Project Title: Daily Japanese

Members:

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Project Pitch:

Daily Japanese is a spaced-repetition-based language learning application with the sole goal of comprehension rather than production. Many people, including myself, have no real reason to learn production of Japanese language, and, by removing it from the learning process, it expedites the process of learning comprehension. Even if the user wishes to fully learn the language, this will provide a fundamental ground to learn the other half of the language, production. Overall, the application works by a methodical exposure to kana, kanji, words, grammar, and then full sentences, the user will be able to read and understand Japanese in the medium that they desire.

Designs and Plans

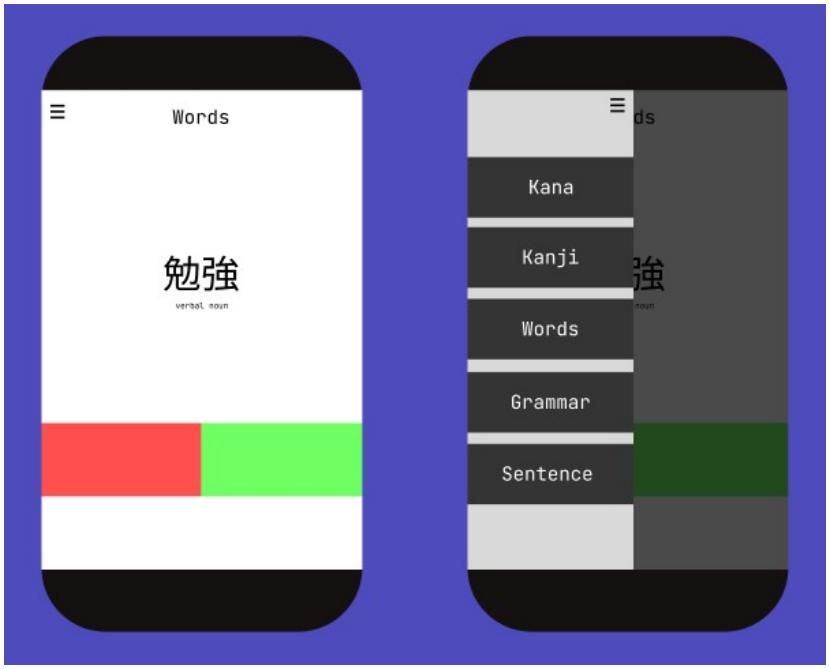
The Scheduler

The space-repetition system is at the heart of this application. The scheduled time will be a column of the database and when the user answers whether they got it right or not, the time will

increment or decrement based on a predetermined factor, which the user will be able to change in the settings.

The UI

The design of the UI should be simplistic as to attribute to the overall reduction of intimidation and induce relaxation in the process of language learning. Below is a first draft of the UI, but I would like a few more texts around indicating progress as well as a stats page.



Progression & Unlocking

As Japanese has a more progressive structure than other languages where each character has its own meaning, the meanings of multiple characters in a word mesh together to form the meaning of the word, and words are contained in other words more often than any other language. For example, Psychologist [心理学者] =

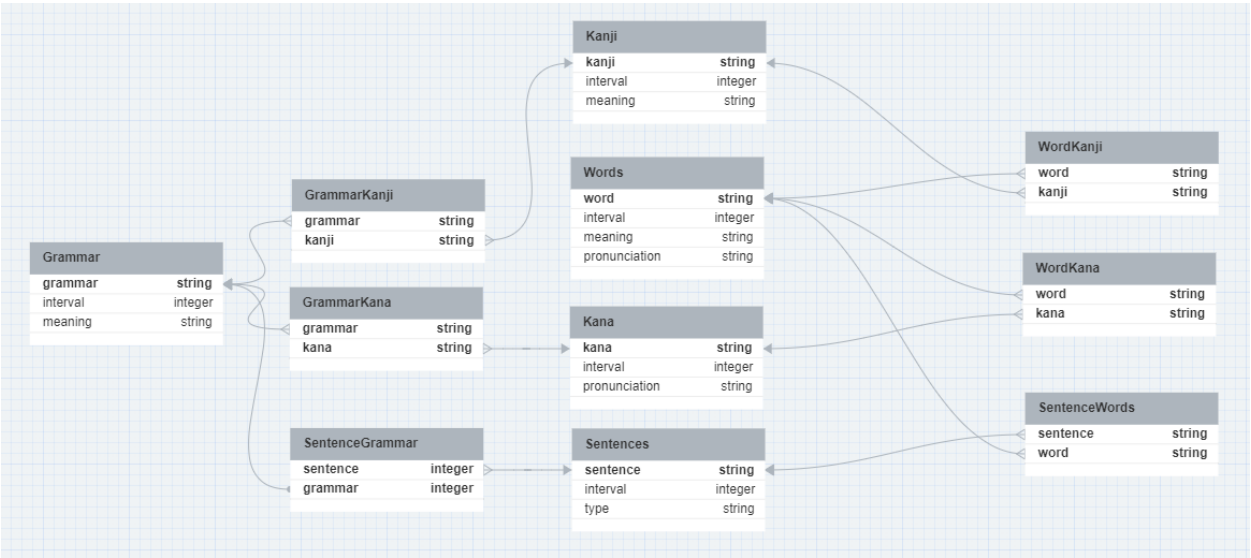
psychology [心理] = heart/mind [心] + reason[理]

+

scientist [学者] = study [学] + person [者]

Furthermore, each of these kanji (Japanese characters) can have up to three unique readings on average. Therefore, while studying the language myself, it made sense to fully learn all the words of one reading of one kanji as this helped consolidate the reading, the kanji, and the word in my mind. Thus, the application will have such a progressional system as well.

Database Schema



Profiles, Saving & Backup

As all the pertinent information is held within the database used by the application, allowing the export of the database will allow the user to backup his information. Additionally, having a non-editable template database will help with the creation of a profile system, as each profile will take a copy of the initial database.

Schedule

Task	Est. Date
Complete Database	09/23/2023
Complete Scheduling System	10/01/2023
Complete GUI of application	10/15/2023
Add functionality to the application	10/22/2023
Append Database to application	10/29/2023
Develop Backup Mechanism	11/12/2023
Debug	11/26/2023
User Testing	12/03/2023
Revision/Finalize	12/10/2023

Data Source:

The data source of this application will be predefined decks from Anki, another but general card-learning application.

Sample Case:

[The scheduler] A person encounters a new word and they guess, get it wrong, and move on to the next word. A few days later, the word shows up again, but he has an inkling from their previous attempt and, with vague but sufficient memory, they correctly guess its meaning and reinforce it for future encounters.

[Progressive, unlocking, and database schema] A person unlocks a new Japanese word in the application that they have never seen before, but the components are very familiar. Thus, they formulate a guess on the meaning and pronunciation of the word and find that it is correct.

This positive experience reinforces all aspects that they used to guess the word and the word itself.

[profiles & saving] A person gets a new phone, or loses the data on their phone, but they have regularly downloaded and saved their progress by downloading the database file. Thus, they can now import the profile and resume from where they were.