Design Log



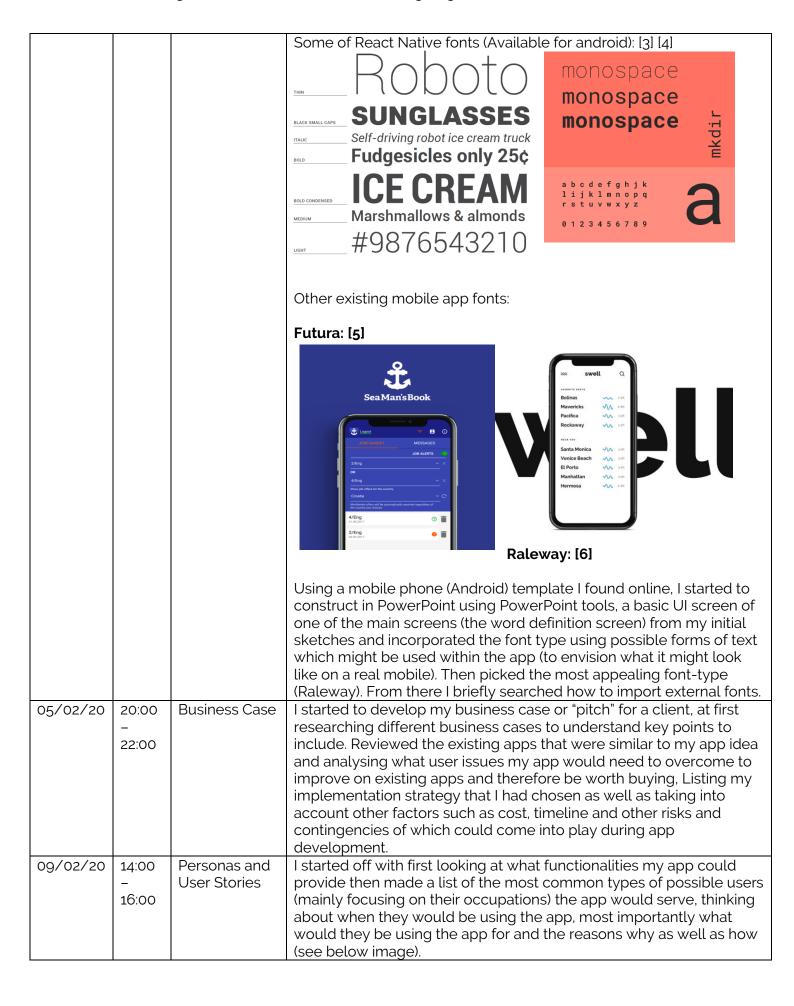
Date	Time	Title	Notes
28/01/20	20:00	Generating App Ideas	Created a mind map for brainstorming 4 app ideas and concepts Futness App
28/01/20	21:00 - 22:00	Deciding on programming language/ tools and platform for development (e.g. Android vs IOS)	Listed the different programming tools (paired with which programming language) and database storage providers I would consider using to develop the app, creating pro's and con's lists for each of them. Comparing and deciding that I would use React Native and Firebase.

React Native (JavaScript)	Java (Using Android Studio)	Swift (Objective C)
Pros: Many open source UI component libraries available Can create dynamic web pages Specifically designed to cater to mobile developmen t Can be crossplatform Fast performance Ability to preview App Cons: Difficult to learn to program View-orientedness due to 'Model' and 'Controller' is constricting	Pros: Familiar IDE and programmin g language, therefore, may be quicker to program Plenty of docs Hardware independent Ability to preview App Cons: Slow to compile and run From previous experience can be very buggy using libraries	Pros: Fast performance Open source and has docs Promotes safe and consistent code Easier to read/maintai n Scalable Cross- device support Manages memory automatically Cons: Do not have an apple device therefore will need to use an emulate Not overly familiar using C, Objective C or C++
Firebase	MySQL	MongoDB

