
INFS3202/INFS7202 Web Information Systems

Practical 6 – Database

The goal of this practical is to explore php and database. This assignment counts for 5% of the total unit assessment. You must present this practical to your lab tutor during your scheduled lab session. There is only 1 task.

In case of holiday for a practical session, the deadline will be postponed to its immediate next week for that practical session

A step-by-step guide is provided for you to do this prac. Discussion with your classmates and seeking help from your lab tutor are permitted; however, it is not allowed to copy other people's code, except those used in the lectures.

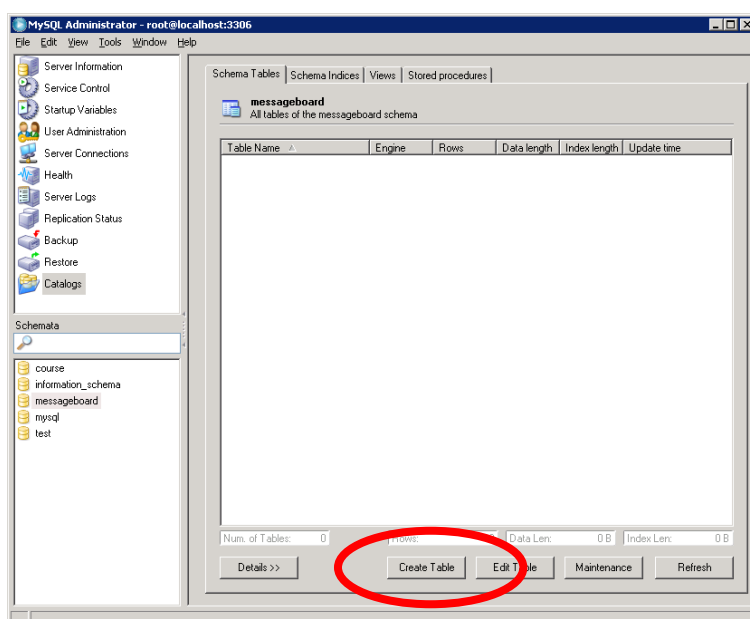
Marking guideline: there is only one task. The making guideline will be discussed in the task.

Task 1 – Message Board

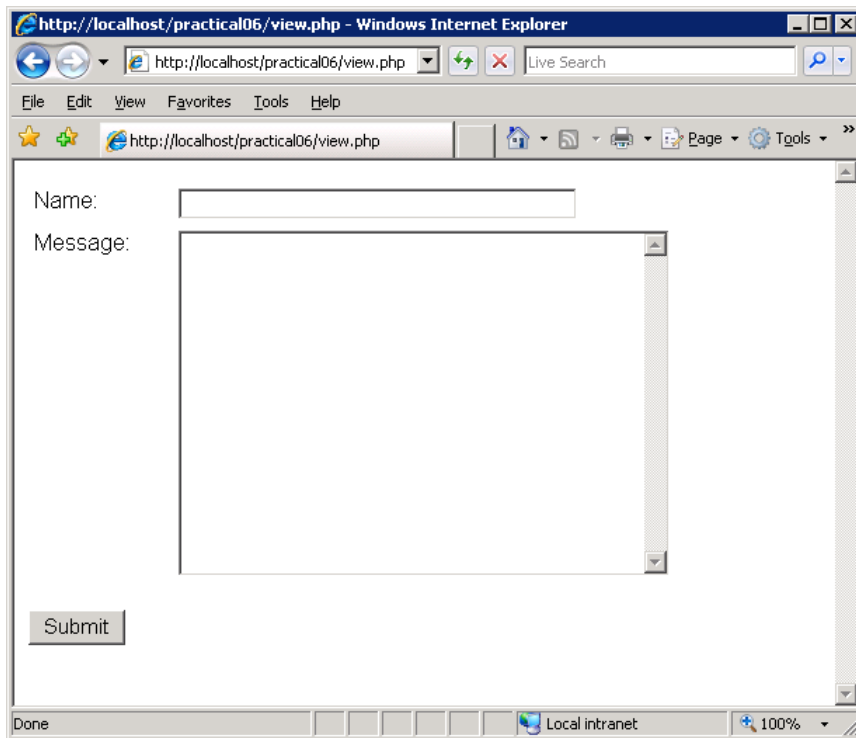
In this task, you are going to make a simple message board using PHP and MySQL.

