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Tech Basics II Report:

New Meet- The new and easy way to connect.

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New Meet – The new and easy way to connect.

In today's society, we're on a constant move. Every day, people experience new beginnings and leave their current living situation in the past. For a lot of people, these new paths include moving to a new city or even country. There are many personal reasons why people leave their current living situations, such as new work opportunities, studies, or travel. When starting a new chapter, establishing new connections and meaningful friendships is one of the biggest obstacles. It can be very challenging to find your new roots and to start making and sharing new experiences. Until now, the available friendship platforms have focused on individual level interaction, which is a great way to find new connections but may not be a comfortable situation for everybody. For that reason, the idea of the new platform, New Meet, was developed. New Meet gives people the opportunity to connect and engage with others in a group setting. The following report outlines how this idea is implemented into a functioning platform.

New Meet is designed to be simple, understandable, and easy to use. Once the user opens the GUI, they are greeted with the welcome page, which includes the starting button. After using the starting button, the filter-choosing process begins. That entails three different categories, such as city, gender, and age group. There is an own filter page for each category, which you can see on the pictures, included at the end of this document. For the city page, the user chooses between Lüneburg, Hamburg, Berlin, and Wolfsburg. Once selected, the gender page opens, and the user selects their gender. Lastly, the user chooses from the four possible age group options — teens, young adults, adults, and seniors — on the age group selection page. In the next step, the platform shows the user possible groups based on their chosen filters. That is done by saving the user's selection in the command line as well as in the definition of the next page. With that, it is possible to include those in an if-else statement, which helps define what specific outcomes, meaning the suggested group pages, different filter combinations have. When the user chooses a group on the group selection page, an individual group page with a group description and picture opens. Additionally, there is the possibility to contact the groups through the corresponding text field and send button. If the user chooses not to, they can go back to the homepage and find other groups to read through. It is possible that there is no fitting group found for a specific filter combination. In that case, a chatbot page will open to assist with questions users might have and the suggestion of contacting them if any new groups join.

Different from the last project, I chose to keep the warm and welcoming colors throughout the whole GUI. The added pictures for each filter page do not only make the concept more understandable but also easier because of the enhanced visuality of the filters. The user interface looks cleaner and is less complicated, since this needs to be an accessible platform for everyone, even people with no prior technology knowledge.

While working on this project, I came across some complications, which I was able to solve. One of them is how to connect and simplify the big if-else statement with all the different filter options. As an example, I was really stuck on finding a solution to select all genders without having to write the same line of code three times. Since this was code that we worked on in class, I found it difficult to find ideas on how to find solutions on the internet. I tried writing all gender selections in the same line of code, but unfortunately, it did not work when I ran the code. After trying other ideas, it worked out, and the solution was not including the specific genders in the line of code at all. For the future, if this would turn into a bigger project, I would love to add more categories, including children and different neighborhoods, as well as more (real) groups.

All in all, I believe that a platform like New Meet can help and support others on their journey and make it more comfortable and lighter. Finding friendships and new connections is something that we as humans crave and is very important for everyone's (mental) health, especially when we enter a new chapter of our lives. That being said, platforms like New Meet provide us with opportunities to find new roots as well as a comforting and friendly environment once we start that new chapter.

My GUI:

Welcome Page:



Gender selection page:



Example of suggested groups page:



Example of sent message:



City selection page:



Age group selection page:



Example of individual group page:



Chatbot page:



Sources:

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