Process & Decision Documentation

Nick Wang
21064962

Side Quest 5

Project/Assignment Decisions(2-4 Sentences)

For this side quest, I decided to remove direct player control and instead focus on an automatic scrolling camera to create a reflective experience. I intentionally slowed the camera in the middle section of the world to experiment with pacing as an emotional tool. I also added small hidden symbols that become "discovered" when centered on screen to encourage quiet observation rather than active gameplay.

GenAI Documentation (Used)

Date Used:02/21/2026
Tool Disclosure: ChatGPT (GPT-5.2)

Purpose of Use: GenAI was used to clarify conceptual differences between player movement and camera movement, and to brainstorm ways to use pacing and scroll speed to evoke emotion. It was also used to discuss how to detect when objects enter the center of the screen.

Prompts Used:

"How does translate() simulate camera movement in p5.js?"

"How can scroll speed influence emotional tone in a game environment?"

"How can I detect when an object enters the center of the camera view?"

"What visual techniques help create a reflective atmosphere?"

Summary of Interactions: ChatGPT provided conceptual explanations about separating world space from view state and using translate () to shift the camera instead of the player. It suggested using pacing adjustments and subtle visual layering to create a meditative tone. It also described basic bounding logic for detecting when objects align with screen center.

Human Decision Points: I chose the final emotional tone (calm/meditative), world size, color palette, pacing slowdown section, and symbol placement. I adjusted scroll speed values and refined the discovery radius through manual testing. All final code structure and aesthetic decisions were selected and modified by me.

Integrity & Verification Note: GenAI was used for conceptual guidance and brainstorming only. All code was tested, debugged, and adjusted independently to ensure understanding and alignment with course requirements.

Scope of GenAI Use: GenAI supported planning and problem clarification. It did not independently complete the assignment. The final design decisions, emotional direction, and implementation were determined by the author.

Limitations or Misfires: Some suggested pacing ideas were too dramatic for the intended calm tone and required adjustment. Initial detection logic suggestions needed refinement to match the centered camera system.

Appendix:
ChatGPT Link:
https://chatgpt.com/share/69994e3e-4d40-8013-b1c3-3835a6bc3b1f