Pros: Free (up to a high limit) NoSQL database (better performance/i s faster and easier to scale) Google Analytics (for crash and performance monitoring) Are Familiar to querying relational database (schemaless (schemaless) Adata less database) Autopartioning integreate with different databases if necessary (self-managed)	Firebase	MySQL	MongoDB	
	 Free (up to a high limit) NoSQL database (better performance/i s faster and easier to scale) Google Analytics (for crash and performance 	 Familiar to querying relational data Quick management Able to integreate with different developmen t tools (e.g. Android 	 Flexible Database (schemaless database) Autopartioning into smaller databases if necessary (self- 	

		 Database and authentication is easy to use and start up from out of the box Uses JSON storage formatting which may make it more difficult to query for specific items Costly past a certain limit (can only setup one RT DB in a project) High availability/scalability Free (for non-commercia l use) Cons: High availability/scalability Free (for non-commercia l use) Cons: High availability/scalability Free (for non-commercia l use) Cons: High availability/scalability Free (for non-commercia l use) Uses JSON storage formatting buggy Overall, slightly sluggish performance Difficult to use and program High availability
29/01/20 13:0 -14	oo Word Loca Idea brainstorm	This was mainly putting myself in the seat of what the users would possibly want in the app, listing the key features of competitor apps (dictionary.com[1] and oxford dictionary[2]). Plus coming up with the name of the app(Word locator) in relation to this.

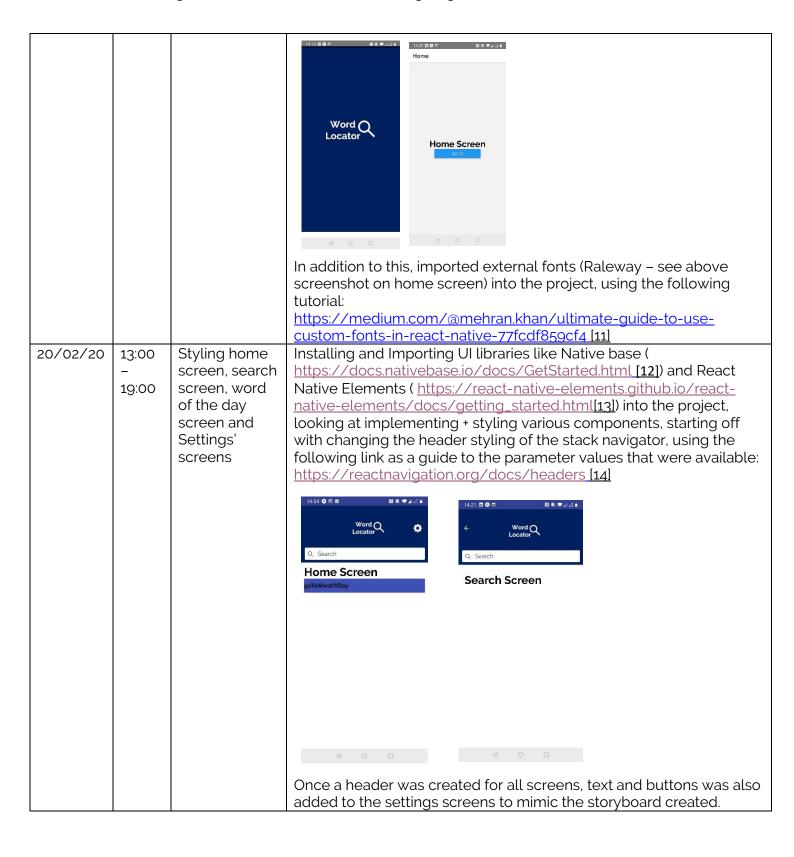
29/01/20	14:00 - 15:00	Moodboard creation	Creating a mood board based off the app idea and looking at the key features of competitor apps, web searching and choosing images and a colour scheme based off most associated images and colours to the theme/idea of the app.	
01/02/20	13:00 - 14:00	Initial Sketches	Creating and annotating initial designs of the app (including logo/branding) based off moodboard and research of key features of competitor apps(I realised that the app design will most likely change in the future depending on features chosen to implement as currently its involves a heavy number of features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features chosen to implement as currently its involves a heavy number of features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features chosen to implement as currently its involves a heavy number of features which is not accomplishable in the time period). In the future depending on features chosen to implement as currently its involves a heavy number of features which is not accomplishable in the time period).	
			minel light - Shary 2 · Intelligent 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	
			This also helped me understand, plan and construct a flow of which a user will be able to easily navigate through the application and the different screens.	
01/02/20	14:00 - 15:00	Fontboard Creation	Started off with researching the different default font types that are available in the programming language and platform that I would be using (Android) as well as briefly looking at other existing mobile apps and the font types used.	

