I took a class last quarter where we had to write short stories that incorporated various vocabulary words. I had previously taken a class with my TA, so I felt free to be silly. Can you guess the vocab list for each piece?

Programming and Applications

(a short screenplay)

(A and B are huddled over a single computer on a desk in a dim room with a single light on. They are wearing dark clothes and are muttering to themselves. They look shifty as heck.)

A: I mean, based on my calculations, this should work! The logic is all there. The algorithm is flawless. *(A pushes their glasses further up their nose)*

B: Sure, but the programming is equally as important. Are you sure you did it correctly?

A: Preposterous! I know 34 different programming languages! I started writing programming code when I was 5! There was nothing done incorrectly on my end. How dare you accuse me of sabotaging this.

B: I guess I don't know that much about coding. I know that there are loops and variables and semicolons... but that's about it.

A: Yeah, so don't question me!
    ...
    wait, can you check something real quick?

B: Yeah?
A: Can you see if the power strip is turned on?

B: *(laughs in Spanish)* Oh my god, you're right. Now hit it!

(A and B sit back contentedly as their Christmas tree lights up with a custom light show. All is well in the world.)

Vocab:
calculations, logic, algorithm, programming languages, programming code, loops

Google Search

The Booleans were once the meanest crew around - no if's, and's, or but's about it. If they caught wind of any query about them at the police station, they were not happy. No one could ever prove it, but when the station would be set on fire the next day, everyone knew exactly who did it. That all changed when the newest Boolean came into town, weighing exactly 7.12 pounds and swaddled in a pink fuzzy blanket. Exactly 15 years ago, I had been born to Joe and Laura, the leaders of the group, and they had stopped their criminal activity to care for me. Everyone else had faded into their own mundane lives of raising children and working a 9-5. But I was going to start us up again - it was my fault it ended, and it would be my doing to bring the Booleans together. With that, I triumphantly flicked a burning match into the dumpster behind the police station and casually strolled away.

Vocab:
booleans, around, and, query, not, boolean

The Structure of Information

(more screenplay)

A: I thought you asked me here to be an information model?

B: I did.

A: So…

B: So what?

A: … Well … you asked why I came here in a silk robe!

B: …

A: …

B: Okay.....while it's true you might have, um, how do I say this? A particular attribute that models might have? I guess? Your height, obviously, don't be gross. And I guess the speech and value patterns of ... a valley girl, I guess? No. That's not what I asked you here for.

A: Oh. Well, I mean that's okay. I'm still getting paid extra right?

B: Um. Well, no. I thought you agreed because you wanted to strengthen your relationships with the local businesses. And, I don't know, because it's the job I hired you to do!

A: Literally why would I come here on a Saturday for free? God, can I get some items expensed or reimbursed at least? Like gas? And this stupid robe.

B: Sure.

   I am sorry, you know. I should have specified.

A: ...
   Whatever. I'm gonna go home and change.

Vocab:
information model, attribute, value patterns, relationships, items

Web Sites and other Info Channels

"Are you…sure…that this is the right web site?" Jess whispered as she peered over my shoulder. We had been transformed into digital avatars – while our bodies remained in the corporal world, we had been turned into a series of 0's and 1's and sent into the world wide web with a series of clues to win our freedom. We had traveled through the online channel to leave a message for the next group, and to find the message left for us. Almost a sick game of capture the flag. We had certain affordances – we didn't need sustenance, but we could die and our physical bodies would be rendered useless.

The sound of a mouse click nearby startled me out of my thoughts. We had to keep moving.

"Yes," I replied flatly, "Look at the banner. It's the name of the evil corporation that sent us here." We had started from a Wikipedia page, which had plenty of links that served as ample navigation as we searched around for the clue, and we had finally made it. But where to look?

After splitting up and scouring every web page area, from the page's search bar to the "Contact Us" bar at the bottom, we were dumbfounded. That's when I found the idea to inspect the page, and we leaped into the page's HTML. We had found it. I broke down into peals of laughter, while Jess looked concerned for me. "Silly developers," I finally managed. "They always put their password in the comments of their code." With that, we devised a hint to hopefully bring down the corporation's overlord, and used the password to reenter the physical world.

Vocab:
web site, digital, channel, affordances, banner, navigation, page area, html