

Final Individual Report

The final stage of the project has been split into three major areas, app creation, report writing and the presentation. Most members have contributed some coding aspects to the app which are then being put together by one group member and then everyone else has been allocated a task to complete for either the report or the presentation.

In my supervisory role I have elected to contribute to all three parts and am continuing to monitor others work, checking spelling, punctuation and grammar as well as general layout. With regards to coding it was my task to design each page required in html and php.

Using our prototype model from the interim stage of the project I was able to create web based versions of each page using html and php and then styling the app with css. This was one of the major building blocks required to build the final app, we set a soft deadline for the last Friday before the Easter break for each group member contributing code to complete their work. However I believe that I was the only member that actually finished my work by this date.

For the final report I have written the section titled 'refinements and modifications.' Here I have discussed some of the original ideas we had and how they have evolved throughout the process to what they are now. I will also continue to proof read all group members contributions as I have done for both previous reports.

For the presentation I have written the introduction as well as proof reading and modifying things on other pages. A lot of the presentation content consists of a condensed version of what is in the final report. I have assisted in developing the report content and making it suitable for the presentation.

For each aspect of the project I have had to use my existing knowledge and develop different skills. While creating the app I utilised and improved my coding skills. The html and php were relatively straightforward but the css was quite difficult and required a bit more research. As the app was previously built in a prototyping tool (by another group member) there wasn't much consideration given to the difficulty of reflecting the prototype exactly. I learnt how to create a scrollable list box within a container on a page and to give this box borders which is something I had not done previously. I also developed my skills in responsive design by allowing elements on a page to resize and re order when the page is changed, this means that the app will remain aesthetically sound and user friendly on a multitude of mobile devices and laptops.

For the report I have had to use my knowledge gained from the previous reports and the feedback we received, using this I was able to identify areas of weakness in our previous reports and hopefully circumvent them for the final report. Throughout the project I have continuously developed my research skills having to find out lots of information for the report and have also honed my writing skills by constantly reviewing and improving my own work as well as that of my group.

For the presentation I have drawn upon my knowledge as both a presenter and viewer, as in my past career we were regularly encouraged to prepare presentations to display our work. I have learnt from this that too much writing is the fastest way to lose a viewer's attention, especially when the subject matter isn't of any particular interest. Short bullet points and detailed speaker notes allow the user to get the gist of your point and then focus on you speaking instead of staring at the slides or allowing their attention to wander. Key information and figures should be displayed as these can then be referred to in speaker notes and are much easier to engage the viewer when they have these visual reminders. I have written the introduction to our presentation as well as organising the

speaker notes and who within the group will talk about which part. I will also be taking the lead speaking role in the presentation and introducing each group member when we reach their contributions which they can talk about in more intimate detail.

This third and final stage of the project module has felt a lot shorter than the previous two, we have had to complete significantly more work in the space of a few weeks. This was partially down to the timing of coursework from other modules. One of the difficulties throughout the entire project was motivating group members to complete their work in a timely manner and this trend has continued into the final stage. One group member in particular has contributed absolutely nothing to any aspect of the project, despite turning up to group meetings and all of us being readily available on social media, this group member has failed to complete the simple tasks we set and this has led us to not give them any further work as we can't trust them to even attempt it let alone complete it.

If I were to approach a similar task again I would spend more time at the very beginning talking to my group members, finding out their strengths and weaknesses and working together to create and enforce a schedule for task completion. One of the mistakes I feel I made when creating the gantt charts for this project was the failure to allot time for other modules. As a result I felt that myself as well as other group members prioritised work for other modules and neglected the group project work. The role I have fallen into in this project has meant that on many occasions I have been forced to pick up a lot of slack left by others and some of my other work has suffered due to the time I have been forced to put into this. In future I would try and manage my own time more effectively and try to motivate my group members into completing their own work and managing their time more effectively instead of bearing the burden personally.