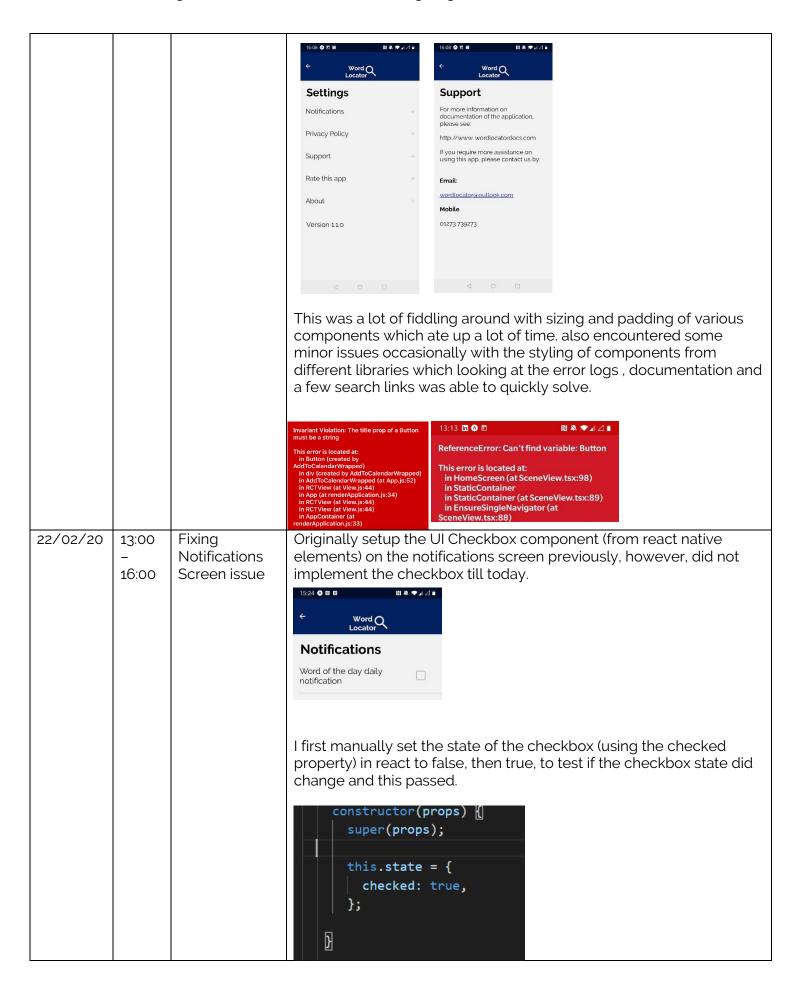


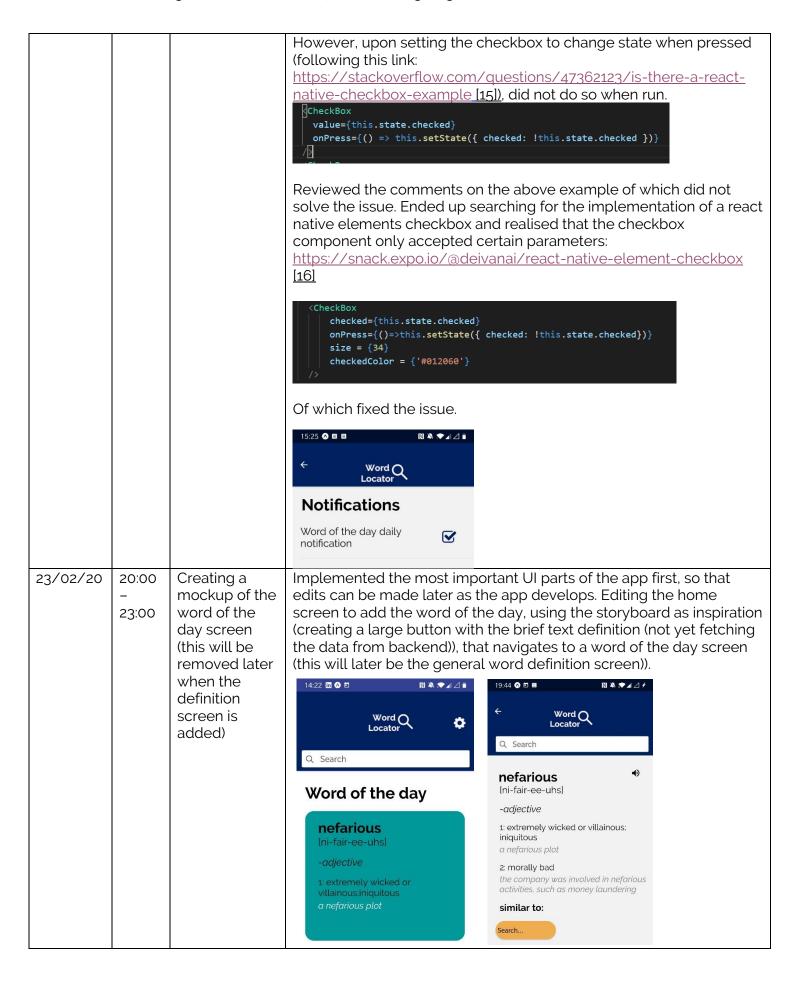
			The user stories and personas gave me insight on my own app from a different perspective, rather than just writing about my app features, I feel as though it, it helped me plan and discuss my design decisions before implementation by taking into account different user needs and prioritising app features/capabilities in order to meet the overall goals of the app. This is commonly used in agile based projects. USER What, When, Why, how? - wers who are not therefore have laying is not engan. - Viel by travelles to lock up the first haved deputing a needed to the first haved deputing at the peak. - simple deputing for communicated.		
			Students - users in education who need to veryly first s words words to use is verbal or written communion. - need to be obte to access a range of vocasulary easily (similar words) - simple depunding which can be understood by all audences. - was frestly on model on the 50 between locations (uncompany & ott) - widen vocasularies? - need to be able to find precise deprisions /professional algunous. - was when a conting & legal deconors.		
			4) Jounalusts near to be able to look for Common propelling words to use in versus works to work to common formation (magazines or presented) - Near to be to be to pourance words/ prochice words & Say correctly in the		
10/02/20	14:00 - 16:00	User stories (continued)	Adding more user stories (in order to have a range to discuss and make design decisions from)		
10/02/20	20:00- 21:00	Choosing app key features and re-edit of business case and Font- board	From the personas and user stories, I was able to understand the key features that my app would need to include and how it would benefit from a business point of view, deciding on the following 5 key features to implement (due to time limitations): • Easy access and simple word definitions (in an easy to read format – not overcrowded with information) • Easy access to similar words (on the word definition page) • Search functionality • Sound/audio pronunciations of words • Word of the day		
			Editing business case and font-board to reflect the key features chosen.		

