

Edison Toole Availity Homework Assignment
Short Answer Q's

1. Tell me about your proudest professional achievement. It can be a personal or school project.

My proudest personal achievement thus far has been graduating from software boot-camp and presenting my final project. Going through Galvanize was one of the most fulfilling things I've done in my life. For my project, I created an iOS app that ran on my iPhone. It was a brick-breaker-type game that I built using Swift and XCode.

Working on my app for weeks and weeks and then presenting to a room of a hundred or so people was incredibly cathartic. I had my entire speech planned out and a video of my app that I had to be in sync with. It went more smoothly than I even expected, and when I heard the applause, I knew I had made it. It felt like a ton of bricks had been lifted from my shoulders. There's no feeling like that in the world and it was one of the proudest moments of my life.

2. Tell me about a book, blog, article or GitHub repo you read or liked recently, and why you like it and why you should recommend I do the same.

I recently read through several chapters of Clean Code by Robert Cecil Martin (Uncle Bob). I recommend this book to anyone who writes any code. I haven't finished it yet, but it is super interesting and shines a light on things I didn't even realize I was doing while writing code. I love the author's sentiment that code should be beautiful to read. It shouldn't be beautiful "just because", but because it can keep an organization from ultimately going under. Bad code is hard to maintain and only gets worse with time. It takes extreme care to create a codebase of clean, beautiful, readable code, and it is always worth it to take that extra step. If we don't focus on writing clean code in the present, we pay for it in the future. Nobody likes wading through an old codebase, full of nasty buggy code that will take weeks, if not months, to fix.

3. If you were to describe to a 7-year old what Availity does, what would you say?

If a 7-year old asked me what Availity does, I would first ask that 7-year old how they heard of Availity and if they know what insurance is. After going through that whole gambit, I would explain that hospitals deal with thousands of people's transactions every day. People with different insurances, plans, coverages, and bills. This can get complicated quick, so Availity simplifies that process for the hospitals by creating a universal system for all patients and insurances. This makes it easier for the hospital because they only have to deal with 1 system, layout, style, etc, for all patients and insurance.