

Homework Assignment – Updating presentation slides with Google Apps Script

Report by Riina Kikkas

[Spreadsheet link](#)

Scenario Explanation

In this project I created a small dashboard for cats stored in a Google Sheets file.

The script reads the data about each cat (name, breed, age, status) and updates a Google Slides presentation.

The presentation automatically shows the total number of cats, the number of cats per breed and individual cards for each cat.

addQuoteFromSheetToFirstSlide()

This function updates the first slide with a quote taken from the spreadsheet.

- It opens the presentation and selects slide 1 (index 0).
- It deletes all existing shapes on that slide, so the slide is clean.
- It sets a light pink background color for the whole slide.
- It opens the spreadsheet and reads two cells from the second sheet:
 - A1 → the quote text
 - A2 → the author
- It creates a new text box in the center of the slide.
- It writes the quote in the format "quote" ❤️ on the first line and – author on the second line.
- It centers the text vertically inside the box and applies styling:
 - font size 28
 - dark pink/red color
 - Comic Sans MS font

ID	Name	Breed	Age	Status
1	Luna	British Shorthair	2	Available
2	Miku	Siamese	5	Adopted
3	Bella	Maine Coon	3	Available
4	Tommi	Siamese	7	Available
5	Nurrik	Domestic Shorthair	10	Adopted

```

1 function addQuoteFromSheetToFirstSlide() {
2     // Open the presentation and select the first slide (index 0)
3     let presentation = SlidesApp.openById("1eaGIjK5vI3oZJuaaSa-0AP30nCYHyPyGBP0Jy5gP4M0");
4     let slide = presentation.getSlides()[0];
5
6     // Clear all shapes on this slide
7     for (let shape of slide.getShapes()) {
8         shape.remove();
9     }
10
11     // Set a light red background for the whole slide
12     slide.getBackground().setSolidFill("#fdecea"); // light red
13
14     // Open the spreadsheet and get the second sheet (index 1)
15     let ss = SpreadsheetApp.openById("1o12mQbv_u16EyXd0GwEQ5WpfBhtXCXHLlibS9hPQnobw");
16     let quoteSheet = ss.getSheets()[1]; // A1 = quote, A2 = author
17
18     // Read quote and author from the sheet
19     let quote = quoteSheet.getRange("A1").getValue();
20     let author = quoteSheet.getRange("A2").getValue();
21
22     // Create a text box in the center area
23     let quoteShape = slide.insertShape(
24         SlidesApp.ShapeType.TEXT_BOX,
25         50,
26         140,
27         580,
28         100
29     );

```

```

31     // Set the text with hearts at the beginning and at the end
32     let textRange = quoteShape.getText();
33     textRange.setText(
34         "\"" + quote + "\" ❤️\n" +
35         "-" + author
36     );
37
38     // Center the text inside the box
39     quoteShape.setContentAlignment(SlidesApp.ContentAlignment.MIDDLE);
40
41     // Style the whole text: Comic Sans, dark pink/red
42     let style = textRange.getTextStyle();
43     style
44         .setFontSize(28)
45         .setForegroundColor("#c2185b") // dark pink
46         .setFontFamily("Comic Sans MS") // Comic Sans
47         .setBold(false);
48 }

```

"Time spent with cats is never wasted." ❤️
-Sigmund Freud

showCatCount()

This function shows the total number of cats on the second slide.

- It opens the presentation and selects slide 2 (index 1).
- It opens the spreadsheet with cat data (first sheet) and counts how many rows there are.
- It subtracts 1 to ignore the header row, so the result is the total number of cats.
- It deletes all old shapes on the second slide.
- It creates a new text box and writes Total cats: X, where X is the calculated number.
- It formats the text to be big and visible:
 - font size 40
 - bold
 - purple text color
- It fills the text box with a white background and centers the text.