	1	T =	<u> </u>
11/02/20	11:00 - 17:00	Storyboard (application diagram and individual screens)	Developing from my initial sketches and after narrowing down the features of my application I again created a mock-up of all the UI screens through sketches and then when I was happy with it transferred it digitally onto a mobile outline using PowerPoint tools (like the Footboard). Adapti Control of the Footboard of the Footboard of the Structured the screens based on the flow I had decided within the above sketches in order to create the high-level application diagram of the storyboard. This will help to be able to reference and possibly
11/02/20	20:00	Storyboard	change if necessary, the different screens during development. I delved deeper looking at the user interactions on each screen
	_	(further	(referring back to competitor applications), the different components
	23:00	development to individual	that are visible on the screen and how the user will get from screen to screen, plus the transitions that will need to be
		screens)	planned/integrated. Noting down the design and descriptions of
			each screen on the storyboard. This again will help during development as a reference.
12/02/20	13:00	Getting	Had a brief look at react native basics (seeing how it differs from
	-	started on	react which I have had previous experience in).
	15:00	using React	https://reactnative.dev/docs/getting-started [7]
		Native and	Figuring out the best way to get stuck into greating a react pative
		Expo	Figuring out the best way to get stuck into creating a react native app, coming past expo; an open source platform which allows easy
			setup and preview of react native applications.
			Learning to create, build and deploy a blank react native
			application/project using Expo through CLI. Installing all the necessary dependencies and packages into the project.
			https://expo.io/ [8]
			basic expo managed project created and previewed on my phone through QR code scanning:

	Т		
			12:51 ② ₺ ■ N ♣ ◆ ∠ ∠ ■
			Open up App.js to start working on your app! CHANGE TEXT
13/02/20	20:00 - 22:00	Understanding React Navigation using react native packages	After creating a few basic screens in react native using expo, I started looking into / searching on how to implement a basic navigator to navigate between screens, coming past react navigation, which uses a basic stack navigator. React Navigation Official Tutorial Website: https://reactnavigation.org/docs/en/getting-started.html [9]
14/02/20	13:00 - 16:00	Understanding React Navigation using react native packages (Continued)	Continued using react navigation to successfully be able to transition between screens using buttons (on the app). Creating a basic (without styling) home screen, word of the day screen, search screen as well as settings' screens 13.15 0
16/02/20	13:00 - 16:00	Styling loading screen(expo) + importing fonts	Worked on styling the default loading screen created by Expo, by creating a separate image with the chosen app logo (created using GIMP) to replace the default image and editing the app. JSON script (tutorial here: https://medium.com/faun/customize-your-splash-screen-with-expo-for-your-react-native-app-5aca4fc667). [10] "version": "1.0.0", "orientation": "portrait", "splash": { "image": "./assets/AppLogo.png", "resizeMode": "contain", "backgroundColor": "#ffffff"

