FEELTOK

SWE6202 – AGILE PROGRAMMING

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INTRODUCTION

This report documents my experiences in an Agile software development project in a group setting, focusing on the creation of software artifacts and their documentation. Using Agile practices, we developed a social media platform where people can share their feelings with others, ensuring collaboration and incremental progress. My role includes front-end development, back-end development, and sprint planning.

The report explores the practices that we used, the team dynamics, the challenges that we faced, and the lessons we learned throughout the project.

WHY AGILE APPROACH

The agile approach was adopted in executing this project due to its iterative nature, easily adaptable to changes, and a strong focus on team collaboration. In comparison with traditional methods, Agile allows improvements to be implemented continuously. Through this, faster delivery of functionalities can be achieved. Additionally, the Agile approach promotes frequent feedback and evolving requirements in software development.

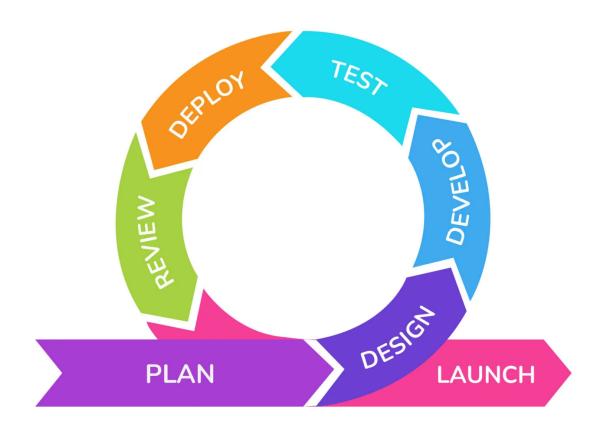


Figure 1: Agile methodology model

PROJECT VISION

The vision of the project was to create a new mobile application that is designed to help people reconnect and nurture real human relationships, both personal and professional. It revolves around 6 emotional pillars which are **Love**, **Gratitude**, **Apology**, **Appreciation**, **Mindfulness**, and **Thankfulness**. The app will offer a simple, heartfelt space where users can post texts and images. Through this, users who are involved in FeelTok will have greater emotional well-being and FeelTok will build on that trust as the company that promotes positive social impact.

HARDWARE & SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS

Hardware and software requirements define the technical specifications needed to execute and complete the app. The requirements ensure that development goes as smoothly as possible and that the final app is fully functional and meets all the requirements.

Below are the hardware and software requirements of FeelTok:

HARDWARE:

- Computers/laptops with 8GB and i5 processors or greater
- Android device/emulator
- iOS device/emulator
- Cloud-based server

SOFTWARE:

- VSCODE
- React Native
- Expo
- Firebase
- EmailJS
- Jira
- Zephyr Scale

With the mentioned requirements above, both the development and testing of FeelTok can be executed smoothly.

RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Risk management strategies are approaches used to identify and mitigate potential risks that could affect the completion of the app. These strategies aim to minimize the uncertainties of deadlines, quality, and project results. This promotes the team to be adaptable to changes.

