**Developer Diary**

# Introduction

This Developer Diary is a requirement for a 4th Year software development module, Mobile Applications Development 3. Within this diary I will keep account of the thought process and weekly development of the game.

# Entry 1. 28/09/18

By reading the design document that was provided by the customer I could see that he was looking for me to develop a platformer game. His main concept idea is you move an avatar through an ever changing world and along the way you will have to jump over obstacles, defeat enemies and collect bonuses. The overall aim is to collect as many of these bonuses along the way to the finish line.

Key points about the game:

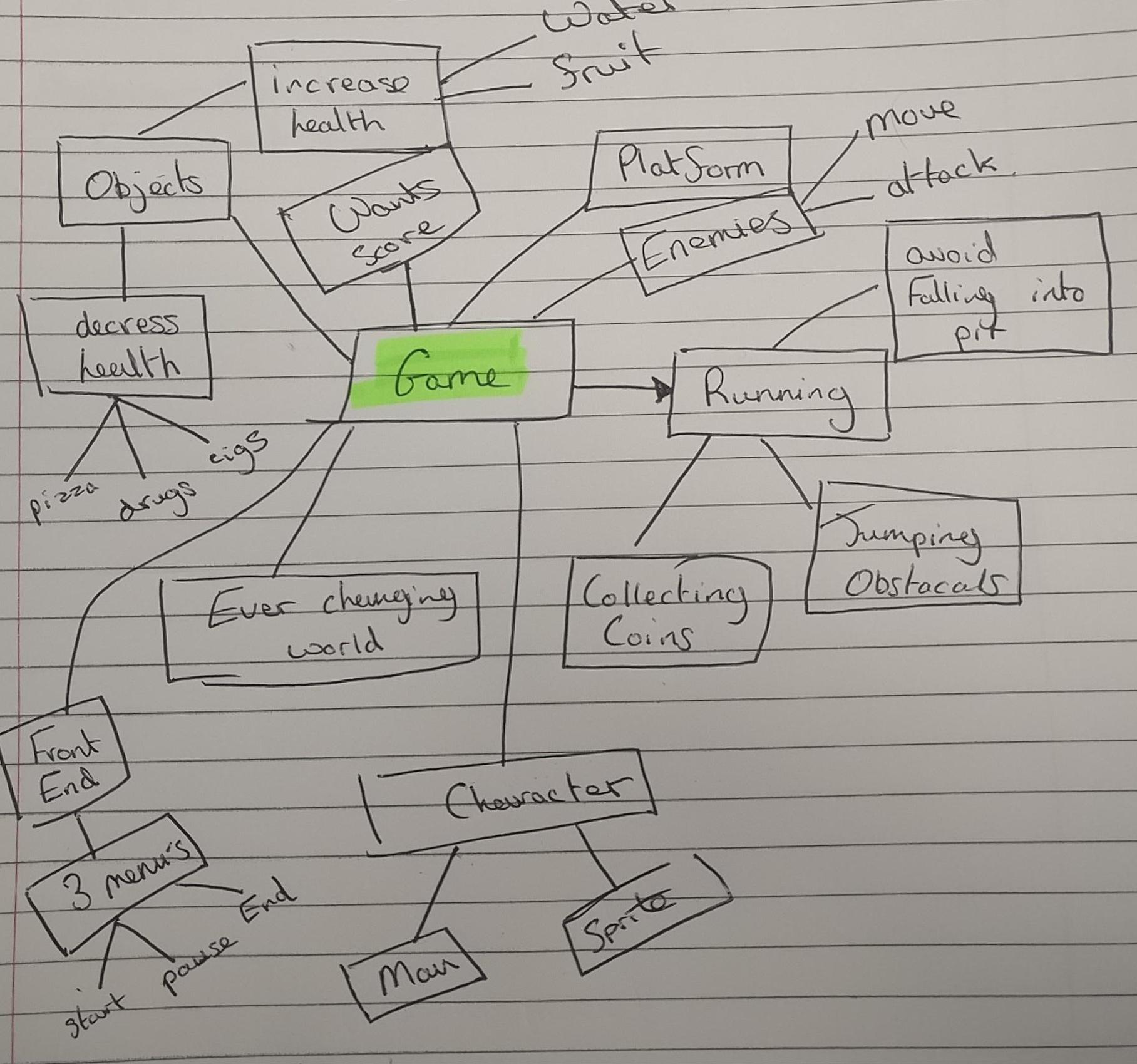
1. Platformer
   * Marathon
   * Ever-changing world
2. Objects
   * Coins
   * Positive Objects
   * Negative Objects
3. Character
   * Has health
4. Front End
   * Start menu
   * Pause menu
   * End Menu

