Group Reflections

Anthony Brown

What went well?

What could be improved?

At least one thing that was surprising?

At least one thing that you have learned about groups?

Tim Damon

What went well?

The group was very well organised, using several different outlets for the organisation such as Trello, Slack, Discord and GitHub. Everyone picked up several parts of the project to complete themselves, agreeing to collaborate it all through GitHub. We had a clear list of tasks and who was assigned to what through the Trello board setup by Anthony.

What could be improved?

Tasks assigned could be completed more quickly (myself included). More consistent group chats (through Discord) as we only got together a few times and it was never able to be all of us at once.

At least one thing that was surprising?

How easy it was to organise everything with each person in the group without ever getting to meet face to face. Trello made creating a list of tasks and assigning them incredibly easy and that list was always there so you knew what needed doing and who was doing what.

At least one thing that you have learned about groups?

That each individual putting in effort helps everyone else work load and that organisation is key, effective organisation can turn a large task into something much more manageable.

Shaun Lottey

What went well?

What could be improved?

At least one thing that was surprising?

At least one thing that you have learned about groups?

Jake McAndrew

What went well?

What could be improved?

At least one thing that was surprising?

At least one thing that you have learned about groups?

Jason Tilgner

What went well?

What could be improved?

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Jason Walstab

What went well?

What went well was the good organisation via Trello, an organisational online application, thanks to Anthony Brown. This allowed us to really focus on what we had to do as well as well have a clear list and direction on what we should be working on, who should be working on what and when things are done. Another highlight was the IT interview organised by Shaun Lottey which was very insightful as the IT professional we interviewed had great insights into the IT industry.

What could be improved?

Meeting deadlines and getting work done faster, sometimes we seem to have been trailing at a slower pace than I would have liked, and the group work ended up being dragged out over a longer period than I thought we would get it done in.

At least one thing that was surprising?

I was surprised at how effective it was to communicate and work online without the need for face to face interaction. In some ways it was more effective than working onsite in a team as we could easily post and share our documents in a central location.

At least one thing that you have learned about groups?

I have learned that organisation is key and that the better organised we are as a team the faster work gets done, which in a way is more important than peoples individual skill level.

**//feel free to change or add to this if anyone wants, I just wrote this bs quickly, it has 400 words as needed. -- jason walstab**

Main Group Reflection:

Holding the group together has been Trello, where we have meticulously planned our journey, Slack, which has been where we have done our chat groups, our frequent meetings over discord when we were sick of typing and wanted to use voice chat and GitHub which we have used to combine all our resources and work together to create the final product. These tools have really been the backbone for this group and have allowed us to work as a team regardless of distance or time zones and we believe without these tools the work would not have been possible. We all feel that what went well was the setting up of these tools from the start to ensure everyone could follow along and contribute as necessary as well as clear workflow structure that we could all follow.

Coming from all different backgrounds, places, jobs, educational and technical levels we have managed to work well as a team mainly thanks to good organisational structure and a fair level of contribution among all our team members.

One area we feel we could have improved on is a more standard format for file contributions and uploads, as filenames and commit comments got a bit crazy towards the end with different versions of files in the GitHub repository and no common standard for commit comments or version numbers on documents. Towards the end it did get better as we organised the GitHub repository to better handle our documents and commits.

Something that was surprising was the spread of everyone's different skills and areas of expertise that helped us to gain insights from different places we might not have looked from ourselves. This mix of different skills and experience really helped when working as a team and did not result in conflicts or trouble among members.

The thing we have all learned is that communication is key in doing group projects, and the more communication we had the quicker we were able to finish off sections of the assignment. This was especially critical towards the end of the assignment, when we needed to start putting everything together into a single, workable project page.

We started off to a slow and rocky start but in the end have pulled through and hopefully have done an excellent job. All of us feel that together we have been able to manage this workload better than expected and are excited to move onto the main IT project side of things.