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ID	Current Status	Risk Impact	Probability of Occurrence	Risk Map	Risk Description	Project Impact	Risk Area	Symptoms	Triggers	Risk Response Strategy	Response Strategy	Contingency Plan
R001	Open -	High 🕶	Medium •	Yellow	Data Security Issues	Loss of user data, damage to reputation, legal problems.	Technical	Users notice strange data or unauthorized access.	Unusual activity on user accounts.	Prevent & Avoid	Improve app security, use encryption and secure logins.	Add multi-factor authentication and perform security checks regularly.
R002	Open ~	Medium 🕶	High •	Yellow	Low User Interest	Slower growth, harder to get enough users, and low app engagement.	Market	Few people signing up or using the app, negative feedback.	Drop in sign-ups and app usage.	Avoid v	Get user feedback, test app improvements.	Run a marketing campaign, offer rewards for new users.
R603	Open ~	Low ~	Medium •	Green	Server Problems	Temporary app problems, but won't cost much.	Operational	App slows down, shows error messages during busy times.	Issues during busy hours.	Prevent & Avoid & ~ Transfer	Upgrade servers and balance loads better.	Set up backup servers to prevent problems.
R004	Open ~	High 🕶	High •	Red	Privacy Issues	Users lose trust, could lead to fines or loss of users.	Legal & Compliance	Unclear privacy policies, user complaints about data sharing.	Change in data rules or privacy concerns.	Prevent v	Review privacy policies and make sure they're clear.	Quickly update privacy policies and inform users.
Rees	Open ~	Medium ~	Medium ▼	Yellow	App Problems	Service interruptions and delays in new updates.	Technical	Bugs, crashes, or features not working.	More support requests and complaints.	Prevent v	Improve testing, automate bug fixes.	Release updates and bug fixes regularly.
R006	Open ~	Low	Low	Green	Lack of User Engagement	main features are underused, lower app activity.	Operational	People don't interact much with emotion-sharing features.	Declining activity from users.	Accept & Prevent	Improve the user experience and provide better reminders.	Send users reminders and notifications to share emotions.
R607	Open -	High 🕶	Low	Yellow	Legal Compliance Issues	Risk of lawsuits or fines if the app breaks any laws.	Legal & Compliance	Not keeping up with updated laws or regulations.	Missed deadlines for legal updates.	Avoid ~	Keep the app up-to-date with legal standards.	Review app's terms of service and privacy policies.
Recos	Open ~	Medium *	Medium •	Yellow	Budget Overrun	Delays or resource problems if costs go over budget.	Organizational	Costs exceeding expectations, running out of resources.	Higher costs than planned.	Avoid & Prevent	Keep an eye on spending, adjust resources as needed.	Out down on non-essential tasks, delay some features.
R009	Open ~	Low	High ▼	Yellow	New Competitors	Losing users if other similar apps launch.	Market	Users moving to better apps or apps with more features.	More people downloading competitors' apps.	Prevent v	Focus on unique features and improve marketing.	Add new features, adjust pricing or run ads.
R010	Open ~	Medium *	Medium •	Yellow	Employee Turnover	Delays if important team members leave.	Organizational	Drop in productivity or unhappy employees.	Higher turnover or difficulty filling open positions.	Prevent v	Boost team morale and engagement.	Hire temporary workers or contract developers.
R011	Open ~	High 🕶	Medium 🔻	Yellow	Third-Party Service Failures	Problems with external services like APIs or payment systems.	Technical	Services stop working or experience errors.	Third-party service issues affecting the app.	Transfer ~	Make sure contracts with third-party services are clear.	Have backup services ready in case of failure.
R012	Open ~	Low	Low	Green	Natural Disasters or External Crises	Natural disasters or global issues delaying the project.	External	Project delays due to outside events.	A major event like a natural disaster or global crisis.	Accept ~	Keep track of outside factors, communicate with users about delays.	Set up backup plans to work remotely or recover from events.
R013	Open ~	Medium 🕶	Medium 🔻	Yellow	Low Team Motivation	Team becomes less productive, project gets delayed.	Organizational	Decreased energy, lack of initiative, unhappy team members.	Drop in performance or missed deadlines.	Prevent v	Hold regular check-ins and recognize good work.	Set clear goals, offer rewards, or change roles if needed.
R014	Open ~	High 👻	Medium *	Yellow	User Addiction	Users spend too much time on the app, affecting their well-being.	Market	Users feel overwhelmed or are too focused on the app.	Users report feeling addicted or spending too much time on the app.	Prevent ~	Add features to encourage healthy use, like usage limits.	Introduce time limits, promote well-being, and educate users on healthy app use.
	-		-							-		

Figure 2: Risk management log

Below are the identified risks and their mitigation of FeelTok:

IDENTIFIED RISK	MITIGATION
Data security issues	Implement secure logins and encryption
Low user interest	Get user feedback and test app improvements
Third-party service failure	Have a backup of alternative services
Privacy issues	Review privacy policies and let users know what data is being used
App bugs	Improve testing and fix bugs

Lack of user engagement	Improve user experience and provide reminders
Legal compliance issue	Keep the app up-to-date with legal standards
Budget overrun	Keep an eye on spending, and adjust resources if required.
New competitors	Focus on unique features and improve marketing
Team turnover	Boost team morale and engagement
Low team motivation	Hold regular meetings and recognize good work
User addiction	Introduce time limits and remind users how many hours they have used the app

With the mentioned risks above, we can see what can be done to mitigate the risk, such as promoting team collaboration or adding functionality. This is crucial as project risks are factors that can determine the project's success later on.

