

CS 442: Mobile Applications Development

Assignment 5 – News Gateway (450 pts)

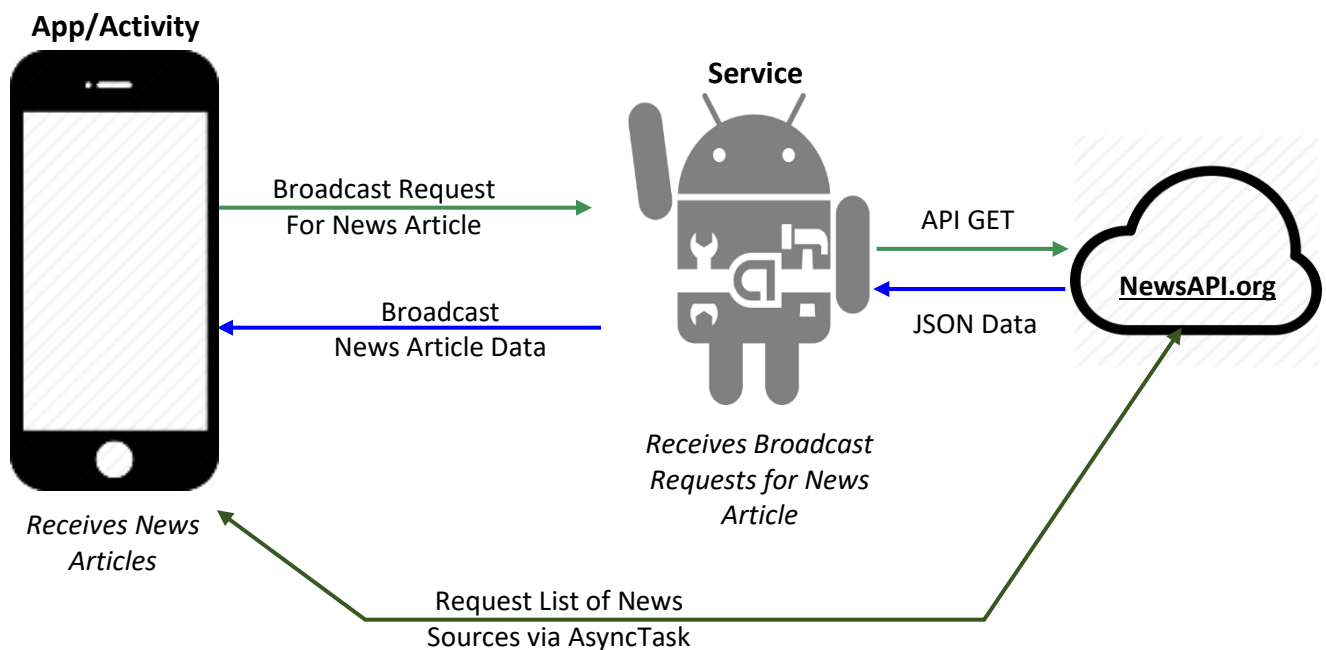
Uses: Service, Broadcasts & Receivers, Drawer Layout, Fragments, ViewPager, Internet, APIs

App Highlights:

- This app displays current news articles from a wide variety of news sources covering a range of news categories.
- NewsAPI.org will be used to acquire the news sources and news articles.
- Selecting a news source will display up to 10 top stories from that news source
- Selecting a news category will limit the news source choices to only those offering that category of news.
- News articles are viewed by swiping right to read the next article, and left to go back to the previous article
- You *will not* need to develop separate landscape layouts
- The user can go to the complete extended article on the news source's website by clicking on the article title, text, or image content.
- You must add a professional looking launcher icon to your app.

NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT

Application Architecture:



**A) News Data:**

Acquiring news source and news article data will be done via the [NewsAPI.org](https://newsapi.org) news aggregation service. This service allows you to download news sources (all or by news type/category) and news articles (by news source)

NOTE: You MUST sign up get an API key in order to access the NewsAPI.org services. Your API KEY must be supplied with NewsAPI.org queries. You can do this by registering at:

<https://newsapi.org/register>

Register with an email and a new password and agree to the terms and click Submit to register and get your API key (the key is displayed to you right after you click the Submit button).

