CVWO Final Submission Write-up

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Reflection

Before starting on this project, I had only just started learning more about vanilla Javascript, HTML and CSS, and I did not have any prior experience with ReactJS and Ruby on Rails. However, this project gave me the push to just build something and learn the languages and experience web development through hands-on practice, instead of just mindlessly looking at tutorials online without any real goals in mind.

I am glad that I attempted this assignment as it taught me not only about the basic structure of web applications, with the separation of functionality between the frontend and backend, but also other important concepts like the MVC framework and the abstraction of different components of the website in ReactJS. It gave me an opportunity to use these concepts in a practical project.
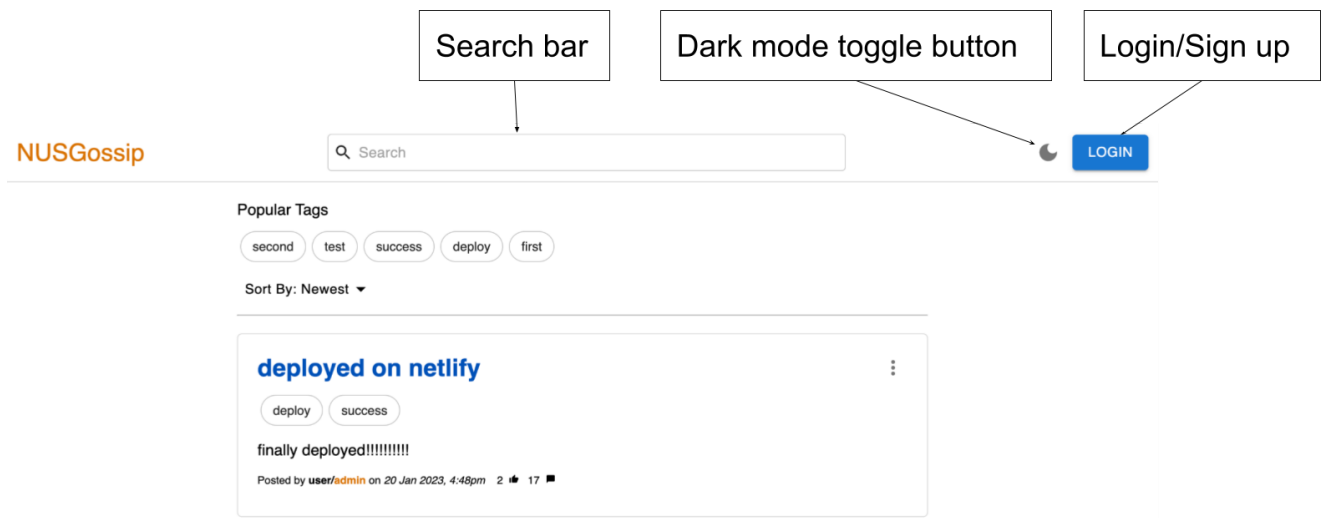
I had always thought that websites are just the Javascript, HTML and CSS code that is shown when we visit the websites, but I learnt that that is just the frontend interface that is designed so that it is intuitive for users. However, this is just the "view" part of the MVC framework, and there are still the "model" and "controller" parts, which serve as the backbone of the website, where the user data and application logic reside. Being aware of this now, I am able to visualise how to structure and organise the code better.