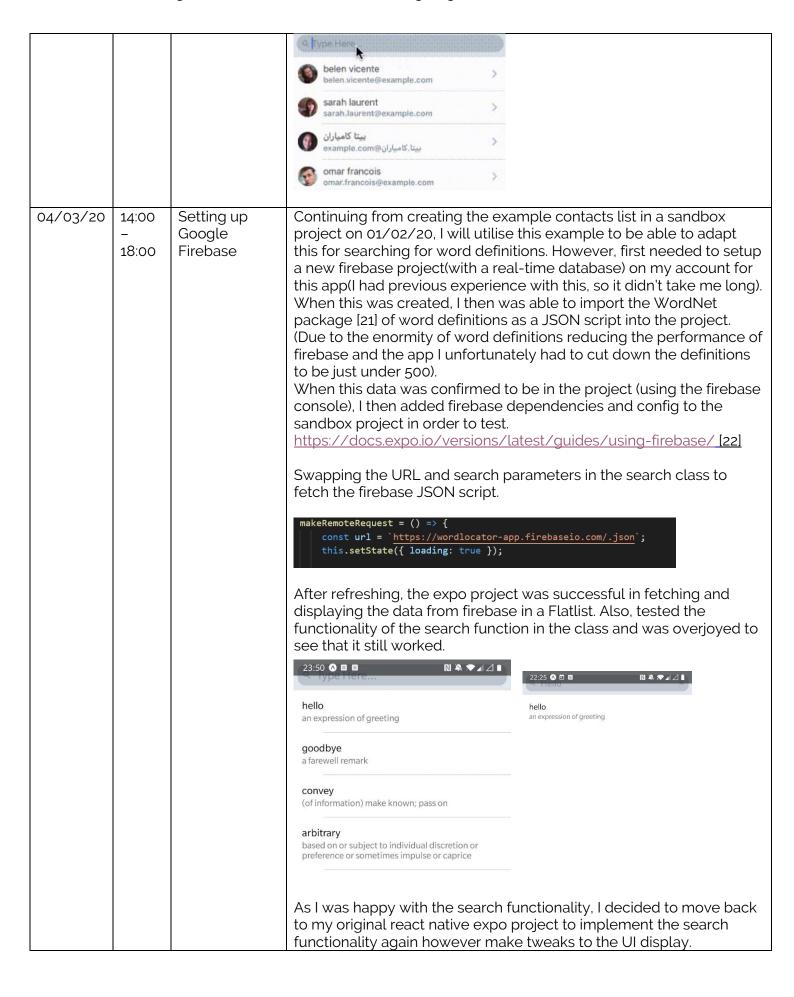






28/02/20	12:00	Adding audic	Text had been added to the word of the day screen as a mock-up, however, will need to be generalised once the definition screen is added and backend (firebase) is incorporated.
28/02/20	13:00 - 18:00	Adding audio using expo-av	Continuing with the word of the day screen mockup, I made a start to adding audio to the screen so that when the user clicks on the sound icon, the word pronunciation would be played in English. Creating a sandbox expo project to test this in first before adding to the app later.
			First located a website of which allows open sourcing downloading of mp3 audio pronunciation of various English words. https://www.techvigil.com/tips-tricks/347/mp3-pronunciation-files/[17]
			Downloaded the audio pronunciation of the chosen word ('nefarious') used in the word of the day mockup screen and imported this into the react native project.
			I was able to find Expo documentation on how to play audio in Expo projects so installed the expo dependencies needed. https://docs.expo.io/versions/latest/sdk/audio/[18]
			And attempted to follow the documentation on loading and playing a sound object.
			<pre>const soundObject = new Audio.Sound(); try { await soundObject.loadAsync(require('./assets/sounds/hello.mp3')); await soundObject.playAsync(); // Your sound is playing! } catch (error) { // An error occurred! }</pre>
			However, had an unhandled promise rejection issue when I clicked on the sound icon/button and no sound was produced due to the sound object not being loaded:
			Warning encountered 1 time. ▼ Stacktrace Possible Unhandled Promise Rejection (id: 0):
			Found a related issue: https://github.com/expo/expo/issues/146 https://github.com/expo/expo/issues/146 https://github.com/expo/expo/issues/146 https://github.com/expo/expo/expo/issues/146

		playButtonPressed = async () => { if (this.sound != null) { await this.sound.setPositionAsync(0); await this.sound.playAsync(); } } Spent time fiddling with the statements, placing the loading statement in various areas of app.js. Eventually in placing the loading statement when app.js mounts, it gave the component enough time to play the audio pronunciation of the word. componentDidMount() { try { soundObject.loadAsync(require("/assets/audio/nefarious.mp3")); } catch (error) { console.log("An error occured loading audio") } } }
01/03/20 13:00 - 17:00	search	Once I had a mockup of the word of day/word definition screen created, I moved onto one of the main key functionalities of the app; implementing search to get to the word definition screen. I was aware that implementing a search functionality is incredibly hard to accomplish in any application, therefore created another separate dummy/sandbox expo project in order to edit and test search in React Native. As I had the UI component of search, I wanted to utilise that to implement the search bar. At first, I looked for guidance on where to start through a web search and found that most results were on using a Flat list and a search function of a sort to display the search results. Found the following link which not only had a simple step by step process of implementing search in a class in react but also fetched JSON data by URL(which remembering from my experience in using Firebase was how data was fetched). https://www.freecodecamp.org/news/how-to-build-a-react-native-flatlist-with-realtime-searching-ability-81ad100f6699/ [20] Was able to successfully create the example from the above link in the sandbox project. This example allowed searching for contacts in a phone book, however I will be able to use this a guideline for implementing search within my own project.