This function keeps slide 2 up to date with the current total number of cats in the spreadsheet.

```

50 // 2) Show the total number of cats on the second slide
51 function showCatCount() {
52     // Open the Slides presentation and select the second slide (index 1)
53     let slide = SlidesApp
54         .openById("1eaGIjK5vI3oZJuaaS-0AP30nCYHyPyGBP0Jy5gP4M0")
55         .getSlides()[1];
56
57     // Open the spreadsheet that contains the cat data
58     let sheet = SpreadsheetApp
59         .openById("1o12mQbv_u16EyXd0GwEQ5WpfBhtXCXHLiS9hPQnobw")
60         .getSheets()[0];
61
62     // Calculate the total number of cats (subtracting the header row)
63     let count = sheet.getDataRange().getNumRows() - 1;
64
65     // Remove all old shapes from this slide
66     for (let shape of slide.getShapes()) {
67         shape.remove();
68     }
69
70     // Create a clean new text box
71     let shape = slide.insertShape(
72         SlidesApp.ShapeType.TEXT_BOX,
73         100,
74         150,
75         500,
76         120
77     );
78
79     let text = shape.getText();
80     text.setText("Total cats: " + count);
81

```

```

82     let style = text.getTextStyle();
83     style
84         .setFontSize(40)
85         .setBold(true)
86         .setForegroundColor("#8e44ad");
87
88     // Add background for clarity
89     shape.getFill().setSolidFill("#ffffff");
90     shape.setContentAlignment(SlidesApp.ContentAlignment.MIDDLE);
91 }

```

Total cats: 5

showBreedCounts()

This function shows how many cats there are per breed on the third slide.

- It opens the presentation and selects slide 3 (index 2).
- It removes all existing shapes from that slide.
- It opens the cat data sheet and reads all values.
- It loops over all rows (skipping the header) and counts how many times each breed appears.
 - The breed is taken from column C (index 2).
 - The counts are stored in a JavaScript object breedCounts.
- It builds a text summary that starts with the title Cats by breed: and then adds one line per breed in the form Breed: number.
- It inserts a new text box on the slide and sets the summary text.
- It styles the text:
 - base text: font size 24, dark gray
 - the title line “Cats by breed:” is formatted separately with font size 30, bold and orange.

This function automatically generates a small statistics slide that shows the distribution of cats by breed.

```

94 // 3) Show the number of cats per breed on the third slide
95 function showBreedCounts() {
96     // Open the Slides presentation and select the third slide (index 2)
97     let slide = SlidesApp
98     .openById("1eaGIjK5vI3oZJuaaSa-0AP30nCYHyPyGBP0Jy5gP4M0")
99     .getSlides()[2];
100
101     // Remove all existing shapes
102     for (let shape of slide.getShapes()) {
103         shape.remove();
104     }
105
106     // Open the spreadsheet with cat data
107     let sheet = SpreadsheetApp
108     .openById("1o12mQbv_u16EyXd0GwEQ5WpfBhtXCXHLiS9hPQnobw")
109     .getSheets()[0];
110
111     let data = sheet.getDataRange().getValues();
112
113     // Create an object to store counts by breed
114     let breedCounts = {};
115
116     // Breed is in column C → index 2
117     for (let i = 1; i < data.length; i++) {
118         let breed = data[i][2];
119         breedCounts[breed] = (breedCounts[breed] || 0) + 1;
120     }
121
122     // Prepare the text summary
123     let text = "Cats by breed:\n";
124     for (let breed in breedCounts) {
125         text += `${breed}: ${breedCounts[breed]}\n`;
126     }

```

```

128     // Insert a new text box into the slide
129     let shape = slide.insertShape(
130         SlidesApp.ShapeType.TEXT_BOX,
131         50,
132         80,
133         500,
134         350
135     );
136
137     let textRange = shape.getText();
138     textRange.setText(text);
139
140     // Apply styling to the list
141     let style = textRange.getTextStyle();
142     style
143     .setFontSize(24)
144     .setBold(false)
145     .setForegroundColor("#2c3e50"); // Dark gray text
146
147     // Format the title line separately
148     let titleRange = textRange.getRange(0, "Cats by breed:".length);
149     titleRange.getTextStyle()
150     .setFontSize(30)
151     .setBold(true)
152     .setForegroundColor("#e67e22"); // Orange for emphasis
153 }

```

Cats by breed:

British Shorthair: 3

Siamese: 6

Maine Coon: 3

Domestic Shorthair: 3

highlightIfManyCats()

