navigate.	10. Help & Documentation	1 / 4
#Home	Currently do not support customization of personal profile	7. Flexibility & Efficiency	2 / 4

Page	Problem Details	Severity	Heuristic Violated
Landing Page	I'm a traveller is more confusing than guest	4	4 Consistency and standards
All Page	Locations that seem to be clickable, but is actually not	1	2 Match between system and real world
After signing in	Status doesn't change	4	1 Visibility of system status
Home	The image on the top of mario odyssey doesn't have an explanation or a meaning	1	8 Aesthetic and minimalist design
Home	There is no search option, such as post search	3	1 Visibility of system status
Home	There is no help or support function	4	10 Help and documentation
All Page	After posting, there is not an ability to undo the post	4	3 User control and freedom
Home Page	Posting page creates a new tab that does not disappear after you've done posting	2	8 Aesthetic and minimalist design
All Page	The website lacks the ability of customizing the user's profile	2	7 Flexibility and efficiency of use
Explore page	Game review and guides are not filtered by games, which might be hard to find without search	3	7 Flexibility and efficiency of use
Game recommendation page	Game recommendation does not support searching by name	1	3 User control and freedom
Game recommendation page	Clicking on some checkbox's name affect the other checkbox. For instance, clicking retro affect adventure?	4	5 Error Prevention
Connect page	There isn't a location to see current friends	4	6 Recognition rather than recall
Home page	There isn't an option of preventing random people viewing my favorite games or adding me	3	3 User control and freedom

Connect page	Teammate search allows empty search	4	5 Error Prevention
Connect page	Can't view other people's search post and can only create post, which might leads to errors of everyone posting, no one responding	4	5 Error prevention
Explore page	Clicking any explore options send the user to the bottom instead of top of the explore page	2	4 Consistency and standards
Content editing page	Posts lack a save option or draft to post at a later date	1	3 User control and freedom

Page	Problem	Severity	Heuristic Violated
Landing Page	Sign up window does not have close option	4	User Control and Freedom
Landing Page	“I’m a traveller” button might be confusing for some users	1	Reality
Landing Page	No “forgot password” option	4	error recovery
Home Page	Grey area of the slider is not pretty	2	Aesthetic and minimalistic design
Explore Page	Style is different from the homepage and within this page	2	Aesthetic and minimalistic design; Consistency
Content-editing page	No autocheck	4	Error Prevention
Content-editing page	No save option	4	User control and freedom
Content-editing page	No autosave	3	Error Recovery
Connect Page	Friend suggestion scrollbar style only applies in Chrome (In other browsers the scrollbar has default style)	0	Standard and consistency (across browsers); Aesthetic (in non-chrome browsers)
Connect Page	Activity timeline section currently does not have direct link to the associated activities	4	Flexibility and efficiency of use
Connect Page	Teammate Search has no immediate feedback	4	Flexibility and efficiency of use
General	No search option	3	Flexibility and efficiency of use
General	No technical support and contact	3	Help and Documentation

Page	Problem Details	Severity	Heuristic Violated
1.main page	once we have logged in, user has nowhere to log out or change the user.	3	User control and freedom principle
2.Log in page	The button “I’m a traveler” is not match between system and the real world. Usually we say I’m a visitor	2	match between system and the real world.
3.Main page	The button “connect” should have more clear meaning. Which may violate the “match between system and the real world” principle.	3	match between system and the real world.
4.several pages	Lack of “Help and documentation” which can help user to determine that task they should focus on.	2.5	Help and documentation
5.game recommendation page	The dialogue, “where do you want to visit” doesn’t have a clear meaning for user.	4	which violate the match between system and the real world” principle.
6.Post quest page.	For the page “I want to put up a quest”. Even if I enter nothing then click submit button. It does show me an error message but also show me the successful message. Then user will automatically force return to main page.	3	Error prevention.
7.several pages	For several pages they don’t “emergency exit” button to let user quit the unwanted pages. This violate the "User control and freedom". Even though user can click the “Home “button to return to main page.	3.5	User control and freedom
8.Teammate Search Page	For the Teammate Search area. The level area is not clear for user what they should enter in this blank. Also, if user doesn’t type anything, the error message still not show an example what kind of format that user should enter.	2。 5	Match between system and the real world” and “Help users recognize, diagnose, and recover from errors

9.game recommendation area	For the game recommendation area, even if user doesn't type anything, it will still give user some matched games	4	Aesthetic and minimalist design
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Join Us

Username

Password

Submit

Sign up | **I'm a traveler**

Where do you want to visit?