The API:

The NewsAPI.org service offers 2 API calls – one to get news *sources* (organizations offering news – CNN, Time, etc.) and one to get top news *articles* from a selected news source.

1) News Sources Query Format (to be used in our assignment):

To get all sources:

`https://newsapi.org/v2/sources?language=en&country=us&category=_____&apiKey=_____`

NOTE, using an empty string for the category returns sources for all categories.

Do not use “all”, it will not work.

For example, if your category was “business” and your API Key was “ABC123xyz”, the URL would be:

`https://newsapi.org/v2/sources?language=en&country=us&category=business&apiKey=ABC123xyz`

2) News Article Query Format (to be used in our assignment):

`https://newsapi.org/v2/everything?sources=_____&language=en&pageSize=100&apiKey=_____`

For example, if your API Key was “ABC123xyz” and you wanted “cnn” news, the URL would be:

`https://newsapi.org/v2/everything?sources=cnn&language=en&pageSize=100&apiKey=ABC123xyz`

NOTE, be sure to use the source’s “id” and not the string “name”.

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1) NewsAPI.org Sources Query Results Example:

`https://newsapi.org/v2/sources?language=en&country=us&category=&apiKey= ABC123xyz`

The above query will return results for all sources since the category is empty: `category=`

The results come in the form of a JSON Object that contains a JSON Array of source entries as shown below. Each entry represents an individual news source. The highlighted fields below each define a source. Example:

```
{
  "status": "ok",
  "sources": [{
    "id": "abc-news",
    "name": "ABC News",
    "description": "Your trusted source for breaking news, analysis, exclusive
                  interviews, headlines, and videos at ABCNews.com.",
    "url": "https://abcnews.go.com",
    "category": "general",
    "language": "en",
    "country": "us"
  }, {
    "id": "al-jazeera-english",
    "name": "Al Jazeera English",
    "description": "News, analysis from the Middle East and worldwide, multimedia and
                  interactives, opinions, documentaries, podcasts, long reads and
                  broadcast schedule.",
    "url": "http://www.aljazeera.com",
    "category": "general",
    "language": "en",
    "country": "us"
  }, {
    "id": "ars-technica",
    "name": "Ars Technica",
    "description": "The PC enthusiast's resource. Power users and the tools they love,
                  without computing religion.",
    "url": "http://arstechnica.com",
    "category": "technology",
    "language": "en",
    "country": "us"
  }, {
    . . .
  }]
}
```

2) NewsAPI.org Articles Query Results Example:

[https://newsapi.org/v2/everything?sources=\[redacted\]&language=en&pageSize=100&apiKey=\[redacted\]](https://newsapi.org/v2/everything?sources=[redacted]&language=en&pageSize=100&apiKey=[redacted])

