



Award: *International Advanced Diploma in Computer Studies*

Module Title: *Advanced Web Design*

Assignment Title: *Grow Your Own Vegetables*

Examination Cycle: *June 2009*

Candidate Name:

NCC Education

Candidate No:

Submission Date:

Important Notes:

- ❖ Please refer to the Assignment Presentation Requirements for advice on how to set out your assignment. These can be found on the NCC Education *Campus*. Scroll down the left hand side of the screen until you reach Personal Support. Click on this, and then on Policies and Advice. You will find the Assignment Presentation Requirements under the Advice section.
- ❖ You must familiarise yourself with the NCC Education Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism Policy and ensure that you acknowledge all the sources which you use in your work. The policy is available on *Campus*. Follow the instructions above, but click on Policies rather than Advice.
- ❖ You must complete the '**Statement and Confirmation of Own Work**'. The form is available on the Policies section of *Campus*. Scroll down the left hand side until you reach Personal Support. Click on this and then click on Policies and Advice.
- ❖ Please make a note of the recommended word count. You could lose marks if you write 10% more or less than this.
- ❖ You must submit a paper copy and digital copy (on disk or similarly acceptable medium). Media containing viruses, or media which cannot be run directly, will result in a fail grade being awarded for this module.
- ❖ All electronic media will be checked for plagiarism.

Marker's comments:

Moderator's comments:

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**Final
Mark:**

Introduction

Despite the fact that home grown food offers many benefits, in many parts of the world there has been a steady decline in the number of people who grow their own fruit and vegetables. Not only does growing your own food save money, it is good for the environment and the physical act of gardening can provide an enjoyable form of exercise.

Scenario

A company that produces and sells seeds has approached you to develop a website that will encourage people in your area to grow their own vegetables. The website should be aimed specifically at users with little experience of gardening and there should be an emphasis on promoting gardening as an enjoyable and rewarding activity. The website will need to provide the following features:

- A home page from which it is possible to navigate to the other resources on the website. The home page will need to quickly communicate the purpose of the site, be visually engaging and provide clear navigation to the rest of the site.
- A page that explains the benefits to users of growing their own vegetables.
- A page that provides general guidance on vegetable gardening, such as choosing a plot and preparing the ground.
- A series of pages that shows the different vegetables that can be grown in your region of the world. Each page should feature a good quality photograph and guidance on how to successfully grow the vegetable. This section of the website should feature a minimum of six pages. Vegetables often fall into different categories – think carefully about the structure and navigation within this part of the website.
- A page that provides links to other websites of interest and sources of further information.
- A forum where questions about growing vegetables can be posted by users and answered by fellow users and experts.

Task 1 – Research – 10 Marks

There are many different websites with information about gardening and growing your own food. You should do some research using these websites. When conducting your research bear in mind the purpose and aim of the website, to introduce gardening as a rewarding and enjoyable hobby. You should make notes and record the addresses of useful websites that you find. Discuss these notes and ideas for your website with your tutor before proceeding.

Task 2 – Design Specification – 15 Marks

Using appropriate techniques you should specify the structure and navigation of the proposed site. The site will need to feature a menu-based navigation system. The design specification should be neat, use appropriate techniques and be easy to understand. Imagine the specification is being used to explain your website to someone with no prior knowledge. There should be enough detail presented in such a way that the viewer can quickly understand what will be developed.

Task 3 – HTML – 30 Marks

The website must be developed using XHTML 1.0 Strict and feature a minimum of ten interlinked pages. The website must feature the content described in the scenario on the previous page (excluding the forum section) and it must meet the following criteria:

- Be consistent with the design specification produced for task 2
- Work fully in both Internet Explorer and Mozilla Firefox. You should consult your tutor for guidance on the specific versions of these browsers you should use.
- Be viewable on monitors with screen resolutions of 800x600 without users having to scroll horizontally.
- Integrate and use a range of media appropriately.
- Demonstrate good application of web design principles and be easy to navigate and use.

Task 4 – CSS – 20 Marks

Create a single external CSS file that specifies the design for the website. Each of the HTML pages must link to this CSS file. There should be no use of the style attribute or the <style> element in the website, but there must be appropriate coverage of styles.

Task 5 – Test the Website and Write a Test Report – 15 Marks

You must use the W3C validation service (<http://validator.w3.org/>) to check your HTML and CSS code. You should endeavour to remove as many non-compliant features as possible. Save the output from this tool.

Test the website using both Internet Explorer and Firefox. Record in your notes any significant differences between the rendering and actions of the browsers and attempt to diagnose the cause. You do NOT need to modify your code to correct any differences between browsers.

Write a short report including the outputs from the validation service and for each validation error/comment that you did not remove or resolve, provide an explanation of the problem and what would be required to fix it.

The written part of your report must not exceed **1000 words**. Do not spend an excessive amount of time on this task.

Task 6 – Forum Section Report – 10 Marks

Write a short report (1000 words) describing how you would implement the forum section and giving details of the problems you would need to overcome and your proposed solutions. Describe how you would make this section of the website easy to maintain. You should not write any code for this task.

Guidance

Consult with your tutor/lecturer if you are uncertain about any aspects of the assignment.

You do not need to write any computer programs for this assignment. Only XHTML and CSS are required.

The graphics and resources are all easily available through the Internet, or can be created using standard tools.

The purpose of this assignment is to provide an opportunity for you to show abilities in web design. Although you should be wary of needlessly adding features, websites that demonstrate a range of XHTML and CSS used appropriately have potential to gain higher marks. For example, a website that uses a wide range of CSS properties and selectors to control the layout and appearance of pages would generally score a higher mark than a website that simply uses CSS to change the colour and font of text.

Submission Requirements

1. A word-processed, printed document containing all the written components of the assignment (Tasks 1, 2, 5 and 6) signed and dated by your tutor/lecturer.
2. A copy of all the word-processed material (Tasks 1, 2, 5 and 6) together with the web pages (Tasks 3 and 4) on appropriate media (floppy disk, CD-ROM etc.). Ensure that the web pages can be viewed directly from the submitted media. Do not submit any server-side code; it is not required for this assignment.

Warning: All media must be virus free!

Media containing viruses, or media which cannot be run directly, will result in a FAIL grade being awarded for this module.

You must read and understand NCC Education's policy on 'Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism'.

You must complete the 'Statement and Confirmation of Own Work' form and attach the completed form to your assignment.