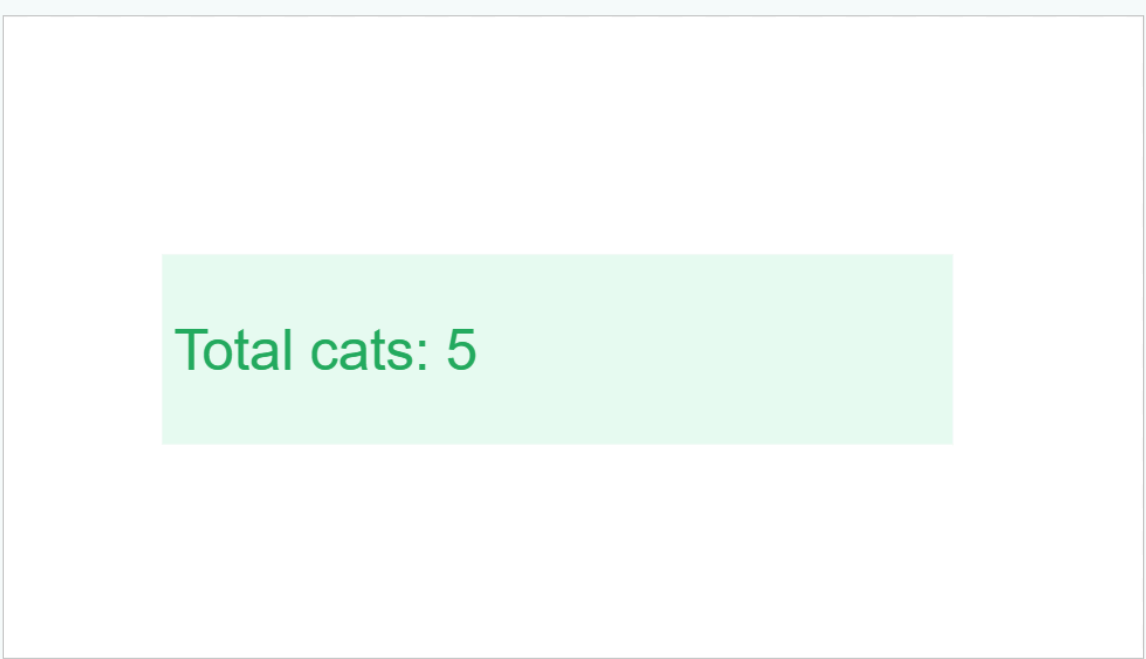
This function adds conditional formatting to the total cats slide (slide 2).

- It opens the presentation and selects slide 2 (index 1).
- It opens the cat data sheet again and counts the number of cats (rows minus header).
- It assumes that the first shape on the slide is the text box created by showCatCount().
- It updates the text to Total cats: X to make sure it is fresh.
- Then it applies different styling depending on the number of cats:
 - If there are 10 or more cats:
 - font size 48
 - bold
 - red text color
 - light red background for the text box
 - If there are fewer than 10 cats:
 - font size 36
 - not bold
 - green text color
 - light green background
- It keeps the text centered inside the box.

This function makes the slide more dynamic by visually highlighting when there are “many” cats.

```
156 // 5) Visual enhancement: highlight the total number of cats on the second slide
157 function highlightIfManyCats() {
158     // Work on the second slide (index 1), same as showCatCount
159     let slide = SlidesApp
160         .openById("1eaGIjK5vI3oZJuaaSa-0AP30nCYHyPyGBP0Jy5gP4M0")
161         .getSlides()[1];
162
163     // Open the spreadsheet
164     let sheet = SpreadsheetApp
165         .openById("1o12mQbv_u16EyXd0GwEQ5WpfBhtXCXHLiBS9hPQnobw")
166         .getSheets()[0];
167
168     // Count cats
169     let count = sheet.getDataRange().getNumRows() - 1;
170
171     // Assume first shape is the "Total cats" text box created by showCatCount
172     let shape = slide.getShapes()[0];
173     let text = shape.getText();
174
175     // Update the text (in case data changed)
176     text.setText("Total cats: " + count);
177
178     // Conditional styling
179     let style = text.getTextStyle();
```

```
181     if (count >= 10) {
182         style
183             .setFontSize(48)
184             .setBold(true)
185             .setForegroundColor("#c0392b");
186         shape.setFill().setSolidFill("#fdecea"); // light red
187     } else {
188         style
189             .setFontSize(36)
190             .setBold(false)
191             .setForegroundColor("#27ae60");
192         shape.setFill().setSolidFill("#eafaf1"); // light green
193     }
194
195     shape.setContentAlignment(SlidesApp.ContentAlignment.MIDDLE);
196 }
```



Total cats: 5

catCards()

This function generates individual cards for each cat starting from slide 4.