I also learnt Ruby on Rails for the first time to create the backend of the website, and I am very happy that I was able to make features that are not the basic CRUD functionalities, such as a liking and tagging system, work. It made me learn and appreciate the fact that the backend is not just the database, but also another application with complex logic that can handle requests from the frontend.
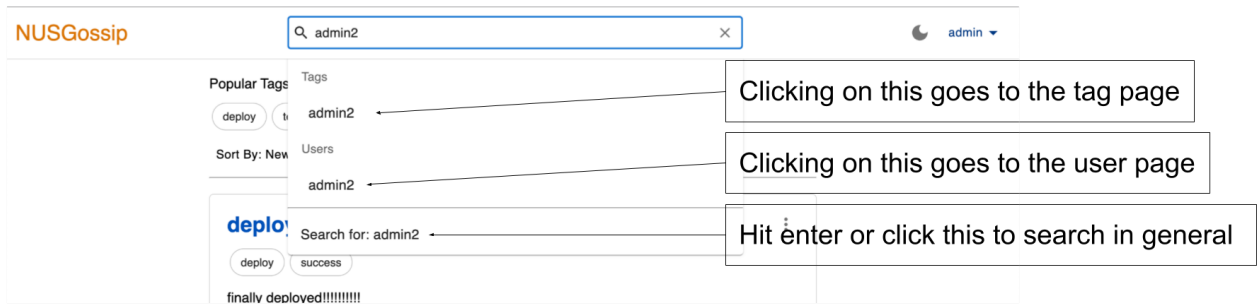
Overall, I am very satisfied with the design and the functionality of the final website, and I am very happy that I was able to deploy both the frontend and the backend, as having a working end product makes the entire learning and development process all the more fulfilling. Through the development process, I solved many different bugs and problems in the code, and I really enjoyed the process of constantly overcoming challenges and improving on the final product. I hope to continue learning and developing more under the CVWO program.
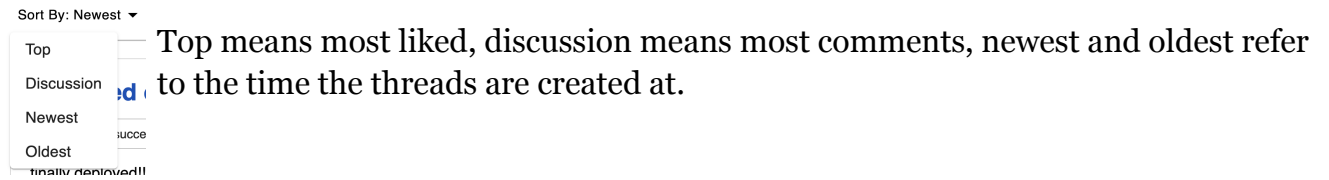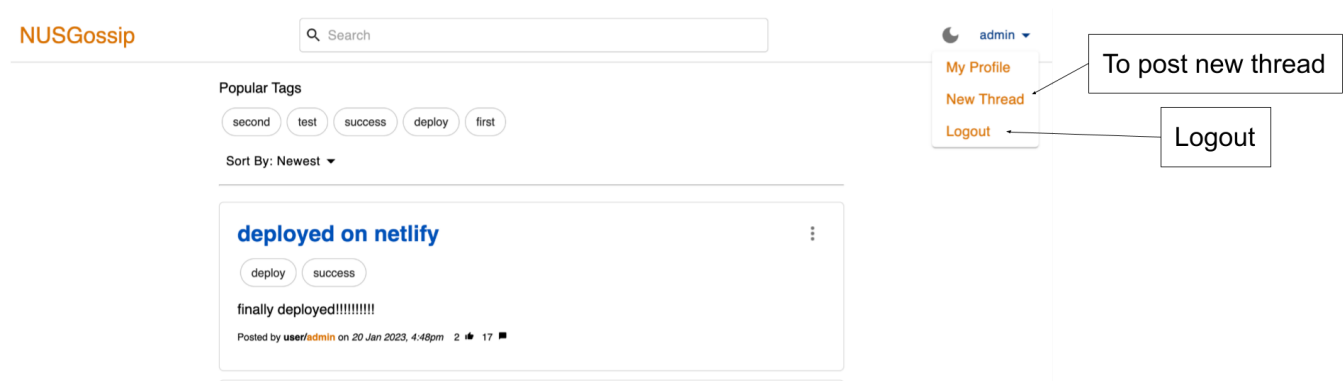
User Manual

Home page:
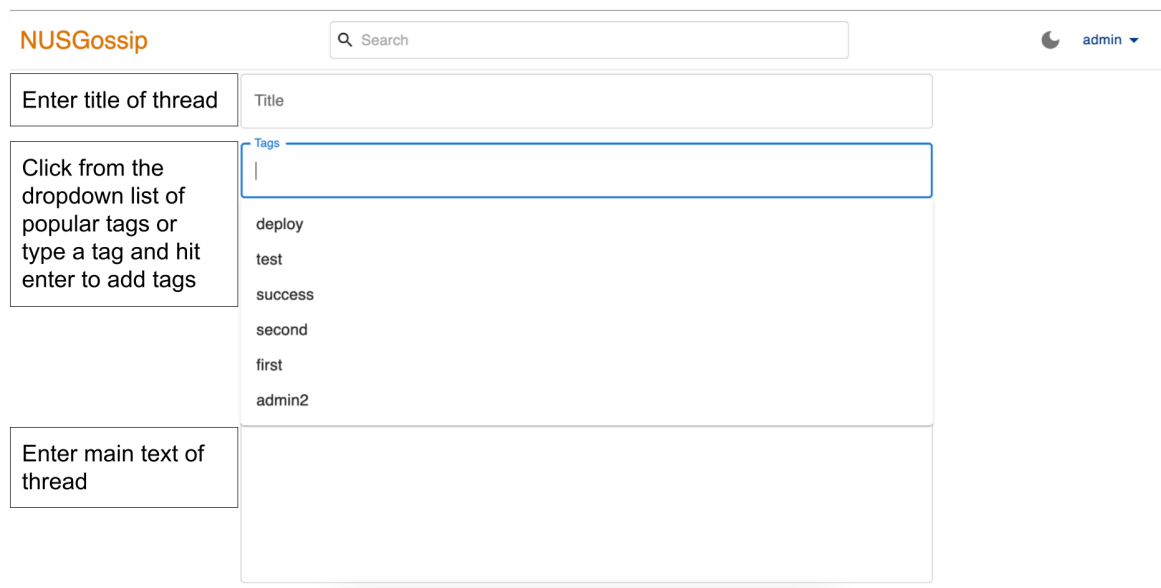

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