

Milestone 1 - UI/UX Design Mockup

1/14/12

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It might be good to read our answers to the number questions before the bulleted questions so you get an idea of the site's purpose.

Think about your users. Who is likely to use your site? Come up with at least two different personas and one use case for your site.

- Identify at least one user variable (technical expertise, familiarity with topic, frequency of visits).

A user variable could be reading comprehension level. Young kids often get lists of terms in school and a Wikipedia summary may be too advanced for them.

- Sit down with three people, and conduct user research interviews on each of them. Briefly summarize these interviews.

We sat down with David, Sarah and Larry.

David thought that the site was awesome and he would use the site whenever he had terms he needed to define. He thought he might even use the single term search feature when he did not want to read Wikipedia's whole article.

Sarah was more skeptical. She didn't think that an algorithmic summarizer would be efficient. Sarah says she would rather Google the terms or look on Wikipedia and take the extra time instead of getting a sub-par definition.

Larry was in between David and Sarah. Larry thought that he might use the site to quickly get definitions for a lot of terms. Even if these definitions were not totally optimal he could easily modify them to get what he wanted. The AutoStudy document would be a good launching point.

- Use these interviews to develop your personas.
- Identify one use case for your site.

We think that students who are studying for tests are likely to use our site. Two different personas of people who would use our site are named Joe and Steve.

Joe is studying for an upcoming history test and has a list of terms he needs to know. Joe can enter in his list of terms and instantly get back a document which he can study from.

Steve is from England and knows nothing about baseball. He wants to know what the "Yankees" are without having to read Wikipedia's long summary. He goes to our site, enters in "Yankees", and gets a quick, short summary.

Think hard about your most complicated page. What are the important features of this page? What usability problems may come up? For your most import page:

- Draw out, by hand, three designs for this page. Scan these for your submission.
- Make a list of pros and cons for each design (3 pros and 3 cons for each).

Pros and cons can be found on each design.

- Pick the best one and mock it up using a program such as Photoshop, Inkscape, Gimp...

Additionally, please answer the following questions. Please be succinct.

1. What problem does your application address? Aim for 1-2 sentences.

As students it is useful to have a study guide before a test but it is tedious to go through a book or online and have to read about and summarize each term. Students invariably spend more time looking and summarizing information than actually studying.

2. How does your application address the problem above? Aim for one sentence. The next question is a better place for elaborate explanations.

AutoStudy creates study guides, automatically.

3. What is the killer feature of your application?

AutoStudy summarizes information from Wikipedia. Wikipedia often has way too much information, especially if you are looking for a one or two sentence summary. AutoStudy looks at the Wikipedia page for you and extracts the key information. You also do not need to go back and forth from Wikipedia for each term, AutoStudy aggregates all of your terms onto one page.

4. Which of the themes does your application match? Your answer should be one sentence if the match is reasonably obvious. Be as brief as you can. If your application matches both themes, list the one where the matching is more obvious.

AutoStudy is designed for students, thus matching the Education theme.

5. What technology do you plan to use for your server-side programming (e.g. PHP, Ruby on Rails, etc)?

We plan on using PHP but are new to web-programming so may end up using something different.

6. Who is on your team? You may list at most 3 people. For each member list the full legal name, .edu e-mail, school, major(s), year, and graduate/undergraduate status.

