JB-HiFi Website Re-Design

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A.   Overview

The JB HiFi website re-design was chosen by the author as his project in Assessment-1 of the UX Research, Analysis and Design module.

Based on the paper in Assessment-1, the website re-design will now be implemented in this project for Assessment-2 and will be coded using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.

For purposes of this project, not everything in the proposed changes in Assessment-1 were coded in this project. Only the required pages as set out in the Assessment brief were coded.

This website project contains the following pages:

- Landing Page (index.html) - which also includes the products components.
- Contact Page (contact.html)
- About Page (about.html)
- Login Page (login.html)
- Register Page (register.html)
- Cart Page (cart.html)

Each of the pages listed above has its own navigation bar to navigate to different pages of the website and footer which contains relevant information about the company.

All pages of the website are responsive to different screen sizes, such as mobile phones, tablets, and desktop computers.

B.   Development Process

The new JB HiFi website re-design was first coded in HTML. Once all the site contents are coded, these are then styled using Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). The author utilised classes and 'id' directives to target general and specific styles.

The LoFi and HiFi wireframes from Assessment-1 were used as the model for the layout of the different pages of the website. Styles, such as font and colors were also based on the Style Guide as indicated in the Assessment 1 paper.

The featured products (promotions) of the landing page was created using the Carousel component from Bootstrap 5. The use of Bootstrap was with permission from the tutor.

JavaScript was heavily used in the listing of products on the landing page, counter for the cart icon, product listing in the view cart page, and the computation of the amount to be paid by the user in the cart page.

C.   Challenges

There were a few challenges that the author met during the coding of the website. Foremost was the layout of the contents. To layout properly, the author utilised CSS Grid and Flexbox.

Another challenge that the author faced was the simulation of products information storage and its retrieval. To simulate this, the author utilised the **localStorage** object of the browser as its database. The author created an array of product objects using JavaScript. This array is then saved into the localStorage object.

The listing of products in the "on sale" section of the landing page was created dynamically by retrieving the products object array from the localStorage and dynamically created the components (i.e. 'div', 'img', 'button', etc.) using JavaScript.

The products that are added into the shopping cart by the user are also stored in the localStorage. These are then retrieved from the localStorage during the viewing of the cart page.

The last challenge the author faced was getting the website 'live' online so this can be reviewed by a few users. To do this, the author utilised Netlify (https://netlify.com) and connected it to the author's Github repository for this project located at https://github.com/gagabon501/cs101.

The website is available online at https://cs101-jbhifi.netlify.app/

D.   User Reviews

The author endeavored to get the website reviewed by a few users. The following are the reviews gathered:

- User 1 (Lulu): *"The website is clutter-free and is pleasing to browse at because of easy access to items I'm looking for. That is achieved through the very prominent display of product categories which I think is the best feature for me. I also like that best sellers and their current prices are highlighted. What I would want to see added is a special category for current promotions or on sale items. That category should also be highly visible to attract customers into exploring the site more."*
- User 2 (Seth):
    - *Strengths:*
        - *Products are well-organized by type and category*
        - *Responsive layout, "add to cart" dynamic feature is really nice.*
        - *Carousel block is a nice touch*
    - *Areas of Improvements:*
        - *Color scheme could use some change (brighter / warmer colors to emphasise the "sale" aspect)*
        - *When scrolling down from the carousel, the product image would clip through the main search bar*
        - *Product names and prices should be added to the carousel to indicate more details*

E.   References

The author acknowledges the content, information, and assets provided by the following websites:

- Icons: FontAwesome (https://fontawesome.com/) and the Noun Project (https://thenounproject.com/).
- Fonts: Google Fonts (https://fonts.googleapis.com/)
- Images: JB-HiFi website (https://www.jbhifi.co.nz/)
- Carousel component: Bootstrap 5 (https://getbootstrap.com/docs/5.0/components/carousel/)
- Deployment: Author's Github repository (https://github.com/gagabon501/cs101) and Netlify (https://netlify.com)