The results come in the form of a JSON Object that contains a JSON Array of article entries as shown below. Each entry represents an individual news article. The highlighted fields below each define a story. Example:

```
{
  "status": "ok",
  "totalResults": 4773,
  "articles": [{
    "source": {
      "id": "cnn",
      "name": "CNN"
    },
    "author": "Kristina Marusic, CNN",
    "title": "Anatomy of a Pride parade ",
    "description": "Pride parades have been with us for decades now. Let's look back at their history and the wide variety of people -- from drag queens to church representatives -- who are in them.",
    "url": "https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/pride-parades-history/index.html",
    "urlToImage": "https://dynaimage.cdn.cnn.com/cnn/w_1200/http%3A%2F%2Fcdn.cnn.com%2Fcdnnext%2Fdam%2Fassets%2F190322082046-05-pride-parade-explainer-photos-super-tease.jpg",
    "publishedAt": "2019-04-15T14:42:45Z",
    "content": "(CNN) Glitter, rainbows, costumes and corporate logos: At first glance, Pride parades may appear to just be one big party. But peek beneath the surface, and you'll discover that Pride is celebrated by a diverse network of groups, each with their own rich hist... [+10486 chars]"
  }, {
    "source": {
      "id": "cnn",
      "name": "CNN"
    },
    "author": null,
    "title": "2020 first-quarter fundraising totals released",
    "description": "Today is the last day for campaigns to file Federal Election Commission disclosure reports with full details of their fundraising. Follow here as we learn the candidates' first-quarter fundraising totals.",
    "url": "https://www.cnn.com/politics/live-news/first-quarter-fundraising-totals-04-15-19/index.html",
    "urlToImage": "https://cdn.cnn.com/cnnnext/dam/assets/190410160852-20190411-2020-democrat-power-rankings-april-super-tease.jpg",
    "publishedAt": "2019-04-15T13:43:48Z",
    "content": "Not only is it Tax Day, but Monday also is the deadline for presidential and congressional candidates to file reports with the Federal Election Commission, detailing their fundraising and spending during the first three months of the year.\r\nThis marks the fir... [+910 chars] "
  }, {
    . . .
  }]
}
```

B) Application Behavior Diagrams:

1) Overview



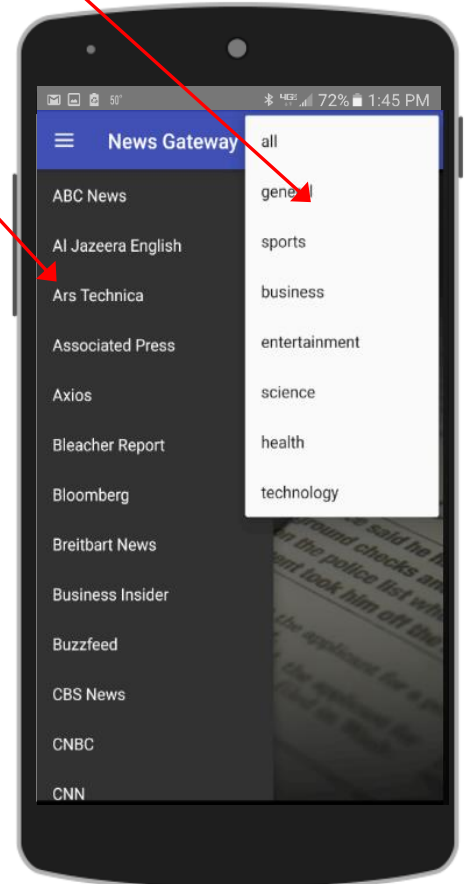
A News category (i.e., "business") can be selected using the options menu.

This menu is dynamically created – NOT hardcoded with values. Category values will vary over

A News Source (i.e., "cnn") can be selected by opening the "drawer" and selecting a source

This drawer content is dynamically created – NOT hardcoded with values. News sources will vary over time.

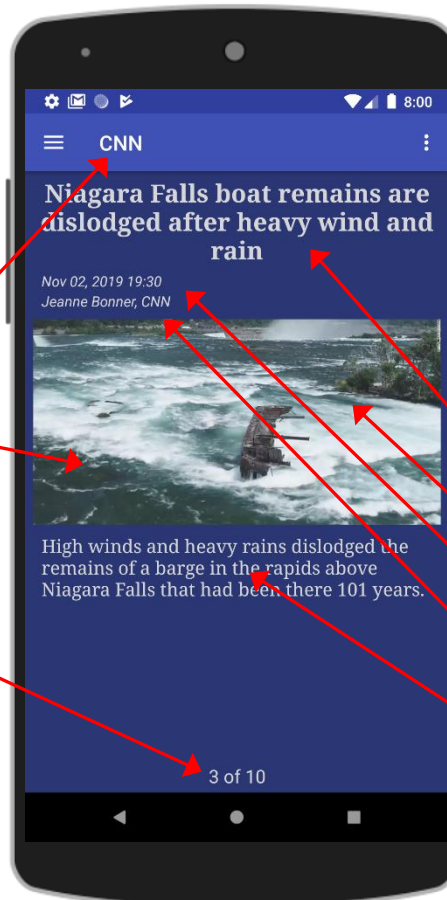
A news-related background image is shown before any articles are loaded



The selected news source is displayed in the Navigation Bar

News articles from the selected source are displayed in a "view pager" allowing left & right-swipe navigation between articles.