PRODUCT BACKLOG

Product backlog is a list of tasks or features that are required to develop and improve the app. It serves as a dynamic to-do list that evolves throughout the entire development duration.

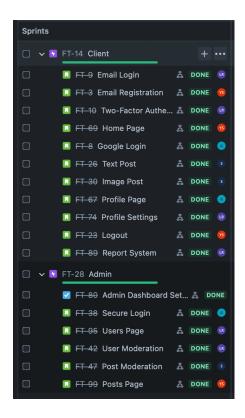


Figure 3: Product backlog in Jira

Below are the product backlogs of FeelTok's client and admin:

CLIENT:

FEATURE	DESCRIPTION
Email Login	The user should be able to sign in via
	email

Email Registration	The user should be able to sign up via
	email
Two-Factor Authentication	The user should have the option to have
	an extra layer of security
Home Page	The user should be able to view other
	people's posts
Google Sign-in	The user should be able to easily sign in
	via a Google account
Text Post	The user should be able to create a post
	that consists of texts
Image Post	The user should be able to create a post
	that consists of both text and an image
Profile Page	The user should be able to view their
	current profile details
Profile Settings	The user should be able to edit or modify
	their profile or account
Sign-out	The user should be able to exit the current
	session of the app
Report System	The user should be able to report both
	users and posts
Timer System	The user should be able to be reminded
	and monitor how many minutes or hours
	the user has been using the app

ADMIN:

FEATURE	DESCRIPTION
Secure Login	The admin should be able to securely sign
	in to the dashboard
Users Page	The admin should be able to view all users
	and their details
User Moderation	The admin should be able to ban users by
	viewing user reports
Posts Page	The admin should be able to view all posts
	and their details
Post Moderation	The admin should be able to delete posts
	by viewing post reports

With the entire backlog mentioned above, we can view the entire features list with its description. Through this, we can then group features to create a release plan for quick deployment, identify which features can be prioritized or MVPs, and eventually plan which features to implement for each sprint.

RELEASE PLAN

A release plan is a roadmap that outlines the timeline, scope, and deliverables of an upcoming release. It connects the gap between the vision and the work done in individual sprints. This helps the team in aligning with the project goal.

Below are the release plans for FeelTok:

- **VERSION 1.0** Basic screens and navigation, with Firebase password authentication
- **VERSION 1.1** Profile Editing
- **VERSION 1.2** Posts and Google sign-in
- **VERSION 1.3** Bug fixes and timer system
- **VERSION 1.4** Finalize app

With the mentioned features in each version above, we can see which features are to be implemented for each version per release. The team was able to execute the release plan with version 1 being the most basic, and each version having progress increments, until the very last version with bug fixes.

SPRINT PLANNING

Sprint planning is a meeting that is conducted at the start of a sprint when in an Agile project. The meeting defines the goals, tasks, and scope of the work to be completed within the sprint period. This ensures that team members are aware and aligned on the tasks to be done and the sprint's timeframe.

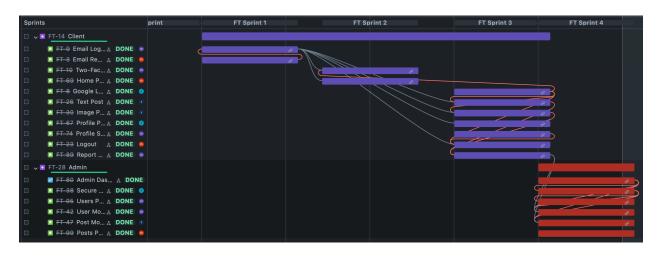


Figure 4: Sprint planning in Jira

Below are the sprint planning of FeelTok:

- **SPRINT 1:** Client app setup, Firebase database setup, email authentication
- **SPRINT 2:** Two-factor authentication, home page
- SPRINT 3: Google sign-in, text posts, image posts, profile page, profile settings, sign-out
- SPRINT 4: Admin app setup, users page, user moderation, posts page, post moderation, timer system

With the screenshot above, some features were moved onto the next sprint due to incompletion or technical errors. All features of planned sprints were eventually completed at the very last sprint.