1. Create a database (schema) called **messageBoard (0.5%)**
 - a. Follow lecture notes P.15 – P.18.
2. Create a table called **messages** with the following information (**0.5%**):

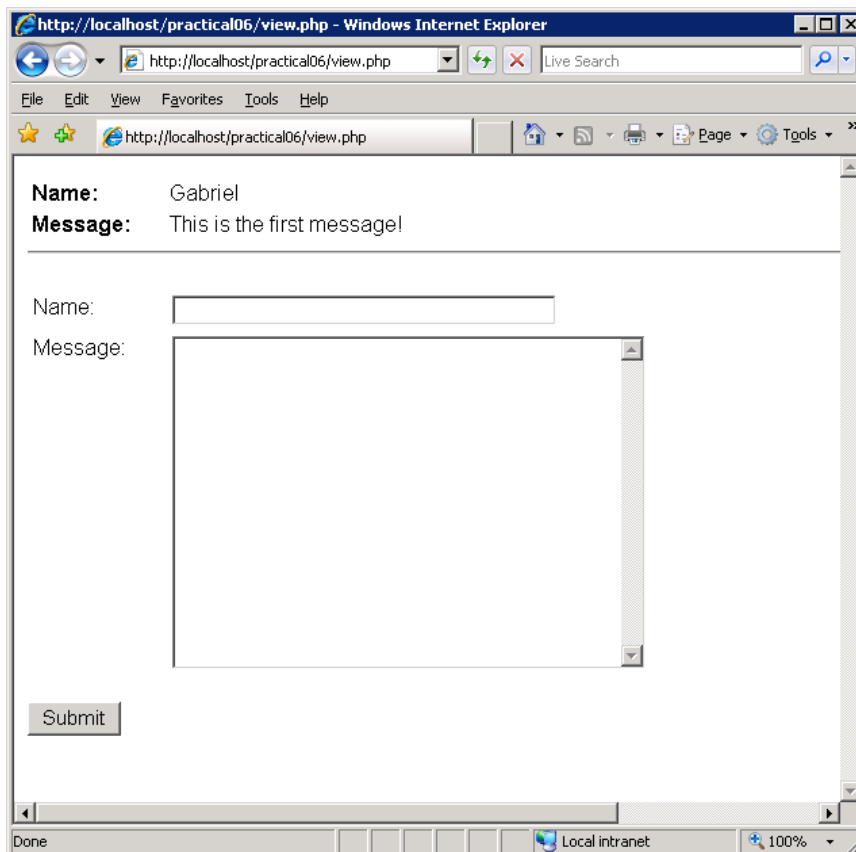
id int primary key auto increment	name varchar(50) not null	message varchar(200) not null
...



