Group 19 Homework 2 - Prototype with CSS Discussion

The purpose of this document is to give a verbal discussion of our memeMaster prototype for the client to review.

Fixing Wireframe from HW1

The first step was to take the comments of the TA/Professor on our HW1 wireframe and make the appropriate changes to it. We decided to use our own wireframe since we received a good grade, and feel we can reach the clients wants/needs while building off of it.

From a technical aspect, it was pointed out we had some unnecessary tags and attributes in our wireframe, and after reviewing our wireframe we made some changes, and also organized the different sections of our website in a better way, that we think would make our lives easier when adding the styling with CSS. We changed some id's to classes, created some new divs, etc.

Plan of Attack for Prototype with Layout

Once we felt our wireframe was clean and organized we wanted to discuss our layout plan. After discussing, and given our short time frame to finish, we decided we want to have a simple, clean interface that focuses on the meme content. This also corresponds to what the professor said, "the point is not to have your design stick out, but the user cares more about just the content, and what the website is going to be used for".

So we decided to focus on the 4 main views.
1. The home page: This page will contain all user's whole library of memes/gifs, and will be organized in scrollable sections like "most recently added", "top rated", etc.. Since the homepage is the first page the user sees, we wanted the user to be able to access his memes/gifs with ease, and his memes/gifs will be the center of attention on the page.

2. The explore Page: This page is similar to 8tracks.com/explore page. Wanted the user to be able to explore their library based on clicking tags. Then underneath the tags chosen is a layout of the memes similar to the homepage, so on this page the content steals the show as well.

3. Add/Edit/View page: These pages focus on a single meme/gif that the user selects. It will have a big view of the selected meme/gif with the detailed information right next to it.

4. Help page: will be very simple with FAQ section, and a help video at the bottom.

Also we decided not to use twitter-bootstrap in order for us to learn more and learn real CSS before jumping to help libraries.

Discussion of our Resulting Prototype

So now some lets walk through our resulting prototype with CSS:

So we decided to do our neutral blue styling because it is easy on the eyes, does not stick out, and is gender neutral. The font is simple and familiar, yet looks a little different, and the search bar is not in the far right corner, but still at the top so the user should have no problem finding it.

When you arrive to the home screen, it is the memes that pop off the screen and thats what is wanted. The user wants to be able to quickly see and access the memes in his library! Also you can see we have the different sections of the library categorized by "most recently added", "top rated", etc.. There are also little arrows in each section which will allows users to scroll through the memes on the home page, even though there are no functionality at the moment.

You can click on the memes on the home page as well to bring up a meme view scree which will have all the information on the meme/gif and there will be buttons to delete or edit the meme information.

Now lets look at the add to library page. This will allow the user to manually input url which will upload the meme on the screen and then they can add information and add the meme to the library. This page will probably not be used too much ideally, since the chrome extension we plan on making will allow users to easily add memes/gifs to their library while roaming other sites.
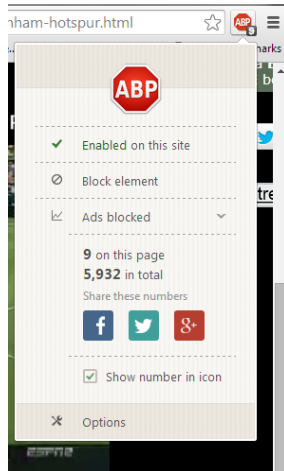
Now if you navigate to the explore page it will bring you to a new page with a bunch of different tag buttons on the top of the screen. The user can click on different tags which will change them to a different color so the user knows they are selected and will filter the memes/gifs shown on the page based on the tags selected. Obviously since this is a prototype it does not actually filter but the prototype does show the idea of how it should work. And same as the home page you can select specific meme/gifs on the page to bring up the meme view discussed earlier.

And finally the help page is self explanatory, you can click on the different questions under the FAQ questions which will expand when clicked on. Also there are some links to popular meme websites to help the user get started on their library if needed!

Chrome Extension Discussion

-after doing some research, a chrome extension seems to be very doable task for our memeMaster. It requires using some JSON and javascript, and with some good tutorials online this is something we will try to implement once we know some javascript and JSON. We thought a better design for our extension than our previous idea would be to have an icon on chrome that you click and it opens up a memeMaster menu bar which could allow the user to drag and drop memes/gifs from any website to the menu bar and which will add the memes/gifs directly to your

library, allowing you to add information to the meme when you add it as well (on top of the auto-filled information which the extension will pull from the meme for you). Also a feature to store your favorite site for gathering memes would be great as well. Heres an existing chrome extension which would be kind of similar to ours.

We will leave HW3 for the making of this extension. :)

Changes from to our home page:

We made changes to our home page to make it way cooler as it looked a little sloppy. Some cool effects were added with CSS and javascript and there is link to our team page from our MemeMaster page.

Conclusion:

Overall we were very happy with the look and overall design of our prototype. It is simple, clean, and usable. We wanted to make it familiar to the user, but a little different too. We wanted the memes to be what pops out to the users! Also for the next assignment we would like to create the chrome extension for our site, as well as add some cool live preview abilities with memes with javascript. We also added a little responsive design to allow our screens to adjust until it hit a certain point (around 950 pixels). Also we are happy with our redesign of our team page!