Homework 8 Write-Up

Part 1

This site was inspired by the Chrome extension Momentum, which shows the current time, followed by a personalized feed with several customizable widgets and quotes upon opening a new tab. As a long-term user of Momentum, I see the extension as a quick and relaxed way to visualize my day and take a break in between switching tabs. However, I also felt like its personalization aspect can be further elevated to tailor to different moods since for now the extension simply generates a random quote per day that cannot be changed.

Therefore, I created this site to serve as a lightweight and personalized message generator that can be possibly implemented (or even combined with momentum) as a browser extension. Users can select their current mood represented by emojis, which invokes a random message tailored to that mood. They can then add that message to a saved list, then view & delete the message on that list. This site's personalization, combined with ease of use and visual interactivity, makes it interesting and engaging. It's targeted towards all kinds of internet users, especially those looking to take a short break between switching tabs.

Part 2

The possible interactions are described below:

- Click on the desired emoji on the home page to generate a message
- Click on the same emoji again, or another emoji, to generate a different message *(Sometimes the message can take a while to show up, depending on the API)*
- Click on the "save" button to save the message in a list (on a separate page)
- Click on the list icon to navigate to a new page where they can view all saved messages
- Click on the "remove" button beside each message to remove it from the saved list
- Click on the home icon to navigate back to the home page

Part 3

APIS

- I used five APIs, each corresponding to an emoji on the home page. This allows the site to display various messages in accordance to the user's selected mood. In my code, I made a div for the displayed message, made the specific API call once the emoji was clicked, then populated that div with the generated message from the API. This was a great way for me to experiment with API calls and realize the vast variety of fun APIs available. The emoji, generated type of message, and the corresponding APIs are:
    - Bored - an activity to do, using the Bored API
    - Stressed - a piece of advice, using the Advice Slip API
    - Grateful - a personal affirmation, using the Affirmations API
    - Geeky - a geek joke, using the Geek API

- Curious - a random cat fact, using the Cat Fact API

Bootstrap

- I used it to style and add responsiveness to my site, for visual consistency across all elements, and for ease and convenience in terms of coding. I incorporated common Bootstrap elements such as cards, buttons, and flexboxes on across all pages, and added my own CSS styling to tweak the default styles.

CSS Animations

- I used it on the emojis to make my site more visually engaging and to add more micro-interaction and affordances. Animations I used include transform & scale for the enlarge behaviors on hover and translate for the shift behaviors on click.

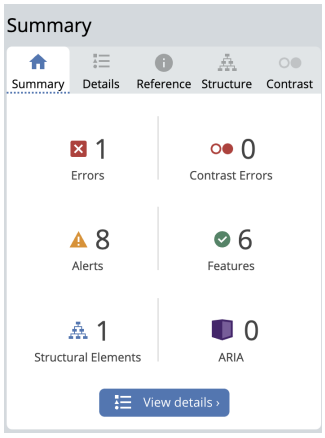
Part 4

I didn't iterate much on my HW7 mockup, other than displaying the current time on the home page for additional information and adding animations on the emoji for more interactivity.

Part 5

I experienced challenges in working with APIs, specifically taking the output then formatting it to fit my site's style. I was able to overcome this through frequent console.log() statements that showed the value and type of the API output.

WAVE



The error refers to an empty link, which I replaced with an icon as shown on the right.

Resources

- APIs Used: Bored API, Advice Slip API, Affirmations API, Geek API, Cat Fact API
- Emoji SVGs: https://openmoji.org/, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Phantom_Open_Emoji
- Styling: Bootstrap, Font Awesome icons, Google web fonts