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Assignment 1

Google Drive is an online service that allows users to create and share documents through their Google accounts. It is a very convenient tool because it allows multiple users to edit the same document at the same time, and it will update in real time for all users.

In Google Drive, users can create text documents, presentations, spreadsheets, forms, and drawings. This allows groups an entire suite of applications as well as free storage to store and manage projects. If a user is working alone, it is a convenient way to store assignments or past projects. The storage can also hold and share any other kind of file, in case a document needed to be shared by the group that was not a Google extension.

Users do not necessarily need to have a Google account to take advantage of the service. While the main way of sharing documents is through Gmail, users can also send each other links to the documents, granting access to whoever you had shared the link to.

All of these features make it easy to share your document with many people quickly. Once your document has been shared with everyone you intended, they can then edit or comment on it. This makes fast, effective communication easy within a group.

The overall utility and collaboration that Google Drive provides makes modern projects much easier. Creating and organizing different parts of presentations and assignments can happen instantaneously, and the service is offered free, so there is no barrier to entry into this type of collaboration.

In a programming assignment, Google Drive can help by allowing group members to plot out the various steps of the program. They could even create drawings to map out a class diagram.

In a non-programming assignment, Google Drive would be used just like any other office suite. The presentation software and word processors make for a simple, free solution for most assignments.

Github is an online web service that allows users to share code and other files in storage units called repositories. While it has a bit of a learning curve, it is very useful and is highly regarded by many programmers.

Github is very useful to the individual. By uploading all of your code to one place, you can have it handy wherever you go. If you work in a job that requires programming, this can be useful if you want to look at something you were working on after hours and take a longer look at a problem.

Github's power shows the most in a group setting. It provides an easy way for a group to contribute to a project. Multiple users can upload code for review, and then the code that works the best can be selected to be pushed into the main branch. In a work setting, this provides an easy way for a supervisor to review a programmer's work and determine whether it should go into the production environment. Similarly, this same principle could be applied to a group project for a class assignment. Whoever is leading the assignment can review the code and determine if it is working well enough to submit as the final project.