

BILKENT UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

CS 461 – ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

TERM PROJECT REPORT: GUIDELINES

Your term project report --- worth 13.5% (27 points) of your letter grade --- should be a single pdf file (NO OTHER FORMATS ARE ACCEPTED). Write 2,000 words min and 2,500 words max. You will lose credit if you submit a report that is shorter or longer.

You are expected to submit a document with group nick in block capitals and contributing (if you know what I mean) members' names on the cover page. Pages should be numbered. Do not use a small font. Use the same font throughout your report.

Submit your source code as an appendix of your report. Pages of the appendix should also be numbered.

The following paragraph should be included verbatim at the end of your report (immediately before the word count which should appear on the last page of your report):

This project reports work done in partial fulfillment of the requirements for CS 461 -- Artificial Intelligence. The software is, to a large extent, original (with borrowed code clearly identified) and was written solely by members of <insert group nick here in block capitals>.

Code, footnotes, figures, tables, graphs, screenshots, and references are not included in the word count. (The preceding disclaimer is not included either!)

ONLY THE PROGRAMS YOU'VE WRITTEN (ORIGINAL CODE) SHOULD BE LISTED. ALL OTHER PROGRAMS, TOOLS, LIBRARIES, ETC. YOU'VE USED SHOULD NOT BE LISTED.

It is a good idea to include many screenshots. People usually ask me what I mean by 'many' in this context. A short answer would be: at least 15. (Screenshots can be black & white.)

If I cannot comfortably read the contents of a screenshot (my eyesight is rather poor, be forewarned!) you'll definitely lose points. Make sure that you submit screenshots which are legible and sharp.

The report should be prepared using a typesetting package such as MS Word or LaTeX. If there are mathematical formulas in your report, they should look pleasant. (Ditto for graphs or tables or figures.)

The main product of your project is the original code you wrote. However, your report is crucial too; it tells the entire story of your project, viz. the algorithms and data structures you've used, the results you've obtained, etc. in the space of 2,000-2,500 words. It should not be a superficial write-up that does little to enlighten the reader; it should be crisp, technical, and informative.

You must cite at least 5 bibliographic references. These should be scientific papers belonging to the intersection of AI and crossword puzzles. (See your term project proposal *re* how to properly cite references.)

You should not explain the work that you've done to download and display the puzzle. You should only explain the AI aspects of your program. To repeat: The work you've done to download and display the puzzle is valuable but should not be told in this report! Only explain, in considerable detail, the AI approaches you've followed. (On the other hand, the code you've written to download the puzzle should be included in the appendix.)

Make sure that you spell-check your report immediately before you submit it and make an effort to write short, formal, and grammatical sentences. Follow punctuation conventions. It is always a good idea to receive editorial help from a native speaker.

The closing date to submit your report (via Moodle!) is Wed 23 Dec 2020, 2 p.m. The report should be submitted by the contact person.

Late reports will lose 2 points immediately and then 1 point for every late day. (A new day starts at 12:00 midnight.)

LAST WORD: YOUR REPORT COMPRISES HARD WORK THAT YOUR GROUP SHOULD BE PROUD OF. THIS MEANS THAT ITS APPEARANCE AND FORMAT SHOULD ALSO BE APPEALING TO A READER (E.G., YOURS TRULY). CHECK EVERY PAGE IN ORDER TO PREVENT MISHAPS.