Starbucks Assessment

Hallie Schukai

1. I did not have as much time to work on this project as I would have liked. With a mix of midterms, and other schoolwork, and personal matters, I was only able to work on this assignment for a few hours throughout the week.
2. I have never used or accessed Reddit’s API, so this was a completely new challenge for me. First I had to make sure pip and praw would download correctly. However, I soon found that I was running an older version of Python (2.7.10) rather than the most up-to-date version, which led me to have to uninstall Python and reinstall it. After successfully installing pip and praw, I opened Python and struggled to gain authorization on the API. I received numerous HTTP errors. That is when I went back and discovered that Reddit requires an authorization token before I could expect to receive anything in return from the API. This is when I was able to learn about OAuth. I had a really hard time with (4) and (5). I was able to explain the algorithms behind them and my thought process, but implementing it was difficult.
3. That said, I took a structured approach to this work. Before coding, I read through Praw and Reddit’s API documentation. I decided that for this project I would use Python since I’ve done some Python programming previously. I didn’t know much about OAuth, so I took some time to read about it and why it is used. It makes sense. OAuth is used so that an application passes a token for access rather than sending user credentials (like a username and password). I really enjoyed learning how to use and access Reddit’s API, and I know that this is something I will continue to do in the future. I was looking at the tool called Postman and learned that this might be a very good tool in the future for working with APIs.
4. I decided to output the result with csv. This way seemed the most straightforward and was able to find helpful websites and tutorials to give guidance on how to implement it.
5. I was able to feel confident about tasks 1, 2, and 3, but do not feel confident about tasks 4 and 5 due to the submission deadline approaching.