Amy Caprioni

Eliezer Epstein

Supriya Karambe

CSIT-551 Spring 2017

Team Venus Group Project Proposal

Studying in groups has always been an important part of the learning process. It allows a faster gathering and dissemination of information through the wisdom of crowds because people can get answers from one another along with being able to clarify areas of misunderstanding.

It is for this reason that Team Venus is proposing to build a question-and-answer forum app. It will allow users to post questions and answers to a forum, they can like and dislike the posts of other users as well as being able to edit or delete their posts.

Each user will create a unique username and password. After this registration process he/she will be able to post questions, answer questions, and like posts on this forum. There will be no anonymous posting or commenting. The user’s username will be publicly attached to all these actions. However, liking/unliking will be anonymous. As an extra feature, there will be a forgot password function incorporated into the registration portion of this application.   
 This forum organizes the posts by user made topics. If a user would like to post a question they will first see if their question falls under a topic already created. If there does not exist such a topic, they can create one (questions must be posted under a topic). The forum will contain a check to make sure that duplicate topics cannot be created. The topics will be ordered alphabetically. This topic organizational structure will be convenient when users search through the forum to read other users’ posts and comments.

Any registered user will be able to post questions under topics. Ideally, the user will first search through the topic they are planning to post to and make sure that the same question was not already asked. (There will be a search bar to search post titles for keywords). Assuming the user does not find an existing matching post, he/she will create a new post. Each post will have three fields a title, body (full question that is posted), and topic(s) the post falls under.   
 After a question is posted, any user (including the user who posted the question) will be able to comment on that post. Within the comments, users will be able to refer to other posts. This will increase the sharing of knowledge across the site.   
 Lastly, users will be able to like/ unlike and dislike/ undislike posts and comments found on the forum. Each post will keep a tally of likes/dislikes (which includes the total likes/dislikes for the post and all comments). This tally will be used to form a metrics, allowing users to see which posts are most popular and least popular(with respect to number of likes/dislikes, and with respect to percentage of likes to dislikes).

Each individual user/s will have its own kind-of portfolio. This means when they login into the app; they can see questions and their respective topics where they posted their questions recently. The app will also feed or publish favorite topics under user's favorite section. These topics would be essential interest of the user.

The app will have moderate rules on its content. This is to maintain a certain level of data quality on questions and answers. It’ll restrict users to avoid using slang language. Having this feature would build users trust in the app and on the content of it.

Users will have an ability to organize their interests and topics. The app will let user to focus or look into the areas where they wish to. This is just to prioritize the interest v/s the vast question-answer forum. The feature will let user to shortlist the Topics and then user can see questions under it. It will ease users to use the app in a most productive, less time-consuming and in a meaningful way.