06/03/20	13:00 - 20:00	Finding the Navigation Issue	I realised that upon returning to my original project and creating a react class for the search functionality, that I had implemented mobile screens through functions in App.js, and not classes up to this point as given by react navigation examples: https://reactnavigation.org/docs/hello-react-navigation [23] Therefore, wasn't sure on how to be able to access the react navigation prop in another class, and had to figure a way round it.	
			Can't find variable: navigate Tried using 'use navigation' (https://reactnavigation.org/docs/use-navigation/[24]) to pass navigation prop to the class, but kept	
			getting the above issue on expo during run.	
			I attempted searching for alternatives like importing the search screen/function from App.js , trying the following link examples:	
			 https://stackoverflow.com/questions/43648440/how-to-call-a-function-from-another-class-in-react-native [25] https://stackoverflow.com/questions/53128479/react-native-importing-function-from-another-file [26] 	
			Then encountered a different issue: Invariant Violation: Invalid hook call. Hooks can only be called inside of the body of a function component. This could happen for one of the following reasons: 1. You might have mismatching versions of React and the renderer (such as React DOM) 2. You might be breaking the Rules of Hooks 3. You might have more than one copy of React in the same app See https://fb.me/react-invalid-hook-call for tips about how to debug and fix this problem.	
			And upon searching the issue, realised that I couldn't pass the navigation prop to the class as a nested function because of it being an invalid hook call in react. https://stackoverflow.com/questions/59701558/react-native-invalid-hook-call [27]	
			Upon several hours of trying to fix the issue, I decided that I would just try and find an alternative way to navigate between screens using classes instead of functions another day.	
08/03/20	13:00 - 19:00	Solving the navigation issue	Due to the inability of using the navigation prop in separate classes, I decided to find an alternative solution. Searching to see how other developers have approached this issue. Most of the search links I came across involved defining the stack navigator in the following format:	

```
const AppNavigator = createStackNavigator({
   Home: {
     screen: HomeScreen
   },
   About: {
     screen: AboutScreen
   }
});
```

Rather than how I approached it as stated on the react navigation website:

So, I decided to test this in my project by following a basic tutorial: https://blog.logrocket.com/navigating-react-native-apps-using-react-navigation/[28]

and received the following issue:

Error: Creating a navigator doesn't take an argument. Maybe you are trying to use React Navigation 4 API with React Navigation 5? See https://reactnavigation.org/docs/en/hello-reactnavigation.html for usage guide.

Realizing that I was trying to use a react navigation 4.0 navigator instead of 5.0 (current version which I was using). Unfortunately, upon searching I couldn't seem to find any alternatives to using a navigator in react to navigate different classes, so decided to try and bump down the version of the react navigation package:

https://stackoverflow.com/questions/51306148/how-to-downgrade-react-native-from-0-56-0-to-0-55-4-version [29]

This finally fixed the issue and I was able to navigate between classes; however, this now will be cost of now having to migrate all the separate functions/screens already implemented into new React classes.

13/03/20	14:00	Migrating
	_	functions to
	18.00	classes

This is continuing from where I left off with restructuring the navigation of my app by migrating screens from functions in app.js to classes.