- It opens the presentation.
- It removes all slides after the first four, so old cards from previous runs are deleted.
- It selects slide 4 (index 3) and removes all shapes from that slide to start clean.
- It opens the cat data sheet and reads all rows.
- It defines the layout for the cards:
 - starting position on the slide (startX, startY)
 - card size (cardWidth, cardHeight)
 - gaps between columns and rows (colGap, rowGap)
 - 2 cards per row, 2 rows per slide → 4 cards per slide
- It loops over each cat (skipping the header row) and:
 - calculates which slide, row and column the card should be placed on
 - if the current slide is full, it creates a new blank slide
 - reads the cat's name, breed, age and status from the spreadsheet
 - creates a rectangular shape (the card) at the correct position
 - sets the background color of the card to light pink
 - sets a dark brown border with weight 2
 - writes the text on the card in the format:
 - first line: name
 - second line: breed • age years

- third line: Status: status
- applies text styling:
 - base text: font size 14, dark brown
 - the name is bold and slightly larger (font size 16)

This function builds all the detailed cat cards and places them neatly across multiple slides.

```
198 function catCards() {
199   // Open presentation
200   let presentation = SlidesApp
201     .openById("1eaGIjK5vI3oZJuaaSa-0AP30nCYHyPyGBP0Jy5gP4M0");
202
203   // Remove previously generated slides (keep first 4)
204   let slides = presentation.getSlides();
205   for (let s = slides.length - 1; s >= 4; s--) {
206     slides[s].remove();
207   }
208
209   // Starting slide for card generation
210   let slide = presentation.getSlides()[3];
211
212   // Clear old shapes
213   for (let shape of slide.getShapes()) {
214     shape.remove();
215   }
216
217   // Load cat data
218   let sheet = SpreadsheetApp
219     .openById("1o12mQbv_u16EyXd0GwEQ5WpfBhtXCXHLiBS9hPQnobw")
220     .getSheets()[0];
221
222   let data = sheet.getDataRange().getValues();
223
224   // Layout settings
225   let startX = 40;
226   let startY = 40;
227
228   let cardWidth = 250;
229   let cardHeight = 120;
```

```
231 let colGap = 40;
232 let rowGap = 20;
233
234 let cardsPerRow = 2;
235 let rowsPerSlide = 2;
236 let cardsPerSlide = cardsPerRow * rowsPerSlide;
237
238 // Card background color
239 const CARD_BG_COLOR = "#fdecea";
240
241 for (let i = 1; i < data.length; i++) {
242   let index = i - 1;
243
244   // Create new slide when full
245   if (index > 0 && index % cardsPerSlide === 0) {
246     slide = presentation.appendSlide(SlidesApp.PredefinedLayout.BLANK);
247   }
248
249   // Card position
250   let positionInSlide = index % cardsPerSlide;
251   let row = Math.floor(positionInSlide / cardsPerRow);
252   let col = positionInSlide % cardsPerRow;
253
254   let x = startX + col * (cardWidth + colGap);
255   let y = startY + row * (cardHeight + rowGap);
256
257   // Read data fields
258   let name = data[i][1];
259   let breed = data[i][2];
260   let age = data[i][3];
261   let status = data[i][4];
```

```

263 // Create card shape
264 let card = slide.insertShape(
265     SlidesApp.ShapeType.RECTANGLE,
266     x,
267     y,
268     cardWidth,
269     cardHeight
270 );
271
272 card.setFill().setSolidFill(CARD_BG_COLOR);
273
274 // Card border
275 let border = card.getBorder();
276 border.setWeight(2);
277 border.getLineFill().setSolidFill("#5d4037");
278
279 // Card text
280 let cardText =
281     name + "\n" +
282     breed + " • " + age + " years\n" +
283     "Status: " + status;
284
285 let textRange = card.getText();
286 textRange.setText(cardText);
287
288 // Base text style
289 let style = textRange.getTextStyle();
290 style
291     .setFontSize(14)
292     .setForegroundColor("#5d4037")
293     .setBold(false);

```

```

295 // Name styling
296 textRange
297     .getRange(0, name.length)
298     .getTextStyle()
299     .setBold(true)
300     .setFontSize(16);
301 }
302 }

```

Luna

British Shorthair • 2 years
Status: Available

Miku

Siamese • 5 years
Status: Adopted

Bella

Maine Coon • 3 years
Status: Available

Tommi

Siamese • 7 years
Status: Available

Nurrik

Domestic Shorthair • 10 years
Status: Adopted