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Individual reflection - week 11 - Introduction to IT

Group reports - written by Minh (this week team leader)
Project summary: The project will be a website named Easy Cook, which centers around food saving and nutrition. Sometimes, we don't finish our meal, and the leftover food will be discarded. That is a waste. One of Easy Cook's main features is giving users the knowledge to turn that leftover food into another brand new dish for the next meal. This can be done with a variety of recipes that we have that target your specific leftover food. Another important feature of Easy Cook is calculating how much nutrition per dish will give us in one meal. This is important for any who are careful in their diet. Example users will be athletes, bodybuilders, patience, dieter. We also include some minors features such as a whole forum for people to discuss or publish articles about food and diet, a news section for official news to be published.

What has been done (up till week 11): Each member had decided their roles and tasks in the project. Multiple minor features have also been determined and designed. We also made progress in developing main/minor features on an actual prototype. In week 11 particularly, we decided to use a template for the frontend design of the website as it saved a large amount of valuable time and was significantly more beautiful than our old initial design. The content writers have also started to do some research and created/gathered content for the website.

For this week, we did not have a group meeting as every task had been assigned to each member before. There was a group work between 2 members (Dat and Minh), however, to discuss the details of the group report. Everyone seemed to be pleased with the progress of the project and worked diligently toward the final product. In general, the website's frontend part started to look and feel more professional, the contents were being created at a fast pace and there were no noticeable hurdles/roadblocks.

If I were to nitpick and forced to point out a particular problem, that would involve the content writing process. Our team is inexperienced in this field so the process of finding, checking and rewriting content was troublesome to all content writers. But as time passed, we also gained experiences and knowledge to overcome this problem.

If I could say something to my past self, that would be not to be afraid to express your ideas. Sometimes it is beneficial to have multiple ideas in a group chat conflicting each other. The ideas are then refined.

Individual reflection
1. What happened?
In this week, our team did not hold a group meeting as all tasks were previously assigned to each member so the members just have to do their own work. While there was not meeting, we decided to use a template for the website, instead of the original idea was to create one ourself. The reason was that we initially did not have enough knowledge about web development to come up with the idea of using the template and the more important reason was that the template was better and less time consuming to use than creating a design ourselves. The content writers, me included, also started to collect and write content for the website (mostly recipes, tips, pictures and other minor parts). The content writing process initially was hard because of our inexperiences. For some parts, we did not know where to start. The problem was then resolved as we did some research about the content. The features of the website were also on good progress. I personally was pleased with the project's development. The atmosphere in our conversations were friendly and overall relaxing.

2. Compared to past experience
As the project progressed, the team members seemed to find more things in common, thus creating a much more relaxing experience in group work. My past teams were lacking this element in the overall feeling. I am satisfied with the current team work.