Coursework 1 Report

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1 Fashion Collection Web App

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2 Introduction

The purpose of the project is to show an understanding of Python Flask micro framework by creating a web application for an online catalogue. The chosen catalogue web app is going to be about clothing collection mainly for women.

The Fashion collection web app is a collection of different types of womenâĂŹs clothing, shoes and accessories. The web app contains six main pages these include: Homepage, Season Outfit, Tops, Bottoms, Shoes and Accessories Pages. The web app itself is categorized by what type of clothes they are. It is also categorised by season. The web app has a page containing four different seasons. All the images are categorised by Season such as: Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.

3 Design

The web app was designed in a very simple way. Bootstrap is used to create the navigational menu and CSS styling was applied to make it look presentable and simple. This was used for the image gallery and footer. Flask is a python framework that was used to create the web app. Json was also used to pull information to show on the web app. It was chosen because it is easy to read and easy for the machines to parse and generate. Json was used to store the description of the clothes on the web app.

The first page that was created is the homepage it is simplistic and has an image of denim fabric, so that users will have a clear idea or clue of what the web app is for, which is clothing. Concise text was added on the centre of the page to add a bit of more information. For the following pages, consistent layout was used. This was to make the web app less cluttered and confusing. CSS div classes were used to create the image gallery. A conscious decision was made not to have a lot of white space throughout web app to create balance, so no element or side of the page was heavier than the other.

The names of the hierarchy url is relevant to the content of the pages on the web app, as this would make sensible urls and addresses.

4 Enhancements and Features

The Fashion Collection Web app is a very basic catalogue web app and it is believed that there are a lot of features and improvements to add on in the future, for better functionality and ease of use.

Firstly, the design of the web app could be improved. The homepage could have more engaging or attractive theme design as this is the first page the users will see. At the moment, the web app is pretty bland. A more welcoming and eye-catching theme and images would be best to attract more users to visit the web app.

More details about the company could be added to give the user some background information about the owner. The information of about the clothes could be improved by adding details such as: sizes, what the type of fabrics are used. The overall feel of the web app could be improved by adding fun elements such as: moving background/ animation. Section for men's clothing could be also ideal as an addition to the web app. Additionally, obtaining more high quality images in the future would increase the engagement of the users on the web app.

The web app would benefit from having a log in function. It would be very convenient for the users to be able to log in and have the ability to save their favourite clothing saved to their personalised account. Another feature that the web app would benefit from would be a contact form. That would allow the user to contact the administrator of the web app for more information or for business purposes. A search function could be also added, so if users are looking for certain type or clothing it will redirect them to related categories. A Filter function would be also a good addition to the web app. This would help the user to find certain items based on their types, kind of fabrics, sizes, and colors.

A Search function would benefit the users as this would enable them to search for their desired item, with the items being presented to them immediately by typing in the search bar. Filter function would be a good addition to the website. The user would find it easier to find their desired item by this if they are searching for certain types, colors, fabric, and sizes of an item.

5   Critical Evaluation

The features of the web app such as navigational menu worked very well on the web app. This enables the user to effortlessly navigate around the web app by simply clicking a selected menu to go to their desired page. The fonts are easy to read and have been chosen to ensure they are accessible to any individuals with visual impairments. Choosing the most suited layout, font size, and colour schemes throughout the web app.

The layout of the web app was simple and straight forward, the fonts on the menu are clear and concise. In addition, when the user goes to a certain page, the selected button on the navigation menu would be active, so that the user is aware that they are on that page of the web app. It is done by making the background colour of the menu to be darker than what it was and the text becomes a bit brighter.

There was one issue that a considerable amount of time was spent on while building the web app. This was making the description from Json file to show on the HTML in normal sentences. The problem were the words was showing altogether without spaces. This was solved eventually by inserting a square brackets on the Json file in the description.

To summarise a more functional web app would have been better for the catalogue. The web app could have more features such as search and filters. The web app feels a bit incomplete without these kinds of functions.

6   Personal Evaluation

Overall, I believed that I have learned and gained a lot of information and skills whilst building the web app coursework. I gained kills on how to use python flask for the coursework web app, which I was lacking beforehand. The workbook has really helped me to apply and build a lot features on the web app. I have learned to use Python Flask which I believed is one of most useful and important skills to possess in the future. In addition, I learnt Json(JavaScript Object Notation), I was not aware what it was and used for. I believe it is a very good data storage tool without using database. I have used it to store the description of the items on the web app I have produced.

There were times that I felt like I had spent more time on designing the web app than working on the back end. I felt like I could have added more features to it. I struggled with elements not showing properly,this is the reason why I have spent more time fixing the issues. In the future, I would make sure that I balance my time and write down notes and tick what I have done as I do the project. I will plan the web design ahead, so that I do not have to go back repeatedly to fix design issues, while also building the back end of the web app, as this was one of the struggles I have experienced. I acquired some errors, but I fixed this by doing trials and testing it, until I had the solutions for the issues. It made me more determined and patient to not stop until I fixed these issues.

I believed that I have performed very well and met the most of the requirements for the web app project. I made sure to read and understand everything on the assignment document. I also made sure to ask questions for the things that I was not sure about such as: what the web app should be like in terms of functions and what should be included.

References

Google for images and descriptions

https://www.google.co.uk/webhp?hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiJ5uSasIzXAhWLVhQKHaW4DmAQPAgD

Json Validator

https://jsonlint.com/