XML Project Documentation

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Survey System

Our system is a php website which uses xml to store the data, the xml structure is defined in the survey.xsd file by standard XML Schema.

XML Structure:

* Each survey will have their own separate file.
  + This was decided on:
    - for ease of displaying a list of the available surveys
    - Editing of a survey would only affect the one XML file (avoid corrupting other data)
* The root element will be survey with an attribute of survey name (which will correspond to the file name)
* Each survey element will have a questions element
* Each questions element will contain 1 to many question elements with attributes of id (integer) and text (the text of the question)
* Each question element will contain 1 to many answer elements with an attribute of count (integer) which is the number of times that answer was chosen by a survey taker
* Each answer element will have one answer\_text element which contains the text for the answer

Website Structure:

The website can be divided into 5 different categories of page:

* The take a survey page brings you to a listing of all the surveys available to take. You follow one of the links of this page to take a survey.
  + The form for taking a survey is in this submission but the submit button does not yet actually have functionality. **[FUTURE]**
  + The display on this page comes from XSLT
* The view results page takes you to a listing of all surveys available to view. You follow one of the links on this page to view the results for one of the surveys
  + The display on this page comes from XSLT
* You can add a survey under the add survey page.
  + Loads a template, so you don’t have to start from scratch.
  + This loads the XML directly, and validates on submit.
  + In the future, this page would guide the user in creating the survey. On submit, the XML file should be built. **[FUTURE]**
* The edit a survey page brings you to a listing of all surveys available to edit. You follow one of the links on this page to edit one of the surveys
  + For this release this page allows you direct edit access on the xml file but in the final release you will not be editing the xml directly
    - We would guide the user in creating their survey, and on the backend, we would be dynamically creating the corresponding XML file. **[FUTURE]**
  + On submission the file is rechecked against schema
* The delete page brings you to a listing of all surveys available to delete. Once deleted a survey cannot be recovered.
  + Instead of a hard deletion, we might push it to a folder. This way they can recover. **[FUTURE]**
* **[FUTURE]**
  + Guide the user in creating/editing of surveys
    - Accomplished through a form that utilizes form elements
    - AJAX integration:
      * As they are building the survey, we would be saving it as they go.
      * Ajax could be used to pull the temp XML file and display it to the right. (if they check off the option to)
      * This way they could see the progress of the file.
  + Display Surveys
    - Having a page allowing the Admin to choose which surveys to allow users to take
  + Deleting Surveys
    - Instead of a hard delete, simulate a soft one by pushing to a folder
    - This way they can recover the file (just in case they clicked the wrong thing), or really delete it.
  + Home Page
    - Something stating the purpose of the site, and why people should take the surveys
  + About Page
    - Tells people about the developers behind the site
    - What technology was used: where and why
    - Expectations?