Akash Abdullah Badshah, akashbad@mit.edu, MIT, 6-2, freshman, undergrad

Ryan Masami Lau, rlau@mit.edu, MIT, 6-2, freshman, undergrad

Victor Demetrius Pontis, vpontis@mit.edu, MIT, 6-2 & 8, freshman, undergrad

7. How did the team members meet? This will help us know you better.

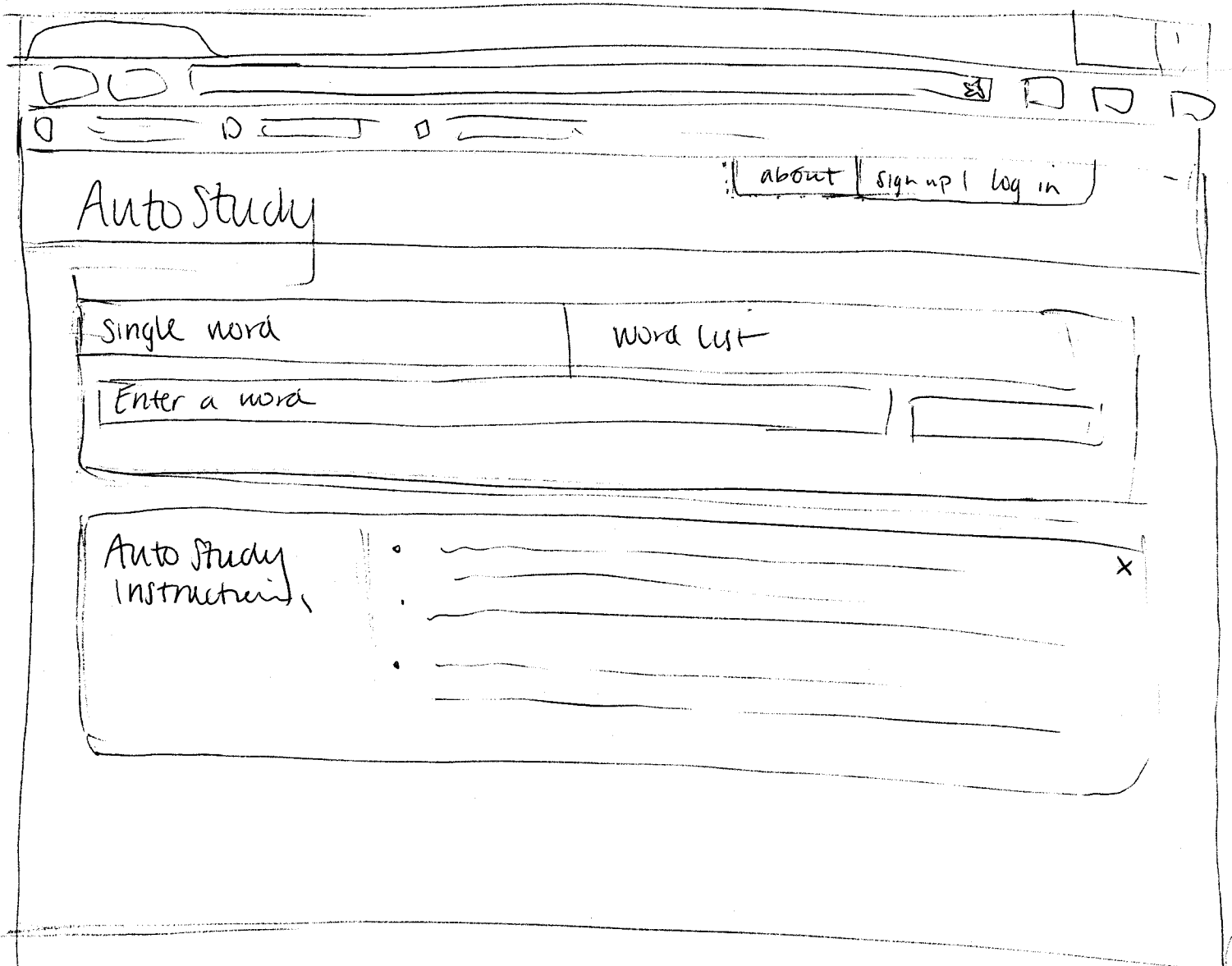
Ryan and Victor met on a hiking FPOP before school started. They spent a week in Maine sleeping in tents together. They met Akash during MIT's orientation. The three of them ended up pledging the same fraternity and have been inseparable ever since.

8. What risks do you envision preventing you from successfully implementing your idea? Consider this an exercise of imagination, not a test of confidence.

We are new to programming so there will be a lot that will be hard for us to implement. We want to have a very graphical interface which will take time to code so it is a risk that we will run out of time and have a half-baked project to submit for the competition.

9. Are you planning to participate in the competition? Your answer will solely be used for planning purposes.

We are planning to participate in the competition.



Pros

- simple
- makes single word search very easy to access
- tabbed design

Cons

- not all on one page
- harder to implement
- focuses on single term search

Sign Up / Login

Auto Study

Insta Search

Go

Instructions

Create

Instructions

1 —

2 —

3 —

Enjoy!

