Insight Writeup

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Insight was developed not with the motive to create a social platform, but with the motive to learn basics of web development. I thought creating a primitive social web app will serve the purpose best.

The basic idea of insight is to provide a social platform, local to my college DTU, where students can post certain blogs or post about stuff they feel like sharing with other students.

In this writeup, I aim to explain a basic understanding of how the website works.

Desktop site:

In the first video (check attachment), the sign up process is recorded. It is a usual process, the user is asked to enter his basic details and to set a password(minimum 5 characters long). The form is validated using JavaScript, and is posted to a PHP script adding the details to a database. A random number is generated as a confirm code, saved in one column of the table in the DB, and is mailed to the email id entered. On logging in, the user is prompted to enter the code, thus ensuring the email id used is not someone else's.

In the second video (check attachment), the UI is recorded. Heavy use of AJAX and PHP is made.

While making a new post, the user has an option of making the post anonymous or not. An anonymous post is one which is displayed to other users, but no one except the poster himself will know who posted it. On submitting, an asynchronous AJAX request is made to a PHP script on the server, which enters the data about the post, that is, the posters email id, anonymous status of post, time of post, the post text et cetera into a table of the database. The post text is then responded back to the AJAX request, and is appended to the home page.

Liking of a post(not recorded) is a feature that is perhaps loosely implemented at the moment, but working fine. On liking, two processes are to be implemented. The id of the person who likes the post has to be recorded, and the number of likes of that particular post has to be updated. Every post has an

ID, as a number. Corresponding to every post, a txt file is maintained in a directory on the server that records the IDs of the user who have liked the post. On the table of posts in the database, the number of likes is maintained.

When a user likes a post(clicks the like button), an AJAX request is made to a php script on the server, that writes the id of the user who has liked the post, on the txt file (mentioned above) of that post. Also, the number of likes of that post, which is maintained on the DB, is incremented.

The profile page of the user displays the Activity (the posts the user has made), profile picture and basic details of the person.

Mobile Site:

The mobile site is in a very basic stage, since it has been worked on for only a couple of days. Naturally, it only differs from the desktop site in the front end aspects. Use of jQuery mobile is made for recording user end gestures like swiping. On swiping right on a post, that particular post is liked using a similar AJAX implementation as the desktop site. On swiping left on a liked post, that particular post is unliked. A hamburger style menu is used for other options such as logout, notifications, settings et cetera.