Article count is maintained at the bottom of the screen



News Article Headline (can be null/blank)

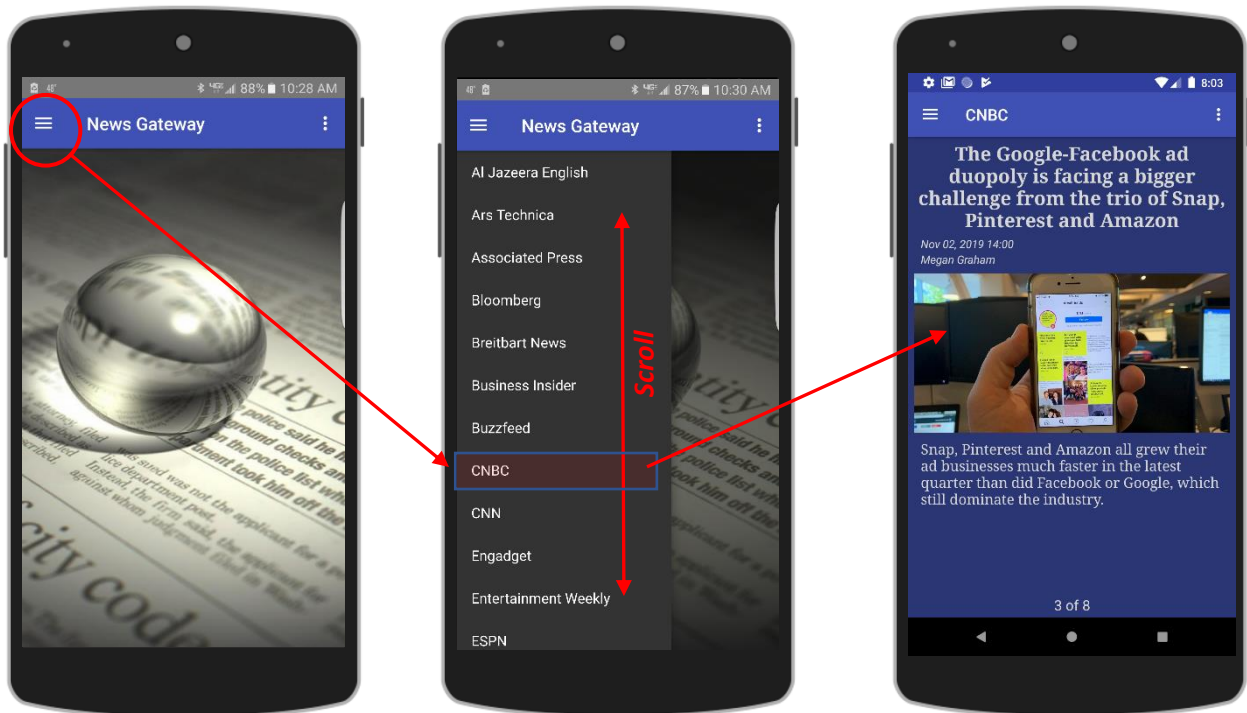
News Article Image (can be null/blank)

News Article Date (Provided in "Z" format)

