TMA General feedback (but not the code)

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April 2018

Included files:

Block 3 stop watch App

TMA03 Q1/2 solution App

TMA03 Q1/2 solution explanation

Video links:

Exploring Q2 and using it as a basis for the EMA: https://cl.ly/1L361Q2n2c3D

Using the debugger on Q2: https://cl.ly/0V0U1L014123

You will need a password to access these: XnPznyQE4bJc

Links:

Connecting a phone by USB for debugging:

https://developers.google.com/web/tools/chrome-devtools/remote-debugging/

Hi All,

This feedback covers some common issues that I saw across the tutor group when marking the TMA, it is not intended to be individual, but may explain things which puzzled you but that I did not provide individual feedback on (if for instance you got the question right). This feedback highlights a few common issues with the non-code questions. Some of this looks like it will be important in the EMA, so do read through and get in contact if you have further questions!

I may have cut and pasted bits of this into your marked work where I felt a point was specifically important for you, but of course I will not have picked up on everything. I also realise many of you were really worried about this TMA and result – I hope these further comments will help with understanding where you were unsure of your answer (even where it was correct).

Also see other files provided and briefly discussed below under Q2.

Your next step is to get started on the EMA. There is quite a lot to read through for the EMA, get started straight away!

The EMA scenario is more complex than the one used before so read through it all with great care. It is expected that the EMA will take you about 10 hours each week up to the submission date. If you have not studied all aspects of earlier blocks it may take you longer than this. You won't manage to read and understand the EMA in a single session!

Do evaluate carefully your understanding of each aspect of this scenario before you start work planning your answer. Make sure you have an accurate understanding of each of the technical terms. As you look at each aspect of each API, also make sure you are clear about which tables and columns in the database will be affected by this – and which is source data and which data gets updated as a result of the interaction.

The EMA expects you to put to good use all the skills you have learned about analysing the question and in researching, planning, writing and reviewing your answers.

Make sure that you attempt all questions, and allocate your time equally for each mark available.

You will almost certainly need to create a plan of how you will fit your work for the EMA into the time you have available.

Note that no extensions are permitted for the EMA. Aim to have a comprehensive draft that includes all questions, and submit it about one week before the deadline. That gives you the final week to review and check your answers. Ensure that you backup your work at regular intervals.

Chris

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Q1a

A functional requirement is associated with a goal. An obstacle is something that can get in the way of achieving that goal.

For example a goal for a courier service could be to deliver a parcel to a given address. An obstacle could be if the driver was given an incorrect address.

Another way to think about this, is situations where it is unclear how the problem would be solved technically or in practice. E.g. how do we know how many seats there are in a taxi (non-technical), how do we share other information like how to identify each other (technical).

What every put in your answer should be precise, specific and to the point!

Note you need to do this in Q2a of the EMA.

Q1b

Most common errors involved not putting in believable onclick handler names. The best option is probably to hand in your final file rather than work in progress, and if you can’t get the JavaScript to work make sure you copy some handler names out of one of the other examples you have seen. I’ve attached a copy of the code from the examples in block 3 with your TMA feedback – this is an excellent source of code that you can cut and paste for the HTML needed!

Note you need to do this in Q2b of the EMA

Q1c

Make sure you include screenshots to demonstrate your working code.

The googlemap canvas was covered in the Block 3, unit 5, section 5.

Q2

This was a very tricky question to do well on, but the marking was generous if you made a reasonable attempt and explained what you code did and did not do, and your next steps. The EMA also allows some explanation, so make use of this to boost your marks – if you get stuck. Also note that the EMA question (Q2c) is worth 20 marks, painful if you don’t get any of these marks, but not enough for you to fail.

In the EMA I strongly advise you to construct your code in small chunks, and keep testing these as you go to make sure they work. To help you on your way I have provided a complete solution to the EMA, and the code from Block 3, make sure you can get these working in a project first (you will need to use the provided TMA03 skeleton project (for the TMA answers) or a new Cordova project (for the block 3 examples) and then replace with the js and html files provided).

I’ve provided a separate document which explains how the provided solution works, and a few issues you may have encountered when constructing your solution.

I also suggest you experiment with the debugger as this will help enormously when you need to diagnose what is wrong with your code. See attached powerpoint slides on how to use the debugger – experiment using the known good code provided.

Q3a

Use a feature matrix to compare other potential solutions. Collect evidence where needed to support your conclusions.

Q3b

You need to justify your decisions in level 3 assessments, so here there were marks for explaining why you selected the plugin, and why others were not selected.

Q3c

There were more marks for explaining how the code should work (technically) and how the user should use it (non-technical user guide stuff), than the actual code. Assume the EMA may have similar mark schemes.

Q3d

Marks are given for screenshots with explanations.

Q4a

Again feature matrix are needed for comparisons and really making clear what your new feature is.

Some students did not state their proposed idea!

Q4b

Marks for obstacles were given – note the similar number of marks compared to Q1a.

Q4c

Describing features not listed in Q4b was a great way to loose marks. You answers need to be consistent and follow through, I’m marking you against yourself in this kind of question.

Q4d

Try to demonstrate all of the features from q4b – again follow through your work.

Q4e

Explain how you went about interviewing your subjects and what questions you asked and materials provided was essential, otherwise the quotes could not be interpreted.