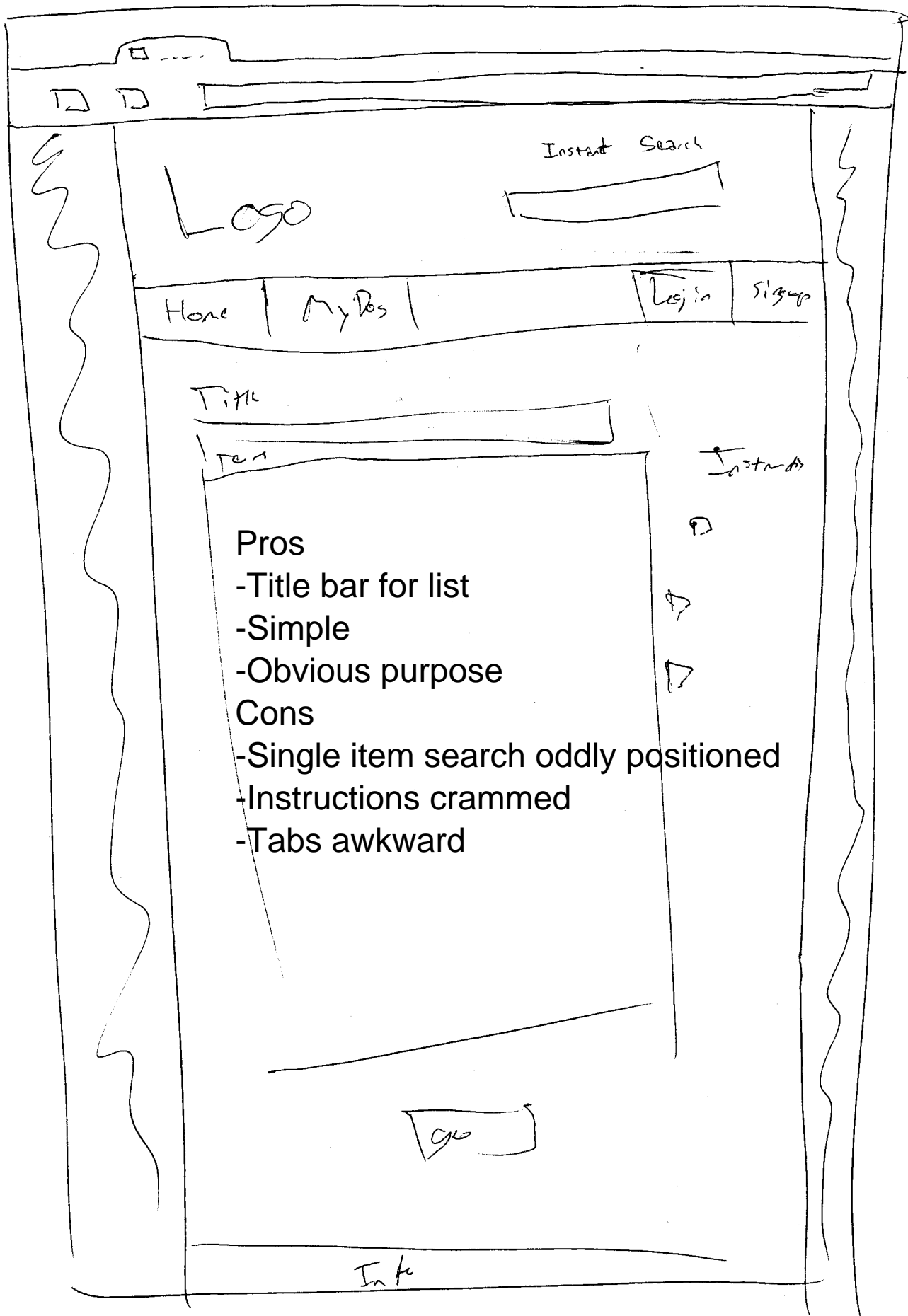
Pros

- All on one page
- Easy to implement
- User friendly

Cons

- Cluttered
- Scroll to get to multiple input
- Possibly confusing

About/Contact



SINGLE WORD

MULTIPLE WORDS

ENTER A TERM