DAILY STAND-UP MEETING

The daily stand-up meeting was conducted every day for the entire sprint duration. Each member actively updates the team on what they are working on and what is considered done.

When developing FeelTok, stand-up meetings were conducted for each team member to be updated on what is currently in progress, and which functionalities are done. Below are the evidences of stand-up meetings of FeelTok:

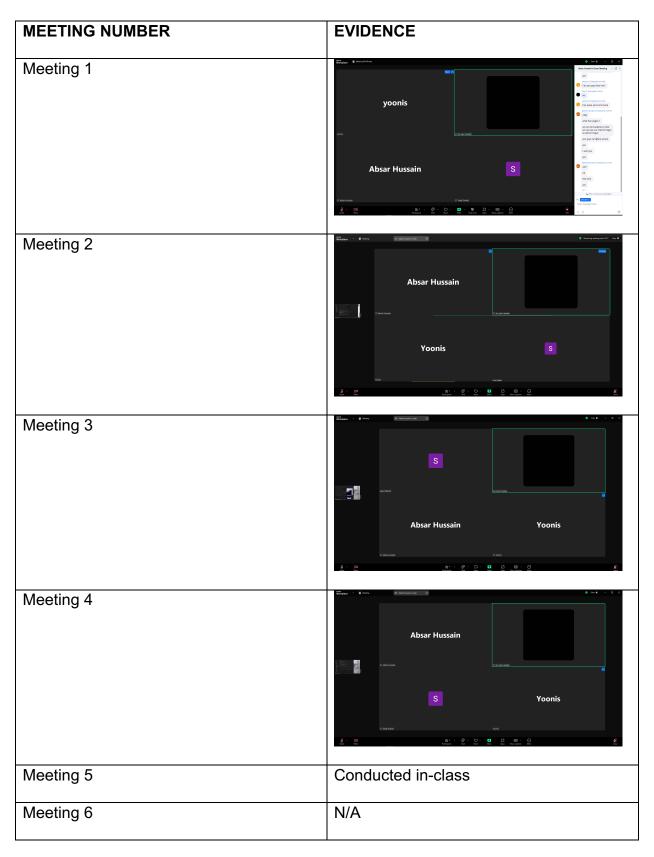
SPRINT 1:

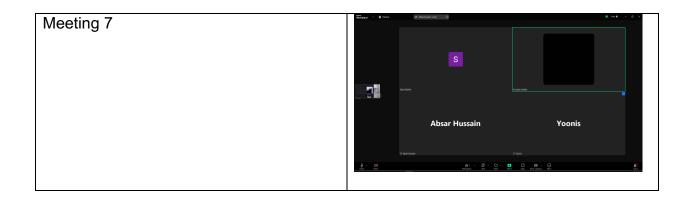
MEETING NUMBER	EVIDENCE
Meeting 1	N/A
Meeting 2	N/A
Meeting 3	N/A
Meeting 4	Conducted in-class
Meeting 5	Conducted in-class
Meeting 6	Absar Hussain
	Yoonis S
Meeting 7	N/A

SPRINT 2:

