System Programming Lab

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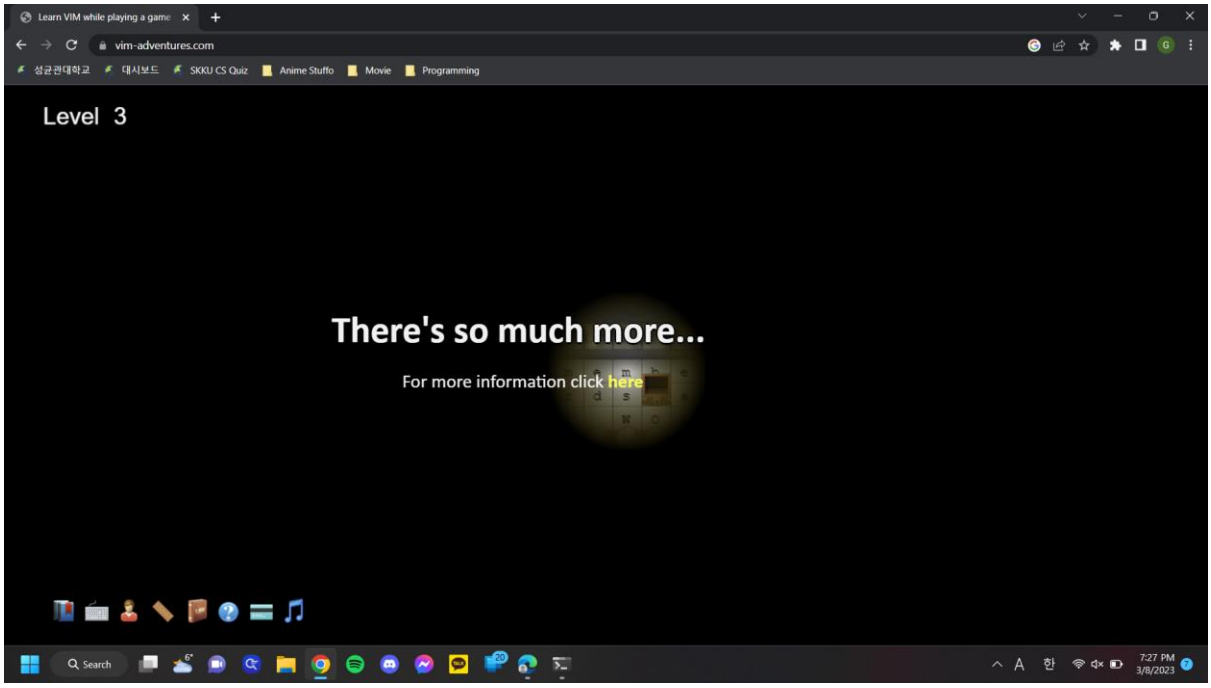
Report 1

The Linux kernel coding style demonstrated in the GitHub documentation suggests several ways to improve one's coding skills. Although following coding standards may be bothersome, they enhance readability, efficiency, and cleanliness of several source codes. As the documentation is quite long, this report will summarize it into three main takeaways.

The main idea implied in the first few suggestions is to clarify command lines and their details. From adding braces to enclose multiple statements to indenting and placing spaces around operators, the authors focused on creating the necessary space for the developers to understand where each code or command starts and ends. This difference may seem minor, but reading commands that barely have indents or brackets requires more time understanding compared to applying these simple suggestions. The second important idea is naming. In coding, developers prefer longer variable and function names as long as they are descriptive. Rather than single character variables like x or y, explanatory variables such as counter or active_user_count are more common. With these variable names, developers can easily guess what the variables are for rather than wondering for some time. The final idea is regarding commenting. Commenting is essential in code understanding, but over-commenting will ruin the efficiency and cleanliness of a code. Rather than having several comments between the line, developers should explain what a code or function does before the actual code itself. Since most people reading the codes are fellow developers, they can understand the source codes as long as they know what the code is for.

In conclusion, the following documentation is a great way to enhance one’s coding experience. Following the standards may seem to delay the progress, but it is more beneficial during the editing and reconfirming phase.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