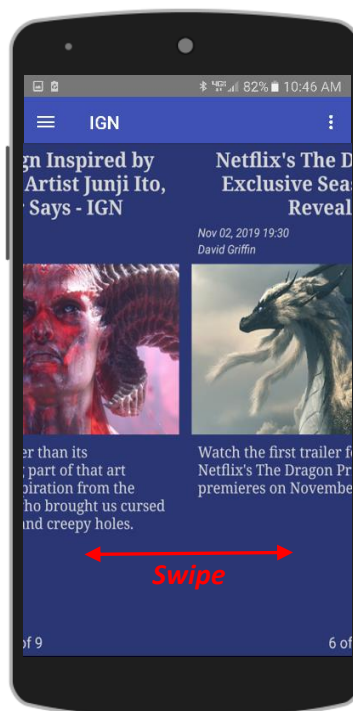
News Article Author(s) (can be null/blank)

News Article Text (can be null/blank)

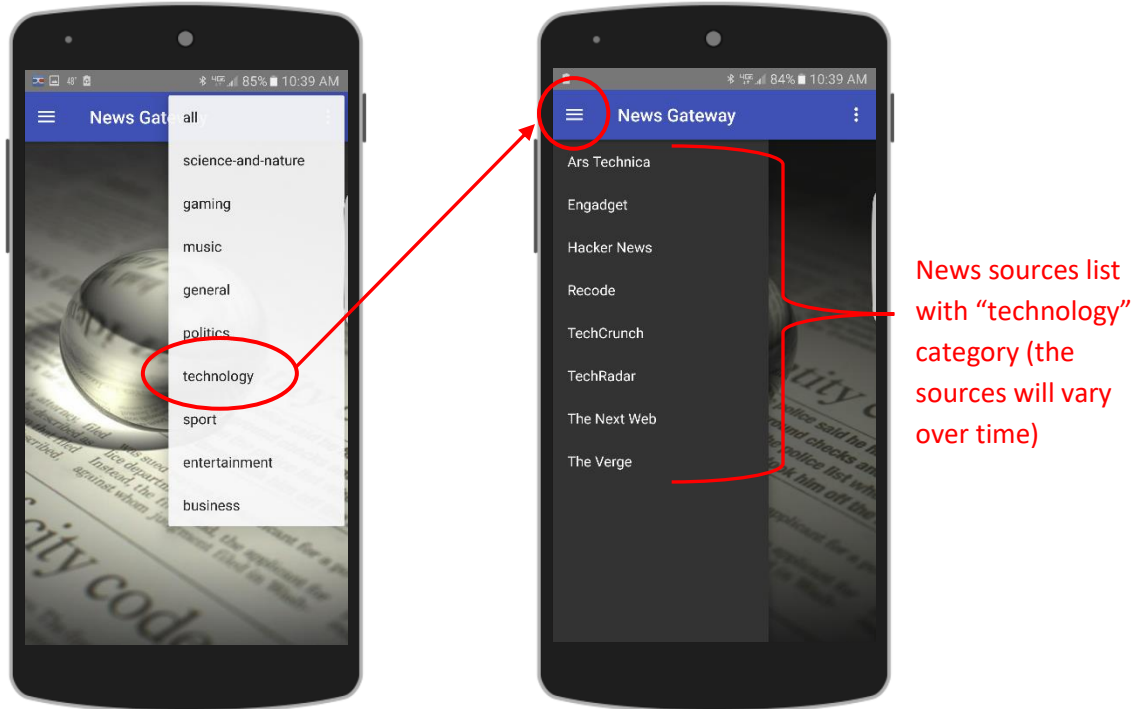
2) Selecting a news source (available sources will vary over time):



