Day 10 – Assignment

This task helps you become familiar with the fundamentals of PHP by writing PHP script to enhance a web site.

Due

This assignment does not need to be handed in. Your instructor will review it the next morning so you can ask questions and get assistance with any problems you might encounter. You will build onto this assignment in the remaining assignments of this course. If you want feedback on your code you can ask your instructor to check it and give advice. You will be required to hand in the cumulative code after day 14 for marking. Your instructor will set the due date for you.

Directions

In this exercise you will enhance the web pages you built earlier to provide server-side processing. The client wants us to set up a form that will allow internal staff to use a web page to enter new agents into the database. We will build the form page tomorrow. For today's exercise we need to set up a function that can be used to write the data to the database, and a simple test program to test the function.

1. Write a PHP script named "functions.php" that contains a single PHP tag in which you will write a function that will receive an associative array containing agent data. The function will connect to the database server, select the travelexperts database, loop though each item in the associative array and construct an "INSERT" SQL statement, and submit the SQL to the database. The function should check if the insert was successful and return a Boolean to indicate if the insert was successful or not.
   For extra challenge: If you want to make the function more generic so that we can pass the table name or other necessary values and handle any table insert you are free to enhance this function.
2. Write a second PHP script that will "include" the functions.php file and test the agent insert function. To test the function, create an associative array which will contain the agent data with the column names as keys for each value.
3. Pass the array to the function, which will insert the agent into the database and return true if it worked. Check the returned result, printing an appropriate message to indicate if the insert was successful or not.

Feedback:

Your instructor will review this exercise with you the next day.

If you have any questions or wish to get some feedback on your work before the hand-in date, ask your instructor to review it with you after class.

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