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Marker: Dr Cathryn Peoples

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Criteria	Level	Comments
Knowledge and under- standing of the topic / issues under consideration (25%)	Pass	It is described that a decentralised data storage approach has been taken for the benefit of efficient requests. However, what might be said about the attack surface? We can argue that it is a more security approach to distribute the different aspects of the system, however, I would like to see this argument coming through in your report. Good – reference made to OWASP. I would like to see some specific consideration of the security challenges which your domain is vulnerable to. In your report it is described that the application will be exposed to the OWASP challenges because it is a web-based application, however, I would like to see closer detail of more specific challenges of your domain.
Application of knowledge &	Pass	The assumptions presented on page 3 could be summarised in a use case diagram.
understanding (25%)		A model has been included which appears as a conceptual UML model, and is described as an end-to-end diagram (page 4). When I hear the term 'end-to-end; diagram, I think more of a network topology diagram, with a client interacting with a distributed database via an application API for example. Further in relation to this model, terminology is generally represented using a single word, with any multiple words strung together and capital letters used to distinguish between them. In an activity diagram (page 5), I would expect to see the activities carried out by one or more actors. This looks to be more of a flow chart. Reference made to non-functional requirements, presented from the perspective of the system platform capabilities.
		The decision to use Firebase has been justified by the fact that it provides "proper security". While it is fine to use 3 rd party products, we still need to see your cybersecurity knowledge and understanding. Therefore, some specific description as to how you consider Firebase to provide the functionalities to support this project would go some way in providing this. Have you considered that the failed log in create an attack surface
		in themselves? How do you propose to handle this? A great use case diagram is presented on page 13.
Cuisian list:	Dace	Justification provided of the recent/o) for deciding to use 5' above
Criticality (25%)	Pass	Justification provided of the reason(s) for deciding to use Firebase in your implementation. However, I would like to see more specific

		detail provided in your justification, rather than the fact that it will help to speed the development and it contains a number of useful functionalities. Try to showcase your knowledge and understanding around the cyber security field. It is described that Producer-Consumer concurrency will be applied. In what context will this take place? For what reason(s) is this an optimum approach?
		There is an opportunity to include more academic literature sources.
Structure & Presentation (25%)	Merit	Thank you for clearly stating the number of words which have been used in your report.
		As you are studying with a UK-based academic institution, it is good practice to use UK English as opposed to American English e.g. organisation instead of organization.
		There is an opportunity to ensure that every statement communicates an important message, and is not 'padding' text e.g., "Security is an essential part of the system functionality, which will be covered in the next section." This is not needed. "The system will be built using the following assumptions" could be replaced with "Assumptions".

Overall comments

Positives

- Reference made to OWASP from our module materials, helping to position your work within the wider field.
- A well detailed use case model demonstrates expertise in this aspect of UML. I would have liked to have seen it showcased earlier in the report.

Negatives

- The assessment specification requests that one of three domains are used as case studies around which your code development will be structured, however, unfortunately, one of these domains has not been selected.
- There are opportunities in places to make the UML more precisely defined and to exploit it more fully in its capability for representing a scenario.
- I would like to see some greater justification for the decision to use 3rd party tools than the fact that they will make the development process quicker. The goal of this assessment is to examine your knowledge and understanding of security practices as a priority, and without this specific detail, there is less of an opportunity to assess this.

Overall grade: Pass