CMSI 270-01
MODERN WEB APPS
Fall 2011

Agenda 1103

As discussed, we'll do a little more immersion today. As with the prior exercise, these tasks are a mix of things you've already seen, with a smattering of potentially new things to discover. Work on the first one first, and only try the second one if you've done the first one to your satisfaction.

Limited-Character Text Entry

- Create a web page that accepts a social-network-like "status update" from the user. Limit the length of this update to 140 characters (sound familiar?).
- Provide a running character count that updates while the user types. (*Hint*: Appending `.length` to a string expression returns the number of characters in that value.)
- Provide a "Post" button that pretend-posts the user's status update. This button should *not* be enabled if the status update field is blank or exceeds the character limit.
- When the user clicks "Post," call the `fortune` service shown previously in class and display the returned "fortune" to the user.

Here's another one to do if you finish the prior page quickly.

Cumulative Comment Thread

- Create a web page that accumulates a "comment thread." Start the web page by calling the `fortune` service then displaying that "fortune," ready for "comments" by others.
- Supply a `textarea` beneath the fortune display along with a "Comment" button. Don't enabled the button unless there is actually a comment in the `textarea`.
- Allow the user to type a "comment" in. (*Challenge:* There is some ready-made code on the Web that allows you to start the `textarea` relatively small, then have it grow as the user types. See if you can find this code and integrate it into your page successfully.)
- When the user submits the comment via the "Comment" button, change the comment into a read-only text block (try to do some visual effects for a little flair), and move the comment entry area below it, blanked out and ready for more user comments. (*Hint:* jQuery provides some convenient ways to add new elements to the web page. Look into the `append` and `prepend` functions, for starters. There are others.)