Game Recommendation

Type	<input type="checkbox"/> RPG	<input type="checkbox"/> FPS	<input type="checkbox"/> Puzzle	<input type="checkbox"/> Casual	<input type="checkbox"/> Action
	<input type="checkbox"/> Adventure	<input type="checkbox"/> Simulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> Indie	<input type="checkbox"/> Racing
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Other			
Art Style	<input type="checkbox"/> Realistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Comic	<input type="checkbox"/> Anime	<input type="checkbox"/> Steam Punk	<input type="checkbox"/> Retro
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Difficulty	<input type="checkbox"/> Easy	<input type="checkbox"/> Casual	<input type="checkbox"/> Challenging	<input type="checkbox"/> Multi-level	
Graphic	<input type="checkbox"/> Best Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> High Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Medium Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important	
Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Award-winning	<input type="checkbox"/> Original	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important		

Start Search

Top Match



Connect

Friends

Team Search

Please fill out this field.

We have posted your quest!

Let's wait for someone to solve it.

Confirm

Game Name

Level

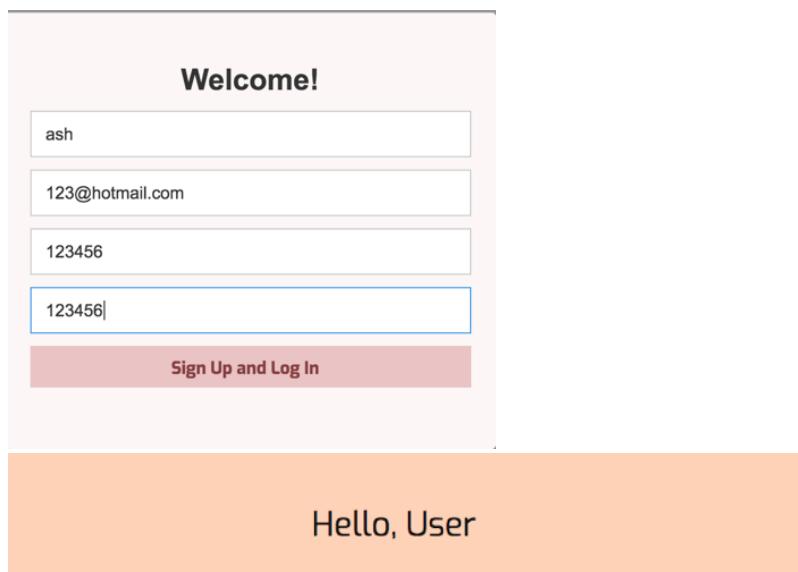
Goal **Please fill out this field.**

Available Time

Submit

Page	Problem Details	Severity	Heuristic Violated
Home page	While doing sign up, the password should be hidden instead of showed directly	2	Consistency & standards
Home page	After signing in, there should be user name appearing on the right corner of the website instead of 'user' which is for random guest.	2	Visibility of system status
Home page	There should be an option for registered user to log out after signing in	3	User control & freedom
Explore game reviews	There's no need to have two options 'game reviews' and 'game guides' below Explore when both of them refer to the same page	3	Aesthetic & Minimalist Design
Connect	Since activity time line is related To specific user, it should be a section of user's own page instead of the connect page	3	Flexibility and efficiency of use
Explore recommendation	If I browse as a guest, there are still game recommendations saying that those match my taste while the web knows nothing about a guest	2.5	Match between System and real world
Connect Team search	The 'Goal' section in 'Teammate Search' seems ambiguous	2	Recognition rather than recall

Explore guides	The sections 'popular guides' and 'your friends are talking about' might have a big overlap	2	Aesthetic & Minimalist Design
Home page	There's no cancel button for cancelling sign up	3	User control & freedom



Explore

Game Reviews

Game Guides

Activity Timeline

- Alice invites you and other friends to this activity
- Your friend Sarah posted a quest.
- Your friend Sarah updated her favorite game to 'Life is strange'.
- Your friend Ashley invited you to answer a quest.
- You have accepted a new friend request from the user Ashley.
- You are invited to a chat group created by Anna.
- Irene has accepted your friend request.
- You changed your favorite game to 'Tomb Raider'.
- You have accepted a new friend request from the user Anna.

Top Match

Game	Percentage
Don't Starve	99%
Lost Sphere	99%
Human Fall Flat	80%
Life is strange	72%

Teammate Search

Want to find some new friends to play with you? Start a teammate search here! Once you post your search, other people will be able to contact you.

Game Name
Level
Goal
Available Time
Submit

Popular guides

Tips for female gamers

Essay: 'the role female gamers play'

Flying Turkey : gaming strategy

Your friends are talking about...

The last episode: 'Rise of the stars'

Question: where can I find good games?