14/03/20	13:00	Changing	23.45 ♦ ■ ■
	-	styling in search screen	← Word Q Locator
	16:00	search screen	Q. Type Here
			hello an expression of greeting
			goodbye a farewell remark
			convey (of information) make known; pass on
			arbitrary based on or subject to individual discretion or preference or sometimes impulse or caprice
			Once all screens were migrated from functions in app.js to separate
			classes, I then returned to the search screen and finished implementation of the search screen, including styling.
21/03/20	13:00	Creating the	After the completion of the search screen, I started to create the
	- 19:00	definition screen	actual definition screen template (using the word of the day screen UI as a starting point) of which allows users to view different word
			definitions. Figuring out how to pass the selected word name,
			definition and pronounciation (from firebase) to the definition page when clicked on the search screen.
			Luckilly report povigation had a way to pass parameters between
			Luckily react navigation had a way to pass parameters between classes:
			https://reactnavigation.org/docs/params [30]
			<pre>renderItem={({ item }) => (</pre>
			title: item.definition.name, definition: item.definition.description,
			pronunciation: item.definition.pronunciation,
			Was able to test this and found it did indeed pass the selected word data to the defintion screen, so passed the rest of the data and styled
			the screen from there.
			← Word Q ← Word Q Locator
			Q. Search
			goodbye (god-bail lgud-bail noun noun
			1. a farowell romark "they said their good-byes" "they said their good-byes"
			similar to: similar to:
			cheerio Good day good day bye farewall
			bye
			facevall
			Lind a fow issues with button placement of signification wards as living the
			Had a few issues with button placement of similar words as I wanted to style the buttons to be side by side. After searching and trying a
			couple of solutions was able to find a solution that was correct:
			https://stackoverflow.com/questions/42864827/two-buttons-with-
			equal-width-horizontally-fill-the-screen-in-react-native/42881304 [31]
			[21]

22/03/20	20:00 - 23:00	Fixing the word of the day (+ home screen)	After completing the search and definition screen, I was able to revisit the word of the day mockup screen/class and remove this from the project, then re-implement the word of the day functionality within the home screen class (based off the definition screen) to randomly choose a item/word in firebase and display the definition (a shorter version) on the home screen.
04/04/20	11:00 - 18:00	Fixing the audio on different word definitions.	Upon starting the app, I doubled checked the search functionality on various words and it seemed to display correctly, however upon clicking the sound icon/button came up with the following issue on the path of the audio:
			Unhandled JS Exception: Can't find variable:
			The audio path was passed as a parameter to the definition screen similar to the other parameters, and was programmed in a similar way as on the word of the day screen on the definition screen. **ClistTem button onPress=(() => this.props.navigation.navigate('Definition'), { title: item.definition.name,
			definition: item.definition.description, pronunciation: item.definition.pronunciation, action: item.definition.action, example: item.definition.example, otherdefinition: item.definition.otherdescription, otherexample: item.definition.otherexample, firstrelatedword: item.definition.otherexample, firstrelatedword: item.definition.secondrelatedword, secondrelatedword: item.definition.secondrelatedword, thindeplatedword: item.definition.secondrelatedword,
			thirdrelatedword: item.definition.thirdrelatedword, fourthrelatedword: item.definition.fourthrelatedword, audiopath: item.definition.audiopath
			The only difference I spotted was that the path was being passed as a parameter to the class instead of being hard coded, so tried a hard coded path and this fixed the issue. I didn't understand why this was an issue so searched for the cause: https://github.com/expo/expo/issues/4332 [32]
			and found out that I couldn't dynamically pass the audio path using require("). So manually moved the audio paths from firebase into the project as constants in constants is and referenced this in the definition screen class.
			<pre>getAudio = (name) => { return AUDIO[name]; };</pre>
			After fixing the above issue, I tested that the audio was working when visiting different words, however for some reason it was replaying the word pronunciation of the first word pronunciation clicked on when the app started. I restarted the app and it still had the same issue.
			Looking at the documentation, I was able to find out why very easily and understood that I didn't unload the audio when leaving the screen of a word definition (i.e. unmounting), so it kept replaying.
			<pre>https://docs.expo.io/versions/latest/sdk/audio/[18] componentWillUnmount() { soundObject.unloadAsync(); }</pre>

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