

Review

Introduction:

promote a charity dance marathon. The charity dance marathon is a sponsored event where people can choose to actually take part by dancing, or just sponsor a person to dance. The target audiences are the students who may take part and their parents who may be interested in sponsoring them.

The project involved a project management and research section where we recorded everything we did or used in the organising of the event. We made a music database of songs that the dancers can dance to at the event. Then, we made a danceometer which is an on-screen questionnaire for the dancers to fill in regarding their personal information and music preferences. The danceometer analyses their results and selects a playlist of suitable songs for them to dance to. In this project I made a playlist for myself and for my test buddy. To advertise the event, we created an invitation and make-a-catch publication, which were to inform people about the event and what it would involve.

I found it very useful receiving comments from my test buddy and a reviewer. It was very useful because sometimes they noticed things that I did not notice about my work. Also, they are looking at it from a different perspective as they are probably looking at it properly for the first time. Another thing which I found useful was having a plan, as it prevented me from going off track and not knowing what I was doing. Although the plan took quite a long time to complete, it was worth it in the end. I feel that I managed my time quite well, as the majority of the time I completed the work in the time we were given.

In general, the comments I received about my work have been positive. Although people have said they liked my colour scheme, if I was to do the project again I think I would use a different colour scheme. This is because I feel that I have used too many colours and that the colour scheme is not very clear a times. If I had time, I would probably use only 1 or 2 colours instead of various colours like I have done in this project.

Planning;

I like my plan because I made it organised and as neat as I could. I made it informative and put in all the information I will need so I can use my plan to help me. However, there are a lot of columns and rows in my plan and it is very big, lasting 5 pages. This could make it hard to read in the future because there all the columns are confusing. In the future I would improve my plan by

trying to make it a bit smaller and making sure that all of my font sizes are the same so it is easy to read. I update my plan every week so I can keep track on what I need to do. I also add comments from a test buddy to my plan. These comments are useful because they tell me how I can make my work more suitable for the target audience, as sometimes it helps to have another person see your work because they are seeing it for the first time.

Database;

In the database section, I liked learning things that we never knew before. We learnt how to use parts of Microsoft Access, which we have never used before. I imported all 214 pieces of information and none of them were rejected. I also added 5 of my own records, which means there are 219 records in total. I liked this section because it was quite challenging. A test user checked my database structure, and it was correct. However, it was quite confusing using access because we have never done it before. To improve my database, I could change the colour scheme. I would like to do this to make it more fitting to the colour scheme on the rest of my project. Also, I could change the font sizes of some of the text on my database because I have some text that is big and some that is a lot smaller. This will mean that the database will be easier to read.

Danceometer;

The Danceometer is an on-screen form that the students taking part will have to fill in. It asks them questions about their fitness levels and music preferences in order to produce them a personalised play list for them to dance to at the dance marathon. I enjoyed designing the Danceometer because Microsoft excel is a program that I don't use very often and it was a challenge. I did not enjoy putting in all the complicated formulas because it was very easy to make mistakes. I think that I have made my Danceometer attractive and easy to understand for the target audience. To improve my Danceometer, I could make it smaller as it is quite long with lots of information on it. As it is so long, the person filling it in might take a look at it and not want to fill it in because they don't have enough time or they can't be bothered etc.

Invitation;

The invitation is to inform people about the Dance o'clock event and persuade them to sign up. I enjoyed designing the invitation and colour coordinating the text and pictures. I did not enjoy having to write about the dance o'clock event because at first I did not really understand what I was supposed to write. A test buddy tested my invitation and said that my invitation was "easy to understand" and my persuasive slogan was "cool". However they said I should "go into more detail about the Dance o'clock" event. I think I have produced a good invitation which is suitable for my target audience. I looked at my comments and make changes accordingly. However, now that I have added more information, the invitation is very busy and there is a lot of text on it.

To improve my invitation I could make some of the writing smaller so I can spread all of the text and pictures out. This will make it easier to read and also more attractive to people when they first look at it.

Make-a-catch;

The make-a-catch section was to make an on-screen PowerPoint publication to advertise the dance o'clock event, feature the 5 charities and persuade people to take part. I enjoyed designing the publication's appearance and adding images and effects. I did not enjoy adding the timings to the slides as I did not know how long it would take another person to read the information on the screen. A test buddy looked at my finished presentation and said she liked it and it was suitable for the target audience, successfully featured the charities, had sensible timings and successfully runs automatically. I think that I have made a good looking presentation that is suitable for the 3 target audiences. To improve my publication, I could add a range of pictures instead of having the same one on each slide. This would make it more attractive to younger students. Comments I received from a reviewer: my presentation was suitable for the target audiences, it features the charities, it runs automatically and it has sensible timings

Play-list;

The play list section was to make a personalised play list for me and for a test buddy to be played at the dance o'clock event. We had to make the play list as a query in Microsoft access, and then convert it into a word file. In word we selected some songs that in length added up to no more than 900 seconds. We deleted all of the other records. We changed the colour and layout to make it look attractive and added an image. I enjoyed making the play list because it was interesting and I liked continuing my project colour scheme. However it was very hard to edit the layout of the play list because there was a lot of text that needed to stay intact but when you tried to move one thing it moved everything else. I overcame this problem by putting the text in text boxes so they could be moved easily. A test buddy looked at my play list, and they said: You have made it suitable for the target audience. You have made sure that they both have the same layout. To improve my play list, I could make the layout more interesting. Also, the test buddy said: Make the writing bolder so it is clearer and easier to see. You could change the colour yellow because it is really bright and hard to see behind the white background.

Sponsor form;

We had to make a sponsor form for the dancers to fill in about the people who are sponsoring them to dance. I filled in the personal information on the form with my test buddy's information and chosen charity. I liked making this because it was easy to make. I continued my

colour scheme on the sponsor form, which is a black background with brightly coloured text and images. I made the sponsor form on Microsoft word. I included an example on the sponsor form so it is easy for people to understand how to fill it in. This makes it suitable for my target audience which is mainly students. My reviewer looked at my sponsor form and said that she liked my colour scheme as it is bright and attractive, but to improve I could change my background colour as it may not be very easy to read. If I was to make the sponsor form again, then I would work on the size of the boxes on my table as sometimes they cut off the bottom of the words and this may make it hard to read.

E-portfolio;

The target audience for my e-portfolio is the adults who will be marking it. I have tried to make my e-portfolio fit in with the colour scheme of my project, which I think is suitable for both young people and adults. As mainly adults will be looking at it, I feel that my e-portfolio does not need as many images as some of my other publications. Also, it does not need as many images as its main purpose is to explain and inform. I used a style sheet on my e-portfolio so that each page's colour scheme and link style corresponds with each other. As well as looking more professional, this made it easier for me as I did not need to keep on changing the colours of the text. But however the style sheet was quite complicated to make as it is a series of codes, which makes it easy to make mistakes. To improve my e-portfolio, I would take more time to check my grammar and maybe I would change my pictures as I feel they do not fit in very well.

Conclusion;

I feel that I have worked quite well during this project. I have kept to all the deadlines and targets, and I have never found myself behind on work. I have learnt a lot about programs that I have never used before during this project. I feel that I have benefited from learning these new skills, as I can use them in other subjects and out of school as well. If I was to do the project again, the only thing I would change would be my colour and font scheme. But this is only a minor change which doesn't affect the quality of the work that much, so overall there is not a lot I would change as I feel I have completed this project well and to the best of my ability.