**Personal Information**

**Name:** Aileen Chan  
**Student number:** s3204379  
**Email:** [s3204379@student.rmit.edu.au](mailto:s3204379@student.rmit.edu.au?subject=Hi%20From%20Your%20RMIT%20Assignment1%20Site!)  
**Nationality:** Singaporean  
**Background:** I was born in Singapore, but emigrated to Western Australia in 1990. I did all of my schooling in WA, then moved to Sydney in 2006 to start my IT career.  
**Education to date:** Highschool graduate (2000), MCSA, Comptia A+, ITIL certified  
**Languages spoken:** English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese

**Interest in IT**

**What is your Interest in IT? When did your Interest in IT start?**

I'm interested in gaming, IoT, communications and data analysis. I've had an interested in IT since I was a child. The earliest memory would have to be thru gaming in 1990. I received a Gameboy for Christmas. I remember being excited about how 'compact' the game cartridges were and enthralled by the idea of being able to change and load a variety games. The games I was given were Tetris and Super Mario Land, which would explain my weird obsession with 'ordering' and 'sorting' (see [personal information](file:///C:\Users\aileenc\OneDrive\Documents\CPT120\Assignment1\index.html))

**Was there a particular event or person that sparked your interest?**

I started being fascinated with computers in high school in 1998. My uncle had come to live with us from Singapore and he was studying computer science at a university nearby that provided free internet service. Back then, it was a 56kbps modem and I remembered how amazed I was that what was traditionally a telephone line that we used to speak with friends and family, had transformed to be a piece of technology that you can use to ask questions and get answers, i.e. the Internet.

**What do you expect to learn during your studies?**

I hope to learn best practices on approaching IT projects in a more structured, analytical, ethical and methodical way. Thru technical units like programming, I aspire to learn skills that would assist with simplifying, automating and producing more valuable information and apps.

Ideal Job

**Description of the position and what makes this appealing to me:**

The client of Perigon Group is looking for a Data Analyst that can work with government, industry, consumer and stakeholder groups to understand, process and transform data into meaningful insights and information through dashboards that are interactive and clear to understand. This appeals to me as I have a keen interest in analysing data and working with people to follow processes and standards to produce high quality reports and information. I believe it will give me good job satisfaction to work for a not-for-profit organisation that has a clear vision to develop standards with no strings attached to any company/government body.

**Description of Skills, Qualifications and Experience for the Position**

* Soft skills – Position requires strong communication to ensure a good working relationship with colleagues, vendors, clients and other groups.
* Technical Skills in Software such as Python, Power BI, Microsoft Azure, SQL and Knime/Alteryx.
* Analytical and Problem Solving Skills – Candidate will deal with large and often complex amounts of data so as to identify and extract relevant data and business requirements needed to facilitate in reports and dashboards.
* Process Driven experience and compliance to standards – In most companies/organisations, there are processes and standards in which each employee follows to ensure the information produced are clear and consistent to their vision, layout and aesthetic.
* Experience in investigating, recommending and integrating/deploying third party solutions, including Vendor/Partner collaboration in areas including Data Governance, Reporting Tools, Data Lakes, distributed Compute and Visualisation.
* Willingness to Learn skill - The job ad had a last requirement on 'investigating, recommending and integrating/deploying third party solutions', which I interpret to mean that the organisation would like the candidate to be open minded and have strong ability to work with different tools/people that may change on regular basis.

**Description of Skills, Qualifications and Experience I currently have**

* Soft Skills - I have strong communication skills and have good working relationships with my current colleagues, staff and 3rd party vendors.
* Technical Skill - I have some experience in programming in SQL. I have used Power BI as an end user when a dashboard has already been pre-created.
* Process Driven and compliance to standards - My current workplace has regular audits and we therefore have procedures and policies in place so we comply and pass in areas like data security and governance.
* Willingness to Learn skill - Being in the IT industry, things are always evolving and changing such as standards, hardware, software, code and practises and by default, most, including myself, have that adaptiveness skill to learn, or otherwise be left behind.

**A plan on how I plan to obtain the skills, qualifications and experience**

* Technical Skill - I'm currently enrolled in [COSC2452](https://online.rmit.edu.au/course/sc-intro-programming-dev101u), which is an introduction to Python. After I've completed this and [COSC2452](https://online.rmit.edu.au/course/sc-intro-programming-dev101u), I may look into some summer courses like [Business Analytics](https://online.rmit.edu.au/courses/futureskills/bundle/business-analytics). I will also be regularly looking to obtain industry recognised certificates like [Microsoft Certified: Azure Fundamentals](https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/learn/certifications/azure-fundamentals/).
* Analytical and Problem Solving Skills - I believe programming gives us a fundamental structure in problem solving, breaking things into small bit size pieces to make a larger program. Thru university work and group collaboration, I hope to build upon these skills and also obtain new methodologies and techniques to solve problems
* Experience - Once I have gained the technical skills, I will look to get some experience thru either internships I find on job websites or my current workplace. I would also be speaking to and get advice from data analysts at my current workplace on their successes and failures so that I may make informed decisions on tools they use to be successful and efficient.

Profiles

Myers-Briggs Test

**Results Extracted from (09/09/2021):**[16 Personalities - NERIS Analytics Ltd](https://www.16personalities.com/)

The results of this test are close to accurate to what I think my personality is. Depending on the situation, I would activate my extrovert-ness or introvert-ness. In a team situation, I would most likely stay true to results reflected in the test with not much influence as I'm assertive if needed when it comes to sharing of ideas I'm confident in. I put on an observance stance to allow for others to feel comfortable to contribute and collaborate. I would consider looking for team members that are different from me so as the project can be looked at different angles. For example, I would see for people that are thinkers by nature versus feeling and a mix of introverts and extroverts.