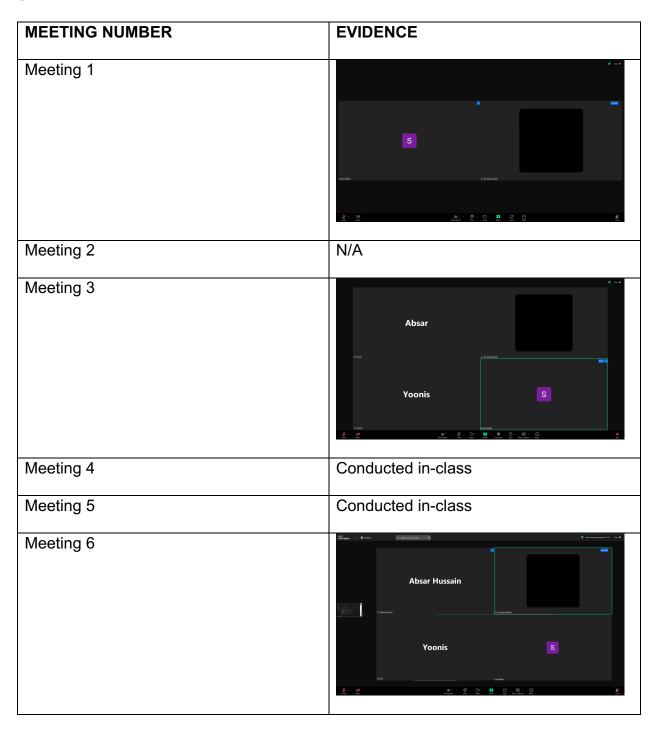
MEETING NUMBER	EVIDENCE
Meeting 1	N/A
Meeting 2	Absar Hussain Yoonis S Absar B Absa
Meeting 3	N/A
Meeting 4	N/A
Meeting 5	Conducted in-class
Meeting 6	Conducted in-class
Meeting 7	N/A

SPRINT 3:





SPRINT 4:





Each sprint was executed for one week, hence the seven meetings. Daily stand-up meetings were executed on some days, but none on other days due to external reasons (holidays, absence, lack of communication, etc).

PRIORITY FEATURES & TASKS

Priority features and tasks refer to the most important and urgent functionalities in an Agile project that need to be completed as a priority. It is very prevalent in Scrum or Kanban frameworks, which are typically defined and managed through backlog, sprint planning, and user story prioritization.

When developing FeelTok, four major features were considered MVP (minimum viable product) or top priority:

- User Authentication, which lets the user sign in and sign up for the app itself.
- A basic user interface, which lets users see all posts from other users.
- Posting, which lets the user create and share text-based or image-based posts with others.
- Moderation, which lets the admin monitor and exercise necessary actions on the app.

The mentioned MVPs above are basic functionalities that are NEEDED for FeelTok to function properly. The advanced features can then be added later on within sprints, after feedback from stakeholders or users.

USER STORIES

User stories are concise descriptions of a feature that a user needs in a software app.

They are an important element when it comes to agile projects, as they help teams focus on delivering value from the perspective of the user.

Below are the client and admin user stories of FeelTok:

CLIENT:

FEATURE	USER STORY
Email Login	"As a user, I want to be able to log in using
	my e-mail so that I can use FeelTok."
Email Registration	"As a user, I want to register using my e-
	mail so that I can use FeelTok."
Two-Factor Authentication	"As a user, I want to be able to have two-
	factor authentication on login so that my
	account will be more secure."
Home Page	"As a user, I want to see other user's posts
	so that I am up-to-date on their activities."
Google Sign-in	"As a user, I want to be able to log in using
	my already existing Google account so
	that I can easily sign in to FeelTok."

Text Post	"As a user, I want to post texts on FeelTok
	so that I can share my thoughts with other
	users."
Image Post	"As a user, I want to upload and share
	images so that I can visually share my
	experience with other users."
Profile Page	"As a user, I want to view my profile so that
	I can see and change my credentials."
Profile Settings	"As a user, I want to change my user
	credentials so that I can customize my
	profile."
Sign-out	"As a user, I want to log out and exit the
	application so that my credentials are not
	saved and are secured."
Report System	"As a user, I want to report inappropriate
	posts or users so that FeelTok can
	maintain its positive integrity."
Timer System	"As a user, I want to be reminded how
	many hours or minutes I have been using

the	арр	so	I	can	take	а	break	from
Fee	ITok.							

ADMIN:

FEATURE	USER STORY

Secure Sign-in	"As an admin, I want to log in to the admin
	dashboard so that I can view FeelTok's
	data."
Users Page	"As an admin, I want to see a list of all
	users and their information so that I can
	monitor and manage accounts easily."
User Moderation	"As an admin, I want to ban/restrict certain
	users based on reports so that FeelTok
	can maintain its positive integrity."
Post Moderation	"As an admin, I want to review posts that
	were reported by users so that I can
	monitor which posts are following post
	guidelines."
Posts Page	"As an admin, I want to see a list of all
	posts and their information so that I can
	have a comprehensive idea of what users
	are posting."

