AT02 Gamification Document

Chris O’Brien

30060241

PRE-PRODUCTION

**Game Genre Analysis**

**Simulation**

**Core Mechanics:** Simulation games often revolve around intricate systems and mechanics that mirror real-world processes. These mechanics include:

1. **Resource Management:** Players must allocate and manage resources efficiently to achieve specific goals or outcomes within the simulation.
2. **Sandbox Environment:** Simulation games frequently provide open-world or sandbox environments where players have the freedom to experiment and make choices that impact the simulated world.
3. **Decision-Making:** Complex decision-making is a central mechanic, requiring players to strategize and plan their actions to achieve success.

**Gameplay Elements:** Simulation games incorporate various gameplay elements that contribute to their immersive nature:

1. **Realism:** Simulation games aim for realism, often replicating real-world scenarios, environments, and mechanics to create an authentic experience.
2. **Progression:** Players advance by achieving goals, completing tasks, and improving their simulated entities (cities, characters, etc.).
3. **Customization:** Many simulation games offer extensive customization options, allowing players to personalize their experience and tailor the simulation to their preferences.

**Player Objectives:** Player objectives in simulation games are diverse and often reflect real-world aspirations:

1. **Creation and Building:** Players might be tasked with constructing and managing cities, theme parks, or civilizations, fostering a sense of accomplishment as their creations thrive.
2. **Economic Success:** Simulation games frequently involve economic simulations, challenging players to generate profits, manage budgets, and make financially sound decisions.
3. **Problem Solving:** Players engage in critical thinking and problem-solving as they address challenges and obstacles within the simulation.

**Target Demographic**

The primary target audience for this game is equal split of males and females primarily aged between 21 to 60, on the wealthier side because it would most likely be richer adults looking to buy a house on a private island.

**Consumer Habits**

The target demographic will generally be wealthier individuals and perhaps looking for a sustainable and eco-friendly way of living. They will most likely want to do research on an island they are buying, and they will be looking for a long-term living plan.

**Game Design Principles and Gameplay Strategies**

Focal Point. Having a focal point is the idea of never having the player guess where they must go or what they must do. You can implement this principle by adding markers, waypoints or build the map in such a way that it draws the player’s eyes to the objective.

**I can implement this by adding something bright or interesting looking to draw the player to it.**

Sound. Sound is the idea of asking the question, what sound does that make? Is the sound appropriate? Is the sound necessary? Does it benefit the experience or hinder it?

**I can implement this by adding calm music that fits the scene and appropriate sound effects for interaction.**

**Version Control and Project Management**

Git Hub will be used to save and transfer different versions of the game to make it easy to access it on any device, and to access older versions.

I’ll be using Excel as my management software to manage and schedule tasks and keep me on schedule.

<https://github.com/mooza99088/Retake-Intro-to-Game-Design-AT01>

**Asset Implementation**

When importing assets into a game engine it is important what the files are formatted as, for sprites you generally want png files because they can render transparency, for audio files you want wav files because they are lossless files, but they do take up a fair amount of space. For models you want them to be imported as FBX files, this is the most reliable way of importing and exporting models.

**Monitoring Progress**

To keep track of my tasks I could have weekly goals that I need to complete by the end of the week, or I could do weekly sprints to evaluate what work got done throughout the week.

**Game Engine Evaluation**

**UNITY**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PROS | CONS |
| Less of a learning curve. | Not good for large projects |
| more versatile in the types of games you can make. | does not come with a full toolset |
| uses C# which is easier to learn. | Worse graphics engine |

**UNREAL ENGINE**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PROS | CONS |
| Better graphics engine | Steep learning curve. |
| Come with a full toolset | Does not work well for making all types of games |
| Better for making 3D games | Uses C++ |

Based off the comparison and extra research the most suitable game engine for the project is unity.

**Peer Review Prototype**

|  |
| --- |
| A white background with colorful text  Description automatically generated |

I conducted a play test with studio head and received feedback then implemented the given feedback.

**User Trial Improvements**

During user trials the main feedback I got was that the tooltip sprites stood out a bit much and could be a little more subtle,

And also, that the movement could be a little rough at times and could be smoothed out a bit.