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Communicating with Data

Assignment 1

5/16/2021

I used the lyrics from the Pearl Jam song “Alive” to create my word clouds. In the Wordle, it is clear what the title of the song is. However, the WordCloud.com visualization was much less clear, and even though I changed the design, colors, and shape, I was still unable to make the title more obvious. The WordItOut had some additional color options but was not clear either.

**Wordle:** While I had to download and install it first, it was quite easy to use. I had the word cloud created in about three clicks, and then cycled through some design and style options. All the settings were clear to understand without much trial and error.

Text

Description automatically generated

**Map

Description automatically generatedWordCloud.com**: Slightly more difficult even though there was nothing to install. The interface required much more trial and error to understand how colors were impacted. It was necessary to click through most of the options to understand all the different settings.

**WordItOut:** This application was easy to use, but not very robust. Other than some additional color options, there was not a lot of other settings to generate a clearer word cloud. It was also difficult to save the created file, which required signing up and using an email address.

Text

Description automatically generated

In summation, Wordle offered the best combination of functionality and ease of use. While it did require a little more initial setup, it was worth it to have a more finished looking product and the convenience of the output being saved on my machine. The other two options were capable enough, but offered less in terms of options and readability, while also making it more difficult to save the product. The online hosted services were less robust and required more trial and error to understand.