Create a document answering the following:

* Which existing websites out there most inspired your web site design thus far?

SO far, there have been a lot of sites that have actually inspired me as a web design… But usually it ends up that I don’t actually borrow from those ones when it comes to creating my design. A lot of photography portofolios like that of Billy Kidd is really inspiring to me. I love how it’s minimalistic in design and all I want to do is explore every folder. I hope to create portfolio for myself that does the same thing to people who stumble upon it. Oh… special shout out to sarahma.kes ;)

* Which parts of the design are you most proud of?

The parts of my design I am most proud of tend to involve the parts where I find a workaround to get my pages to display things that I want, where I want them. Sometimes I end up deciding that the functionality is not better, but I do appreciate that I haven’t been unable to accomplish what I want with pure tenacity, if not ingenuity and creativity :P

* What struggles did you encounter in your design process?

I encountered this issue where I kept coming up with ideas that required me to learn new skills literally every time I decided to do a project. It’s been my favorite part of web design. It’s probably the reason I love it so much. I just end up learning new things all the time.

* Which struggles did you encounter during page development?

… I don’t wanna talk about it.

Just kidding. I didn’t realize that if you don’t tell your code that the HTML has a size… or that the Body has a size.. it renders certain elements inside of the minimum amount of space specified. So if you want a nav to extend to the footer at the bottom of the page in a responsive fashion, the body and the html need to also probably extend down there.

* What did you learn from making your project responsive?

Everything I just mentioned about page development. Also, I learned about cool sites that allow you to render your code in spaces standard for other screens. This was incredibly helpful.

Step 2:

Review a website from group 1 and a website from group 2 of the following list, commenting on each website's layout, typography, navigation, and overall flow.

Group 1:

<http://www.businessoffashion.com/>

The layout of the BoF website is interesting to me. While it is part of the 1st group that seems to have generally good design, I find it very stressful. There are article links on the top, then a nav bar, which then leads to the hero image and aside that seem to have a rule of thirds thing going on when they are the center of your page.

I don’t know where to look. There are too many things on which I can click through and I can’t tell if I’m supposed to be having fun doing it or if I’m supposed to be taking this all very seriously and read every piece of information. I need something calmer. I enjoy buzzfeed’s lack of strict hierarchy here. When faced with this much content I find I am overwhelmed.

The type is interesting. Everything is serif except for the navigation bar and some other buttons with are sans-serif. Because they do a good job handling the weights of the type everything is readable.. Though I find myself putting in a little more effort into reading the body copy that is light under weekly digest.

The navigation is straightforward. Everything is labeled well. I find that clicking articles does sometimes take me to other sites, but as this is a content aggregate of sorts that’s to be expected, and usually if I click back it was actually labeled anyway. There are however so many links I can imagine not being able to find the article you’re looking for being a common problem.

The design of the individual articles is wonderful. I love the simplicity. It’s very clean and the images are all well placed. While I don’t necessarily like the flow of the homepage because of the infinite scroll and the gratuitous clickables, I do enjoy the articles.

Group 2:

<http://www.spectrumpowderworks.com/>

The layout of spectrum powder works isn’t awful. It’s actually pretty simple. But I don’t really like it. I think the organization is pretty standard.

When we discuss the type, the header is problematic. It seems like something more appropriate for a syfy robot horror movie.

The concept of the navigation is cool. I just think the images were poorly chosen. While they are sometimes representative of the information you’re clicking through to, they are all kinds of clashing colors. There doesn’t seem to be a real theme to the design of this sight.

The flow is alright.

Scratch that. The flow and navigation both are weird because there are so many links that the page seems somewhat redundant. It seems like there’s too much going on in too many places to the point where it’s tiring to think about trying to navigate this page.