

Evaluator Application for Vocational Interest

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Abstract

In the global market of today, there is an ever increasing need for young people to make a choice of what career path they may take. Some young people may find it difficult to know what they are interested in and feel lost, or never had thought about the alternatives as it was not known to them. This is a problem that needs a solution as there are ever increasing 18-25 NEETS (Not in education, employment, training or study) who require guidance at what type of jobs they can do by using interests which are tailored to every individual's need.

Currently, there are no commercial programs that are interactive or needs an internet connection. Therefore there is a gap in the market for an application that evaluates a person's vocational interests. This is done by using verified psychology questions to determine what jobs are suitable and is accessible with no internet connection.

The current project was derived from a previous student's work which was in an unfinished state. It had numerous problems which included non-functionality and an administration section which did not exist.

The project was handed over in this incomplete state to be developed further into a functional program which adhered to the specified criteria from the client. There was a choice to either start the project again or continue on with the incomplete project. In a real life programming situation, it is unlikely a team member would start something from the beginning with nothing if needing to continue from someone else. This was to save time as well as gain invaluable experience. Thus, it was decided upon that the program would be built based on what had already been achieved.

Initially, the project was analysed to understand the underlying code and what the problems were. There was an investigation to other viable technologies which could have been implemented. Similar products were also examined to gauge what may be novel in the area of vocational interest programs. The tasks were divided into smaller subtasks and implemented in an iterative cycle. Smaller tasks such as login were fixed foremost to get used to the environment and the program. It was then tested as the program was being completed.

Increased functionality was added to the VIE program. This was a great achievement being able to learn and extend from an initial source. Major successes include: Display of the bar chart, redo question function and creation of administration section.

Due to time constraints and the difficulty of the highly coupled initial design, the program was not finished as anticipated. There was no time for extra tasks such as; decentralisation of the database and connection to a job website, API. However, this can be investigated and implemented in the near future.

