Final Project Writeup

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Link to my Github with my NM2207 Final Project: https://nicoleyuszeyui-nm2207.github.io/

My NM2207 Final Project is about the history of the Olympics, while placing a heavier emphasis on the politically significant Olympic Games and the link between certain political events and the Olympic Games. Currently there have not been many studies done to look at the relation between the Olympics and other worldwide political events. Through the analysis of the dataset and by conducting some online research, I would hope to present some background information of the Olympic Games, some insights on the effects of major world events on the Olympics, and the distinct trends found between certain variables in the dataset. I believe that the study of the data will be meaningful to people who are interested in the Olympics beyond the scope of it being merely a form of sports entertainment, and also to people who may be new to the Olympic Games and want to gain some new knowledge on this worldwide sports event.

My project webpage is split into different tabs, and I think this is the highlight of my project as I have presented my findings in distinct tabs that will point the audience to a new insight when the different tabs are clicked. There are 5 tabs on my webpage.

Firstly, I give an introduction of the Olympics on the first tab, where hovering over the Olympics logo will allow the audience to uncover some background information of the Olympics. This sets the ground and context for the audience as some audience may be unfamiliar with how the Olympic Games are held.

Secondly, I brought the audience back in time to the first politically significant Olympics, when the Nazi Olympics was held. The line graph and bar graph I used linked up what happened during the Nazi Olympics with the political events that happened that year.

Thirdly, I presented the boycotts that happened during past Olympic Games in a bar graph visualization and gave a short description of the boycotts in the third tab.

Fourthly, I dived in deeper into the boycotts that happened from 1956-1988 by presenting it with flip cards down a timeline in the fourth tab. I feel that the use of flip cards in this tab and the first tab adds to the interactive element of my webpage, and the audience may feel a greater sense of curiosity to find out more about what was written behind each flip card.

Lastly, the fifth tab presented an interesting finding that I had when analysing the dataset. I found out that countries generally win more medals in the years that they host the Olympics. I also presented some reasons as to why this may be true.

The two highlights of my webpage (data presented in different tabs, and the use of flip cards) were some elements that I found on W3Schools that I felt were quite appropriate for my webpage. My main target audience for this webpage are those who are curious to find out more about the Olympics and go beyond the Olympics as merely a sporting event. Adding some interactive elements to the webpage and presenting data and their descriptions in different forms will help the audience stay engaged when looking through my webpage.

The main challenge I faced when creating the webpage was the linking of the tabs to call different functions in the main.js. I kept encountering problems that either the code does not run, or the alignments of my div elements are not how I would like it to be. As the same canvas element is used for each tab, I had to figure out a way to clear the canvas

elements as well when a new tab was clicked. This caused a lot of frustration and much time was used to debug the code. However, I did feel a sense of accomplishment when I finally managed to crack the code. Therefore, I think my biggest takeaway (soft skills) apart from all the technical coding skills was the ability to reorganise my thoughts and emotions and tackle each problem one at a time. I found it easier to reappraise my work into something that was enjoyable and something meaningful that would make me feel fulfilled upon completion.

My second challenge faced was that I found it difficult to find long periods of time in my schedule where I could complete a significant portion of the webpage in one seating. I think I set too high expectations for myself, thus causing me to feel guilty when I was unable to complete my set goals for the day. I think something I have learnt from this was to manage my expectations better and break my tasks up into simpler ones so that it was more attainable. I felt that this helped to improve my well-being also as I was less caught up with the guilt of not being to finish my set goals.

All in all, completing this final project made me feel very fulfilled and I felt that I have gained many soft skills and technical coding skills along the way that will be beneficial to me in the future.