The above user stories were used to implement each functionality, in the eyes of the user.

This helps make the overall system more intuitive and promotes design to being usercentric design.

PROGRAMMING DESIGN STRATEGIES

Programming design strategies are approaches and methodologies used to organize the development process of a software app. It ensures that the app is efficient, maintainable, scalable, and able to meet the requirements. It also guides developers in deciding how data flows, how components interact, and how the overall system is built.

To develop FeelTok, we adopted a component-based and Object-Oriented design approach to ensure the modularity and scalability of the project since each feature was encapsulated within a reusable component and uses repeated operations such as CRUD. Within that, cloud serverless architecture was used for the project as data should be accessible everywhere with an internet connection. A user-centric design approach was also adopted to guide the user on how the app works by promoting intuitiveness and simplicity. Additionally, we adopted cross-platform development with the philosophy, "learn once, write anywhere", which allows us to create one codebase and build two apps together for Android and iOS.

PROGRAMMING CONSTRUCTS

IMPLEMENTATION

Programming constructs implementation refers to the code application of programming concepts such as conditionals, try-catch, functions, etc. within an app to achieve functionality. It often involves translating design and user requirements into code via frameworks and preferred programming languages.

Using the design strategies mentioned above, FeelTok utilizes 5 different frameworks or services. Below are the 5 components:

- FeelTok uses React Native to properly implement each component using
 useStates and useEffects to handle different values and lifecycles. An example of
 this would be the Sign-in Screen wherein user inputs are stored within states.
 Additionally, React Native Navigation for navigating within the app through different
 pages and screens.
- FeelTok uses Expo to properly access device-specific features such as image gallery, with minimal code and without the use of native code (Swift, Kotlin).
- FeelTok uses Firebase, via the React Native SDK, to handle user authentication, allowing users to sign in and sign up within the app. Firestore was utilized to store post information and other user information such as the creation date, bio, one-time passwords, profile picture reference, etc. Additionally, async programming and try-catch methods were used for each Firebase operation to handle errors effectively.

- FeelTok uses Cloudinary for storing images such as profile pictures and post
 images. Though Firebase has a Storage option but is now a paid option. Hence,
 Cloudinary was chosen as an alternative for the project to be more budget-efficient.
 The image link is then referenced within Firestore. Both image upload and delete
 operations are implemented within Firebase methods.
- FeelTok uses EmailJS to implement the two-factor authentication by sending the one-time password, generated within the app and assigned to Firestore, to the user's email inbox. Though Firebase has a phone number-based two-factor authentication option it is a piad option. Hence, an email-based two-factor authentication was used as an alternative for the project to be more budget-efficient. EmailJS is implemented within user authentication with a conditional wherein if the user has two-factor authentication enabled, it triggers the API.

SPRINT REVIEWS

Sprint reviews are meetings held at the end of a sprint when in an Agile project. It is to inspect the work completed during the current sprint, demonstrate the functionality of the progress increment to stakeholders, and gather feedback for improvements.

FeelTok executed sprint reviews with the means to update the stakeholders on the progress of the app and to gain feedback. However, in this case, each member can take turns to become the stakeholder and have feedback based on their opinions. Through this, the app became more refined and is agreeable to everybody.

SPRINT RETROSPECTIVES

Sprint retrospectives are meetings held at the end of a sprint when in an Agile project. It is for identifying areas of improvement within the team and determining steps to enhance future sprints.

Below are the evidences of sprint retrospectives of FeelTok:

Sprint Number Retrospective **WHAT WENT WELL** Sprint 1 Project setup (Firebase database connection and expo) on all team Complete SCRUM Sprint 1 member's devices was This sprint contains 4 completed issues That's all of them - well done! implemented. Complete sprint User registration and login were implemented and tested successfully. This includes password validation, password handling,g and storing credentials to Firebase.

WHAT DIDN'T GO WELL

 Used incorrect Firebase SDK in implementing user registration and login.

WHAT COULD'VE BEEN IMPROVED

- Team collaboration and time management could have been improved by each team member.
- Technical documentation should be implemented such as comments.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO AVOID

 Avoid using the incorrect Firebase SDK.

