TP Guide to Competitive Analysis

# Description of Your Planned Project

Briefly describe the project you’re planning to work on (in this case, the game Breakout). What is the goal of the game? What are its main features?

A tool created to help musicians learn a piece of sheet music, identify their weaknesses in said sheet music, and track their progress as they continue to practice, by analyzing a recording of their playing. Its main features are recording your playing, analyzing your playing to identify where you messed up, highlighting where you made mistakes in the sheet music, and presenting a graph of your improvement and accuracy in certain areas such as intonation, tempo, etc.

# Evaluating Your Competition

Identify 3 similar projects that already exist. For each competitor project, write a few sentences that describe:

* What the project provides to the user
* What makes this project unique

1. Smart Music (<https://www.smartmusic.com/> ):

Smart Music provides the ability to receive feedback on a student’s playing by highlighting what notes and rhythms a student played incorrectly and the ability to play back the recording, a repertoire library, practice tools, the ability for teachers and students to communicate through the app, a sight reading builder, professional reference recordings, a custom notation tool, the ability to share compositions privately or publicly, and customizable grading tools.

The project is unique because it allows communication in app, and provides functionality for teachers, such as the sight-reading builder and custom notation tool.

1. Better Practice (<https://betterpracticeapp.com/>):

Better Practice provides a repertoire library, the ability to make assignments, a smart guide to plan lessons, quick overview of a student’s practice, the student’s practice rating for an assignment, in app communication between teacher and student, in app communication between students, an optimized list of assignments decided by a review engine, and backing tracks.

The project is unique because of the communication tools, the smart guide to plan lessons, the ability for students to give feedback on a piece, and the optimized list of assignments.

1. PlayPerfect Music Practice Software (<https://www.nchsoftware.com/practice/index.html>):

Features include notes change color as you play to show if you played them right or wrong, built in practice tools such as a metronome, performance reports, create multiple users on the same laptop, practice sessions are recorded and can be played back, can play built in recordings or load your own, and a repertoire library.

The software is unique because of its multiple user functionality, the ability to load recordings in, feedback, and built-in practice tools.

# Identify Comparison Dimensions

Come up with a list of at least five attributes or features that you want to compare between the competitor projects. These dimensions should be user focused (i.e., something that the user can directly observe or experience).

For each dimension (**rank ordered from most to least important**), provide both the dimension name and why the dimension is important.

1. Feedback on a Student’s Playing: I want to find the best accuracy and presentation among other projects so I can replicate/improve it to the best of my ability.
2. Storage of the Student’s Recordings and Pieces: I want to know what the other projects store, if they store anything, since storing is another main feature I plan on implementing.
3. Progress Displays to the User: Want to know if and how other projects show students their progress as they play.
4. Recordings of Pieces: Want to know how other projects allow external recordings of a piece to be uploaded, if that is a feature they provide, or do they provide recordings.
5. Extra Practice Tools: I hope to implement these after MVP, so need to know what they add, if they do.

# Comparison Table

Fill out the table shown below with the features you identified in the section above.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Dimension 1** | **Dimension 2** | **Dimension 3** | **Dimension 4** | **Dimension 5** |
| Competitor 1 | Good; does review in real time, it changes the note’s color based on accuracy | Ok; does not store old recordings after you exit, only allows playback of the recordings you just recorded. Has recently opened tab, a library, and can store original compositions. | Bad; has no progress display in visual form. Has percentage correct on the recordings, but those disappear after you exit. | Ok; does not let you upload your own recording, but does have professional recordings available. | Ok; has a tuner, metronome, ability to loop through a specific part, and some repertoire available for free, rest is paid. |
| Competitor 2 | Ok; does not show student mistakes, but teacher can see how they did (overall only, no specifics), audio/video of practice can be sent to teacher for evaluation | Ok; stores recordings to be sent to a teacher, has assignments that store the music and they can be retired so may lose access to music. Has library. | Ok; does not directly show the user improvement, but has badges, prizes, etc. to incentivize practicing. Can compete against other kids from the same studio. | Good; has built in backing tracks for method books in library, and allows external backing tracks to be uploaded. You can change the speed of the track as well. | Good; messaging, studio contests, review engine, lesson plans, exam prep, metronome, dictionary, quality support, etc. provided. |
| Competitor 3 | Good; notes change color depending based on accuracy | Good; stores past recordings and all uploaded music pieces in a library | Good; displays a progress report to the user after each practice session | Ok; provide ability to load recordings in, but do not provide their own recordings. | Ok; can change speed, metronome, multiple-user functionality, multi  instrument functionality. |

# Summary

Using the results from your comparison, provide a summary of your findings. You should concentrate on

* Features that your project will need to be competitive
* Identified gaps that your project can take advantage of

I will need an accurate and well-presented feedback feature, the ability to store recordings, pieces, and feedback, and allow external recordings to be uploaded to be competitive with other projects. I can fill the need for progress displays to the user, and extra tools within my app.