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## **PUI: FP4 Writeup**

### **Part 1:**

My website is dedicated to unraveling the significance and public's love for Japanese udon noodles. It serves as an informative and interactive platform aimed to educate visitors about the both popular and regional udon noodle dishes, its historical background, its cultural significance in Japanese culture, and an eating guide in how to consume the dish. Udon noodles are one of my favorite dishes of all time and I wanted to use this project to share my knowledge and love of this dish. Through the use of visually engaging elements, I designed my website in a way that enables visitors to explore different types of udon noodles via a carousel slider, enabling discoverability of key ingredients and regional variations that sets each dish apart. The site is also simply visually appealing; its aesthetic visual design and dark theme captivates visitors with interactive features, allowing users to interact with them while learning about the diverse udon repertoire.

The website is targeted towards food enthusiasts, individuals intrigued by Japanese cuisine, and/or casual individuals who are simply curious. Whether users are novices eager to learn about udon or food experts seeking deeper insights, the site offers informative content that facilitates engagement. Furthermore, the animated content that fades in and out as the user scrolls down increasingly elevates the whole experience. With an array of interactive elements and comprehensive information, my website aims to entice users with varied levels of interests and backgrounds, fostering a deeper appreciation for udon noodles.

## **Part 2:**

- Arrow in splash screen:
  - Click or tap on the animated arrow to redirect to the Introduction section of my website.
- Scroll animation:
  - Slowly scroll down my website and see how the content gradually fade in from either the left, right, or bottom side
- Carousel slider:
  - Under the Dish Types section, use the left or right arrow buttons to navigate through the carousel of udon dishes detailing its ingredients.

## **Part 3:**

- AOS.js
  - I utilized AOS.js to incorporate smooth and eye-catching animations into my website, which enhances user interaction and creates a dynamic visual experience on my webpage. Its seamless integration simplifies the process of implementing captivating on-scroll effects without extensive coding.
  - I was able to import the AOS library by including the CDN links in my HTML file. I then initialized it in a separate file, script.js, to activate the scroll animations and subsequently added data-aos attributes (within a div, for instance) to the elements I wanted to animate.

- The library allowed me to apply animated fade effects to my desired elements when they enter the viewport. I was also able to specify the type, duration, and offset of animations, which further allows for customization.
- Slick
  - I leveraged Slick.js to craft an intuitive and visually-engaging carousel that beautifully showcases all the different udon dish types. Its customizable features and smooth functionality align perfectly with my goal of creating an interactive and dynamic user experience, enhancing navigation and content of my website.
  - Similarly to AOS.js, I was able to import the Slick.js library by including the CDN links in the HTML head. In my script.js file, I initialized it on the 'our-dished' div element to activate and apply the slider feature. I was able to customize the slider feature by defining the animation speed, the number of slides to show in one page, the number of slides to scroll, etc. I also created an HTML structure for the slider, where I populated all the udon dish images and their associated descriptions.
  - The library allowed me to showcase all the different udon dishes I wanted to add in a beautiful interactive carousel. This enables a level of interactivity within my website, where visitors can seamlessly navigate through all the dishes, discovering their distinct ingredients that set them apart from one another, enriching the site experience.
- Bootstrap
  - I opted to use Bootstrap to streamline the layout design across varying window sizes and devices, ensuring a responsive and consistent visual appearance for my

website. Its defined components offer a quick and reliable method to establish a structured layout while being able to customize exactly how I want my website to be structured.

- Like the other libraries, I included the CDN links in the head section of my HTML section. I then utilized the predefined classes and components provided by Bootstrap to help structure my HTML content. I applied them to the HTML elements accordingly and made sure the layout was what I wanted in different window and device sizes.
- Bootstrap helps enhance my website by ensuring responsiveness across different devices and screen sizes, maintaining visual consistency through its pre-designed components, and streamlining development with its time-saving features. Its customizability enables flexibility while offering a solid foundation for increased compatibility and accessibility, enhancing the overall user experience of my website.

#### **Part 4:**

My original design consisted of a simpler visual hierarchy and design, which focused on delivering a minimal experience. This includes a serene wooden backdrop that beautifully showcases Japan's rich wood culture and an inviting splash screen that welcomes users to interact with an aesthetic carousel to click through each udon dish. However, during the coding process, I faced challenges trying to implement a custom carousel on the splash screen, which eventually led to my decision to scrap out the feature. I soon stumbled upon Slick.js, which made the process of implementation so much easier for me. I populated the carousel with udon dish

images in addition to a brief description of each dish and their corresponding ingredients that set them apart from other dishes. Besides the slider feature, I darkened my background to further improve legibility of my content and added fading animations (via AOS.js) to elevate the whole experience. I also leveraged Bootstrap to enable better viewing experience across different screen sizes, and I populated my site with more enriched udon history and regional udon type contents.

Just in case, here is the reference I used to fill in the regional udon type section:

Wong, Xiu Ting. “11 Types of Udon from 11 Prefectures to Try besides the Sanuki Udon.” *TheSmartLocal Japan - Travel, Lifestyle, Culture & Language Guide*, TheSmartLocal, 14 June 2022, [thesmartlocal.jp/types-of-udon/](https://thesmartlocal.jp/types-of-udon/).

## **Part 5:**

Incorporating both JavaScript and CSS libraries into my HTML code was, perhaps, one of the most challenging tasks while working on this assignment. This required extensive debugging efforts to ensure seamless functionality. Integrating the libraries and the Bootstrap framework was a time-consuming task as I encountered obstacles in having them work properly with my existing code, demanding thorough troubleshooting to resolve issues.