Universiti Teknologi MARA

PRELOVED BOOKS MOBILE APPLICATION FOR UITM STUDENTS

Nurul Aqilah Binti Sukimin

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ABSTRACT

Given the circumstances in which we now support green civilization, conserving energy as much as possible is a priority. We, as students of the new world, should embrace the enormous convenience that smart technology provides. We can put it to use in dealing with practical issues in students continuing their studies, one of the inconvenient things they have to deal with is trying to obtain affordable and preloved books and other class materials for their courses. That is why this project designs and implements a Preloved Books Mobile Application for the UiTM students, providing a platform for students to easily buy and sell preloved books. Because there is no specialized platform for students to find preloved books and other study materials other than by trawling through social media platforms such as, WhatsApp and Telegram. There is a huge potential demand for the pre-loved book in UiTM so this project shows the creation of an online purchasing system with UiTM Shah Alam students as target users. The system of the mobile app is developed using Android Studio IDE and connected to MySQL to handle the database. In terms of functioning, the results reveal that every button and function functioned perfectly and exactly as they should. Students can utilize the system built currently to sell and buy not just preloved books, but also other study materials that may assist them in their studies. The addition of various items, collaboration with non-student sellers, the addition of a review and rating function, and the availability of online payment are all improvements that can be made in the future. This project was created as a mobile application that can be accessed from any location and at any time using a smartphone. Thus, it is believed that this mobile application are able to meet its key objectives, which include easing students of the low income by not purchasing expensive new books by allowing them to buy preloved books at a low cost while also supporting local sellers.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The project background as well as the problem statement for the development of Preloved Books for Mobile Application are covered in detail in this chapter. Aside from that, this chapter covers the project's objectives, scope, limitations, and significance, as well as the possibility of developing a mobile application.

1.1 Project Background

Pre-loved is something that is not new, but having been used before, used especially when selling something to avoid using the word "second-hand" (Cambridge Dictionary, n.d). It includes many things such as books, toys, clothes, components and etc. (Oxford Dictionary, n.d). A book is a series of pieces of paper binding together, whether printed, written on, or null, a poetic arrangement, a length distribution, and any other type of guidance (Chambers 20th Century Dictionary, n.d). A book would be a non-periodically published manuscript with at least 49 pages, printed throughout the nation then released publicly, with the exception of the book cover. (UNESCO, 2020). The used book or preowned book would be a book that also has previously been purchased, typically by a person or library, by an owner other than the publisher or distributor. In preloved book selling and buying, better condition corresponds to greater demand corresponds to probably being able to sell at a higher price and faster, relative to a copy in worse condition (Leekley, 2020).

An and Seo (2015) said, customers used a second-hand book market in the past as a major counter for buying used books. Many consumers would like to purchase their used books in an online second-hand book store with the growth of the internet and IT smartphones, which has more competition and ease of price. Colin (2020) said, at a reasonable price, she managed to purchase a limited edition fantasy storybook. In most bookstores, the book costs closer to RM50. So now, she just spent RM12 for a book. The size of the second-hand book market does not have any official figures. However a study by Statista reported that more than half of them tend to purchase more books second-hand in both the UK and the US than they purchase new books. (Hooker, 2018).