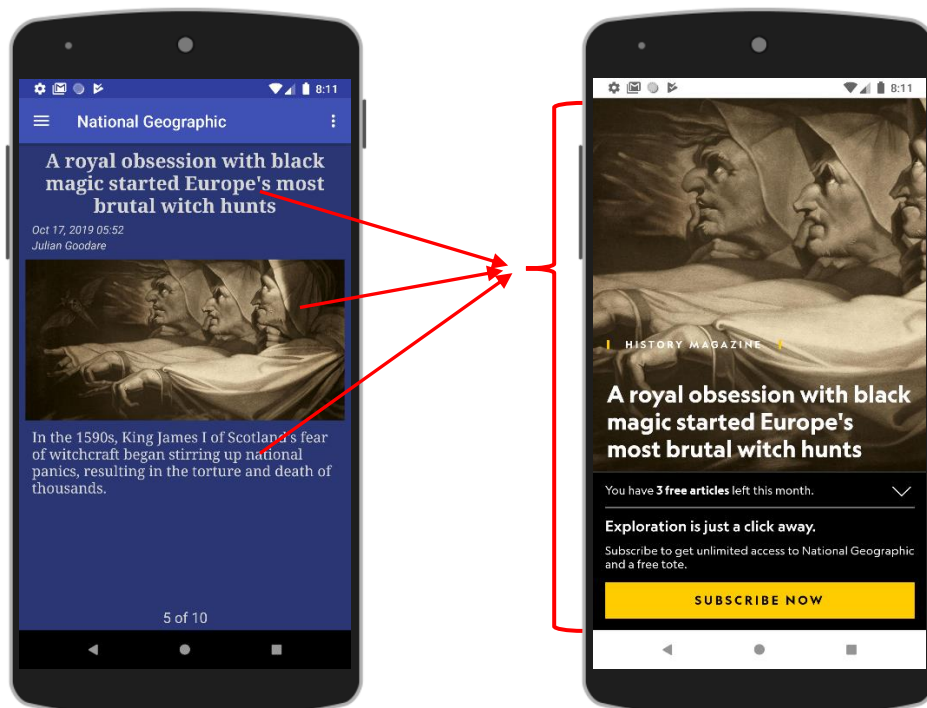
3) Swipe Right (or Left) to scroll through articles from the selected new source:



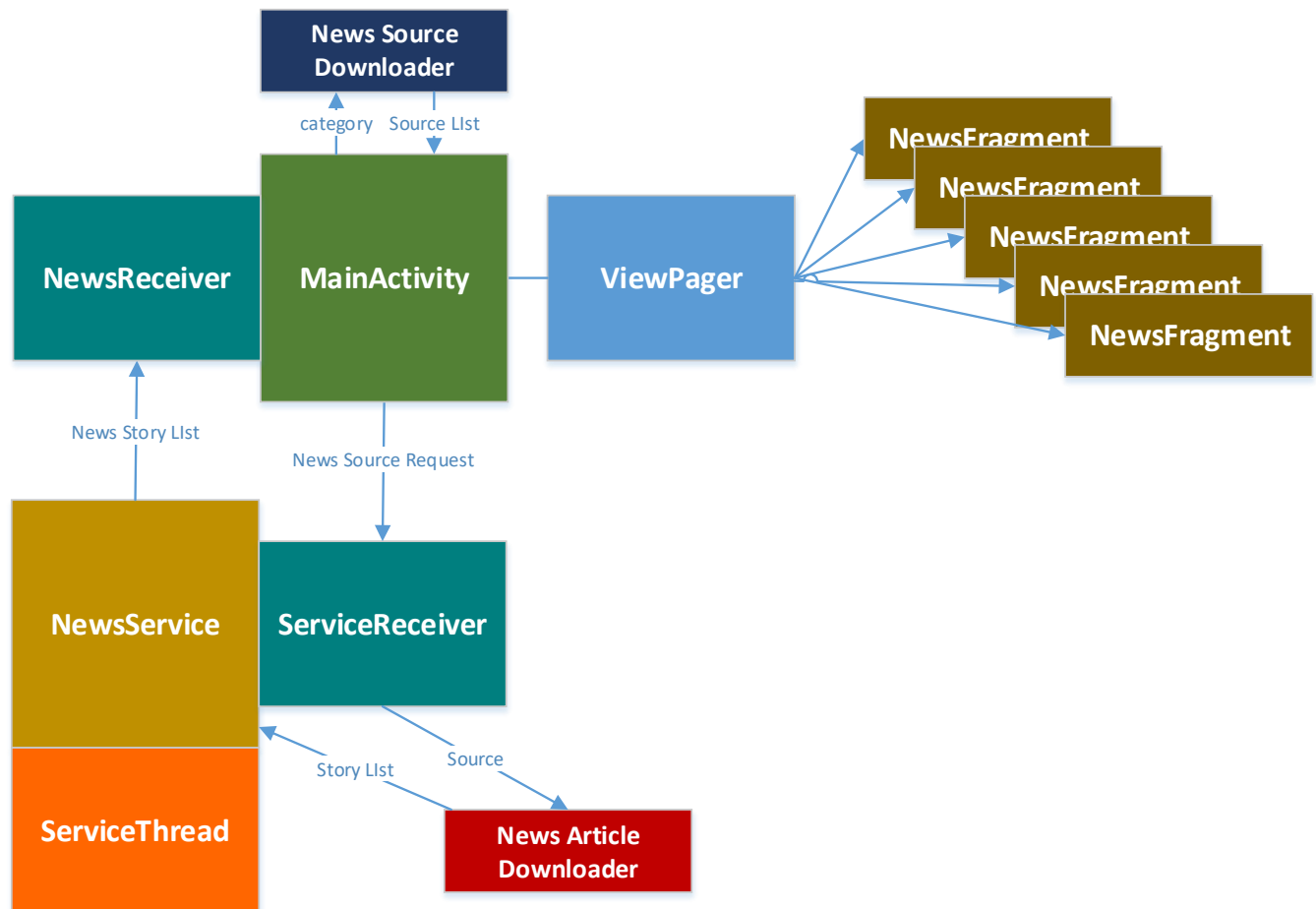
- 4) Select a news *category* from the options menu to limit the news source choices to only those offering that category of news.