Sprint 2



WHAT WENT WELL

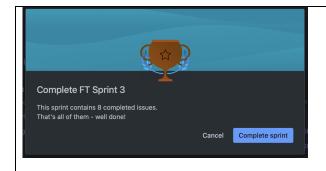
- Created a draft for the home page
 with dummy posts and a
 notification button. Two-factor
 authentication was implemented
 and tested successfully via the use
 of an external library for sending
 the OTP to the user's email inbox.
- Created a risk management log.

WHAT DIDN'T GO WELL

- Implementing two-factor
 authentication was impossible
 through Firebase since it required
 a paid plan.
- Implementing Google Login was unsuccessful as it requires a development build via native components. Google Login will be moved to the next sprint.

WHAT COULD'VE BEEN IMPROVED

	Team collaboration and time management could have been improved by each team member.
	 WHAT DO WE NEED TO AVOID Avoid Expo in Go mode and go for development build mode.
Sprint 3	WHAT WENT WELL



- Implemented all the necessary features such as Google Login, posting, profile page, and settings successfully.
- Implemented all features on time and within the sprint schedule.
- Team collaboration was good.
- Frequent daily stand-up meetings.

WHAT DIDN'T WENT WELL

 A team member faced difficulty implementing Google Login due to technical errors.

WHAT COULD'VE BEEN IMPROVED

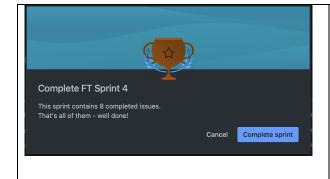
None

WHAT DO WE NEED TO AVOID

None

Sprint 4

WHAT WENT WELL



- Implemented all necessary
 features of the admin dashboard,
 such as post and user moderation.
- Implemented everything within the sprint schedule
- Finalized risk management log
- Finalized test cases
- Frequent daily stand-up meetings
- Team collaboration was good.

WHAT DIDN'T WENT WELL

None

WHAT COULD'VE BEEN IMPROVED

None

WHAT DO WE NEED TO AVOID

None

With the mentioned sprint retrospectives, we can reference the retrospectives in the next sprint and apply what can be improved, and most importantly what to avoid. This aligns each team member towards the project goal.

AFTER SPRINT RETROSPECTIVES

After completing sprint retrospectives, the team implements identified improvements for each sprint. The key focus is to have continuous improvements, along with increased team collaboration and team dynamics. Additionally, at the end of each sprint, testing is often executed and documented through test cases.

TESTING STRATEGIES

Testing strategies are approaches that outline how testing is performed during the development lifecycle. This is to ensure the quality, reliability, and performance of a software app. It defines the objectives, tools, and resources used for testing to identify and fix issues before release.



Figure 5: Test cases in Zephyr Scale

FeelTok utilized the Zephyr Scale for creating test cases. The types of tests involve crossplatform testing, unit testing, and integration testing. Unit testing was used for testing single functions such as sign-out functionality since it only utilizes one method with Firebase API. Integration testing is more towards how one function interacts with the rest of the system, an example of this would be fetching user data from Firestore and displaying that user's data on the screen. Lastly, cross-platform testing was used to test the entire app on Android and iOS platforms. Through this, it identifies bugs early on and we were able to conduct bug fixes right away.

CONCLUSION

The development of FeelTok through the Agile methodology has provided insights into both technical and collaborative aspects when developing software apps. The iterative process allowed the team to make continuous progress and improvements, adapt to changes and challenges, and deliver features that meet the requirements and project goals.

Throughout the sprints, we were able to prioritize important features such as user authentication, text and image posting, and admin moderation, ensuring the app's core functionalities were added before moving on to more complex features. Sprint planning, daily stand-up meetings, and retrospectives were facilitated to ensure smooth communication and problem-solving within the team.

Despite challenges relating to team collaboration, the project demonstrated clear communication and effective task management. The completion of FeelTok set the stage for future iterations and improvements. This just proves that Agile methodology is as effective when it comes to project management and team management.

If I were to give my opinion on the current app, I think the overall foundation such as design and current features is solid. However, user-to-user interaction is limited such as chatting and having a friends list. Additionally, user-to-post interaction is also limited wherein likes and comments are missing.