Learning Style Assessment

I am a visual learner. The assessment is a true representation of the way I absorb information from other people, written sources, as well as audio and visual resources. It also reflects how I am able to make sense and understand material by re-creating them in graphical form in either mind maps or diagrams. These results will most likely force me to try to adapt and be sensitive with other people's learning styles when it comes to a team so that we can work together in a cooperative and collaborative way. I should take into account working and forming a team with different learning styles so that I may also learn from their them and possibly look at material in ways that I haven't discovered before.

The Big Five Personality Test

Some of the Big Five test results shocked me in the percentage aspects on various dimensions of my personality. On the one hand, in the dimension of Neuroticism, I disagree with the slightly high result of 'tendency to experience negative emotions' as I consider my outlook in situations to always try to look on the bright side of things. On the other hand, the openness was accurate in that I do tend to be a bit more cautious and reserved with new ideas. These results may influence me to try to adjust and adapt more to people's ideas and make a conscious effort to understand where they are coming from. When forming a team, I hope to find other likeminded individuals that are open to new ideas. I would also hope to work with team members that are also logical and practical as we have limited time with assignments.

Project Idea

Overview

My project idea is to modernise the traditional Chinese paper-based calendar used by so many, particularly in Southeast Asia. Initially, I would be programming and designing an app to be device agnostic. This would be achievable with using web-based programming languages like HTML5, CSS and Javascript.  
The second phase would be to design specialised frames, similar to digital picture frames, that are decorative. Calendars are a daily aspect of our lives and I believe the hardware aspect will ultimately be useful to the user to refer to and also be aesthetically pleasing in a room.

Motivation

My inspiration for this project comes from my grandmother. Her generation did not grow up with computers. The common perception amongst her age group is that it is something to be feared and would be too hard to operate (for fear of breaking it).  
My passion is to create apps that are functional, meaningful and useful. In my professional life, I provide technical support to a variety of users from various skill levels, backgrounds and cultures. I’ve seen their frustration when things go wrong and their joys when something just ‘works’. I hope to bring that to my project.

Description

One of the main features of the app is that it allows users to be reminded of Chinese traditions and holidays. Traditionally these events are based on the Lunar calendar which has a different number of days in a year compared with the Gregorian calendar. The problem is that the majority of people in the world are using the Gregorian calendar on a day-to-day basis. The Lunar calendar has around 354 days a year and based on moon revolving around the sun. The Gregorian calendar has usually 365 days and based on earth revolving around sun. For example, Chinese New Year in 2021 was on the 12th of February in the Gregorian calendar. My app will have the Gregorian day displayed each day. It will also display any special events for the day as well as any upcoming events.

I would also be adding a reminder function to allow users to be alerted of events prior to the day, whether it’d be a day, week or month before (as with any special event, some sort of planning is always needed in order for things to be available).

With resources being limited in the world, I hope to save trees by having it in an app and digital/photo frame form. I would also add a swipe function that would provide user the ‘ripping’ satisfaction action as each day turns. Users will have the option to have the ‘ripping’ function if they wish, otherwise, they may have the date automatically change on its own.

A roadblock that I’m facing is figuring out whether to provide yearly updates on events or come up with an accurate formula that would update the calendar each year. The yearly updates would allow possibility of charging users a subscription fee. If I went formula route, I would have to run thru couple of tests and iterations to make sure that it is accurate.

One of the drawbacks of initially releasing just as an app is the inconvenience people may find with having an individual app vs their Gregorian day to day calendar. Of course, there are Chinese holiday feeds that users may subscribe to, however, I believe the act of keeping this format and its look and feel is important part preserving traditional Chinese culture in a modern way.

The second phase of the product would be to implement the app into a digital frame or locked down device. I believe that this would be considered an art piece for people to have in their homes and other spaces that is both functional and aesthetically pleasing. I’m unfamiliar with hardware that is in the market that would be locked down as I’m concerned with people ‘hacking’ devices and using it for malicious purposes. I would have to do more research on security protocols, whether it’d be port blocking, or using a particular operating system to control how things work, standard practices and processes.

## Tools and Technologies

The software I would be using to program and style the web app is Notepad++. I would be using a variety of browsers to test to see how the app works like Microsoft Edge, Firefox and Google Chrome. I would be using Github to manage and handle various version of my app.

For hardware, I’ll be using my Windows desktop computer, keyboard and mouse. I also have an iPhone 12 which would allow me to see how it works on mobile device. Browsers like Chrome also do have the ability to use developer tools whereby I may view the app in variety of devices using the ‘Toggle device toolbar’ function.

## Skills Required

At this stage, I have some HTML and CSS skills required to do the initial framework of the app like the position of elements and main navigation bar. I would need to seek an artist or designer to assist with some of the logo and pictures as art and creativity is not my strong suite.

I would need to have a stronger grasp on Javascript so that I may solve and program more complex functionality on the app such as looking up times, swiping, scrolling and events. This would be achieved thru course providers like Codecadmy, TeamTreehouse or W3Schools.

## Outcome

The ultimate measure of success for me is that I would have an app that my grandmother can use with ease. I wanted to provide something that has one basic function and not over complicate it by adding integrated functions to other apps that may either impede use in the first place for some users or stop me programming the app thru having to think of many scenarios and use cases. I hope that but digitalising this traditional form of calendar that it will preserve and aspects of our culture and traditions.