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CPS 3320

Write-Up

As reiterated in the project proposal, the goal of the program was to help the people in charge at Kean University’s Music Department accept 20 student applications and keep it in an organized fashion through a python program. The students in their application provided their instrument they are applying with and their high school they are currently enrolled. The program was to keep track of how many students applied from Union, Hillside, and Linden High School and what their main instruments are from those high schools.

After finishing the program completely, it worked out effectively. After modifying it multiple times, the structure of the program was first inputting the student’s instrument and high school. Since the instruments and high school were based of a list that I created similar to the Hangman assignment, there were only several options to use at the time as you will see in the code. Then the program looks for the word and keeps count of whatever instrument is that certain high school. After completing those 20 applications, it prints out the total number of students that applied that instrument in that specific high school. The results were expected which was similar to the project proposal’s idea of how the output should look. I would like to expand this program by eventually not having to use a fixed list of certain instruments and high school but rather the user inputting any type of instrument and high school they can think of.

The most challenging parts of the program was really trying to keep track of the instruments and high school name together. When trying the program out multiple times, the program would display wrong inputted information, program would keep running, and it would accept characters that are not from the list. That took me a couple days to really figure that out and stressed me a lot. It’s not until I thought about using an array counter to store the value of each name from the list. I would also add a function to get the count of the instrument in that high school to make it more organized. In order to fix the program from running forever, I used a while loop and if statement asking the user if you would like to put more information, if so, then the program would stop and print out the results. To fix the problem of adding characters that are not exact from the list, I would use an if statement running if that name is IN that list, run the next line of program. If not, tell the user this is invalid and please try again resetting the program. Those were the parts that gave me some time and challenge to figure out.

For my reflection of the program, I felt I really didn’t have to change the program that I originally proposed because I know what I wanted to come out of that python program. As reiterating some problems I ran into making the program was to figure out how to store the information that the user input, making the program stop after a certain amount of times, fixing the issue of characters being accepted even though they are not a part of the list, and formatting correctly. If I had a chance to do it again, I wanted to make my life easier by changing the list into finding a way to accept all instruments and all high school names.