- 5) Click on article content (title/image/text) to go to extended article on the news source web site



C) Application Content:



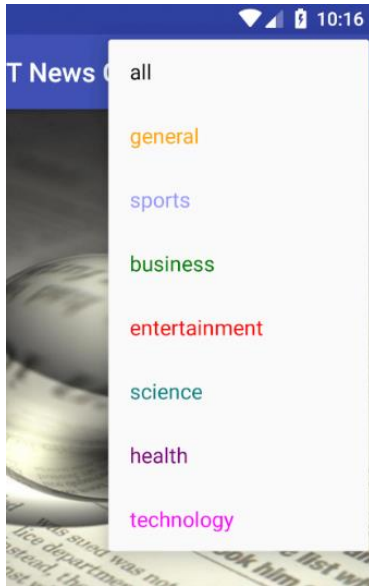
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D) Extra Credit (2 options, do none, 1 or both):

- 1) Up to 25 points of extra credit will be awarded if you save and restore the app state when transitioning between portrait and landscape layouts to ensure a smooth user experience. Without this, the app reverts to the start state upon rotation. If this is done properly, the current category selection, the current source list (in the drawer), and the displayed articles will be maintained upon device orientation change.

- 2) Up to 25 points of extra credit will be awarded if you display the news categories in the options menu different colors, and then color the news sources in the drawer according to their category:

Options menu example:



Drawer list of news sources: example



Assignment Assistance

The TAs for our course are available to assist you with your assignment if needed. Questions on assignment requirements and course concepts can be sent to the instructor.

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Submissions & Grading

- 1) Submissions must consist of your zipped project folder (*please execute Build =>Clean Project before generating the zip file*).
- 2) Submissions should reflect the concepts and practices we cover in class, and the requirements specified in this document.
- 3) **NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT**
- 4) Grading will be based upon the presence and proper functionality of all features and behaviors described in this document.



NOTE

This assignment is worth 450 points. This means (for example) that if you get 89% on this assignment, your recorded score will be:

$$(89\% * 450 \text{ points} = 401 \text{ points})$$

If you do not understand anything in this handout, please ask.

Otherwise the assumption is that you understand the content.

Unsure? Ask!

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