Issues to flag with customer

* Controllers
* Layout
* Enemies?
* Scoring
* Social media

# Entre 2. 01/10/18

Here I have included a mind map that I created to try and understand the game which I am developing



# Entre 3. 07/10/18

Completed another day of research into how the game was going to be developed. I searched the Asset store for potential sprites and tiles that could be used within the game. At the moment I am not sure what we can and can’t use from the asset store. This will need to be cleared up with the lecturer.

To get things rolling I created a new project within Unity and linked that project my GitHub

# Entre 4. 09/10/18

I started development by creating a character within Unity. I felt it was the best approach to create a character. Get him to move and then work onto the rest of the game like platforms etc. As I am new to Unity I looked for online tutorials on how to help create a 2D Unity game. Unity itself provides great documentation which I used help get my character moving. When using Unity, there is two main ways that you can develop a game. One is by primarily using the unity engine to create all the core mechanics. The second way is by using both Unity and C#. Due to being in a Software Development course I felt it would not be beneficial to just use Unity as it is mostly drag and drop. By using both Unity and C# I will learn more about the core mechanics. At the moment I am just focusing on getting the game working with the pc keyboard. I will change that to touch screen inputs at a later point.

# Entre 5. 11/10/18

Now that the character is moving I wanted to get the character running on a platform. During labs we were shown 2D colliders. All I needed to do was add a 2D collider to one of the tile objects, change the characters physics and the character was then able to walk back and forth on the platform. This was done as more of a test. Tile development will come at a later stage.

# Entre 6. 12/10/18

Before I started creating the first level I felt it was important to make my character jump. By pressing the spacebar the character was able to jump. The character doesn’t have jumping animations but that can be added at a later stage. By at least having the character jumping the game can be created and tested.

# Entre 7. 15/10/18

The customer wanted to have an ever changing world for his game so my initial thoughts are to create 2 or 3 levels. One level the character could be running his marathon in the countryside, the second level in a city and the third a beach. At the end of each level the character would see a small bit of the next level before that level would end. This is to try a show the ever changing world. The example below explains my thought process.

A picture containing building

Description automatically generated

To start development on creating the levels I found tile assets on a website that was providing training. I am still unsure whether we are aloud use 3rd party sprites and tiles. I plan to ask my lecture next time I see him. For the time being I continued to use 3rd party assets to create the first level.

# Entre 8. 16/10/18

After creating the first level I wanted to take focus away from to game for a while so I developed the main menu using the resources provided through Unity.

The menu has five buttons

* New Game (Start a new game)
* Load Game (Load an existing game)
* Settings (View and change game settings)
* Score (Show user scores)
* Exit (Exit the game)

I have all five of the buttons above working when clicked. When Load Game, Settings or Score are clicked a sub-menu is opening which allows the user to complete their required task.

# Entre 9. 18/10/18

I enquired about the use of sprites and have learning that only 10% of your sprites used within this game are aloud to come from the asset store. This will mean that I will need to create the sprites myself. I have decided to use GIMP to create the sprites. I will keep the designs basic which I feel will add to the games experience.

# Entre 10. 22/10/18

I creating all the new tiles for the first level. I just need to replace the existing tiles with the new tiles within the game. This process should not take to long to complete as I am now familiar with the process. I am hoping to get this done within the next day or so. A meeting has been set up with the customer to show progress and get any feedback of change that are needed with the game.