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Assignment 8

**Part 1**

My website is an informational tool about potica, a traditional Slovenian pastry. The target audience is American adults interested in the stories behind European baking traditions – they probably have limited knowledge about potica, but general knowledge about baking and familiarity with the concept of food as tradition. The purpose of the site is to connect specific details about potica with ideas users are already familiar with, such as delicious desserts, holiday traditions, and hand-me-down recipes. Users should gain not only a recipe from the site, but also a sense of what the dish means to Slovenian culture. The types of information included on the website are, accordingly, history, culture, and variations of the dish, a sample recipe, and randomly generated fun facts. The site is interesting and engaging for several reasons, including: one, because including cultural context is not a common approach to an online recipe; two, entry page animations and large, homey /nostalgic feeling images make the site welcoming; and three, information such as randomly generated fun facts add to interactivity and engagement.

**Part 2**

i. click to enter: wait for link to appear on entry page and click link, which takes the user to the main information page

ii. explore context: scroll down main page

iii. get recipe steps: click on step name on main page, details will appear below

**Part 3**

For this project, the external tool I focused on was animation. Because I wanted my site to have an experiential/exploratory feel to it, I thought animations in moderation would help convey the experience I wanted. To do this, I used animation in a couple of places. The entry page of my site introduces a cake image that pulses, followed by a link fading in that allows passage to the rest of the site. Animation on this page was meant to slow the user down to take in the purpose of the site by directing attention to certain elements at certain times. This also served to create some anticipation for the main content. I also had the main page content fade in to remain consistent with the gradual reveal of information set by the first page, and included hover effects to aid the user in exploring clickable elements.

**Part 4**

I changed very little between my A7 mockups and final submission. One change was that my original intention was to animate a loading circle in the shape of a Bundt cake on the first screen, then transition to the main page when the animation was complete. I changed this for two reasons: one, I wanted to give the user the option to stay on the page longer, and two, I had trouble getting the animation to work the way I want it to. The final version gives the user the option to click to enter, and uses a pulse animation to draw attention to the image (a graphic intro to the site topic) in a less distracting way.

**Part 5**

Most of my challenges during this assignment were related to code syntax – I generally knew what I wanted to accomplish and which commands would help, but putting them together in the right order was challenging. One example was that I had a hard time figuring out why my JQuery was not working, but eventually figured out that I had called the JQuery script after referencing my JavaScript document, so the JS was running before the JQuery could be recognized and interpreted.

**Text and Image Sources**

http://www.mydailysourdoughbread.com/tag/potica/

https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/ct-xpm-2007-02-21-0702200295-story.html

https://theculturetrip.com/europe/slovenia/articles/a-brief-history-of-potica-the-traditional-slovenian-dish/

http://www.duluthnewstribune.com/business/3629393-chisholm-business-partners-tobies-make-potica-old-world-treat

**Help Sources**

https://www.w3schools.com/

https://stackoverflow.com/

https://daneden.github.io/animate.css/

https://api.jquery.com/category/effects/