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Reflection: Assignment 6

This assignment definitely was a challenging one that required me to revisit every bit of code that I stored in my memory and to also explore and learn more advanced topics. One bug I found while implementing the function to update the item count in the cart was that the item count would show as '11' instead of '2' when I added an item two times. After checking the code, I realized that the item count was a string, so I parsed the object as an integer and the count was reflected accurately.

Another bug was that as I started to add more HTML and update the CSS, I noticed that other parts of the site were changed unintentionally. For example, when I first created the site, I thought the only list objects would be part of the navigation bar, but I realized later on that I would have to use lists in other parts of the site. Changing the styles of these lists also changed the style of the navigation bar, so I created IDs for the new lists and applied styles to those specific lists.

An issue I found during Assignment 6B was that when I tried to remove an item from the cart, the last item would get deleted, regardless of which item I chose to remove. I realized that I was not assigning each item to a specific index, so I added an ID of the specific index that was being iterated through to 'X', the remove button. This fixed the issue and I was able to delete any item in any order.

Finally, an issue I greatly struggled with was adding to the wishlist. I wanted to add two submit buttons to one form, get the element name of the submit button that was pressed, and use the element name in an if/else statement to determine which array was getting added to. However, I did not understand how to get the element name without directing the form to a php and using $_"POST". I attended Amber's office hours, but there were other students in line and my internet disconnected me, and the office hours were over by the time my internet reconnected. I consulted with a friend who taught me "e.submitter.name," which is exactly what I needed to complete the wishlist.

Five programming concepts I learned in Javascript were event handlers, lists vs. tables, template literals, local storage, and JSON. I used event handlers for my updating cart count function, handling the submit button function, and for the on load function. It was especially useful when I needed to include the item name and price

into the cart. Previously, I was able to retrieve only the quantity and glaze because those options were in the form, but it was inappropriate to add the item name and price to the form. In the onLoad() function in the body tag, I included the events of the page name and the price, assigned these to objects through the event handlers, and reflected them in the cart.

In regards to lists vs. tables, I had originally used lists only for the navigation bar, and had used tables for the menu and cart. I kept the table for the menu because it turned out how I wanted it to look, but it was difficult to continue using a table for the cart. I initially tried to write in the updated cart items to the cart table using "innerHTML," but it proved to be more complicated than I had envisioned it because I would have to find a way to write each item element to a new column and row every time. I decided to change the cart contents to lists, and although it took some time to rewrite it all, it was more efficient in the long run I was able to create new lists for each item that needed to be updated to the cart.

Template literals came in very handy, especially when I was creating the template for cart items to write into the cart page. This template needed to be in a string in order to be written properly, and the code would have looked messy and complicated since they are list items. I only needed to add backticks around the unordered list and add the dollar sign and curly brackets around what I normally would have put apostrophes and concatenations around.

Local storage was an interesting concept to learn, because it's present on all the websites I visit, but I never thought about how it works. It was a bit confusing to understand at first, but it was a concept I needed to comprehend fully in order to successfully add the items to the cart and keep it in there. I saved the cart to local storage and retrieved the information to update the count next to "Cart" on the navigation bar whenever a new item was added.

Along with local storage, I learned what JSON was used for. I knew that it stood for "Javascript Object Notation," but I did not know how to apply it. While learning about local storage, I learned that JSON is part of storing data and that Javascript objects can be converted to JSON to be stored as text. This concept helped with easily storing the items into the cart and updating the cart count and cart page with only a few simple parsing and translating.