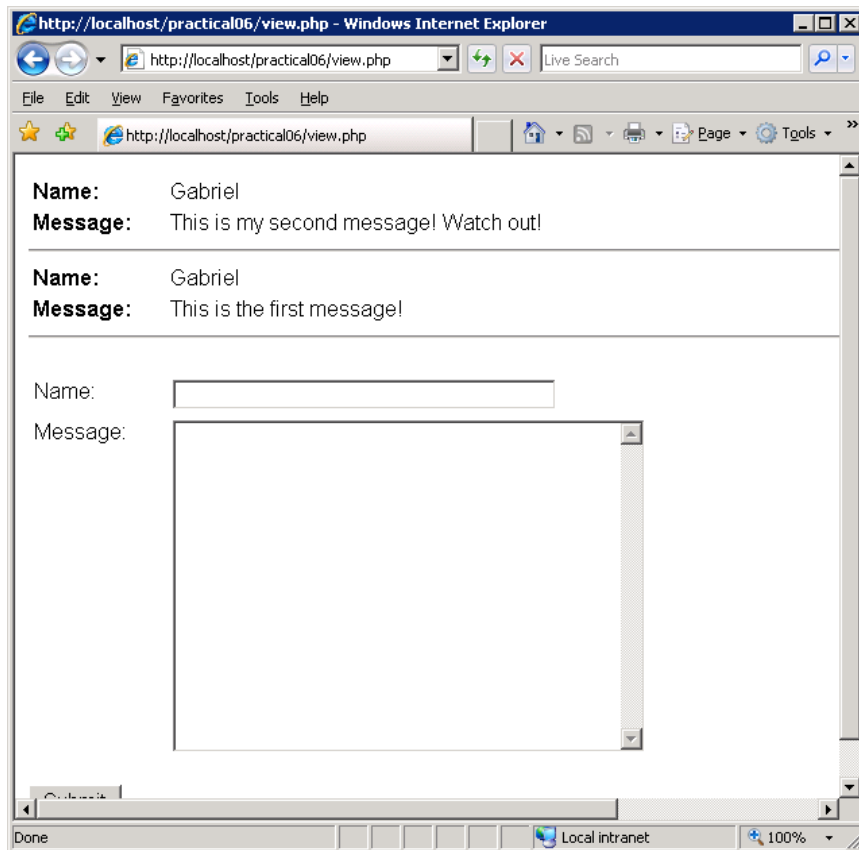
3. Create a page called “**view.php**”. Initially, this page contains nothing but only a form (**0.5%**):



4. After the user input the information and pressed the button “Submit” the following page will be appeared:

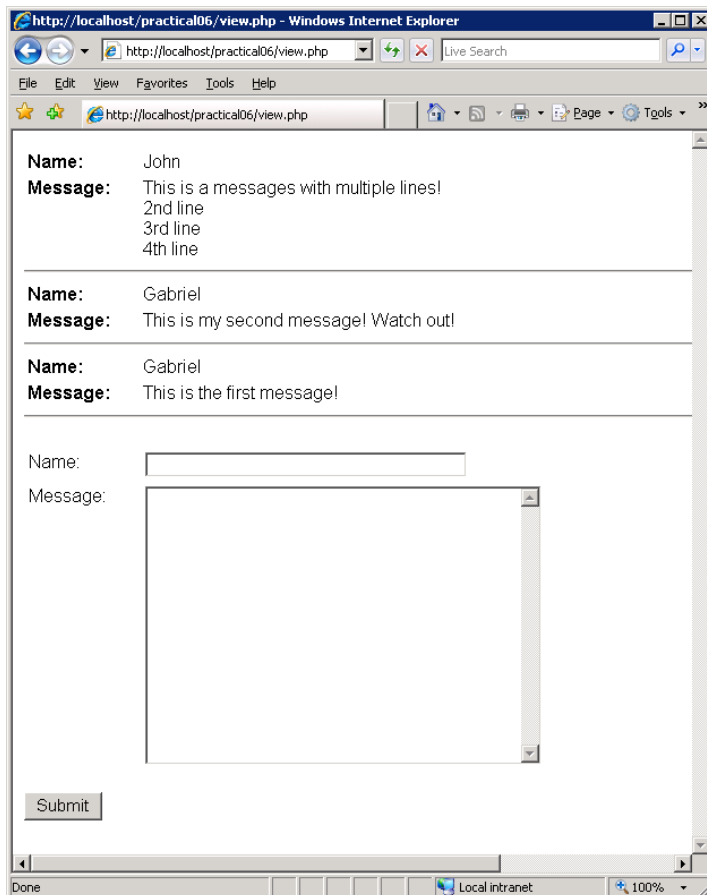
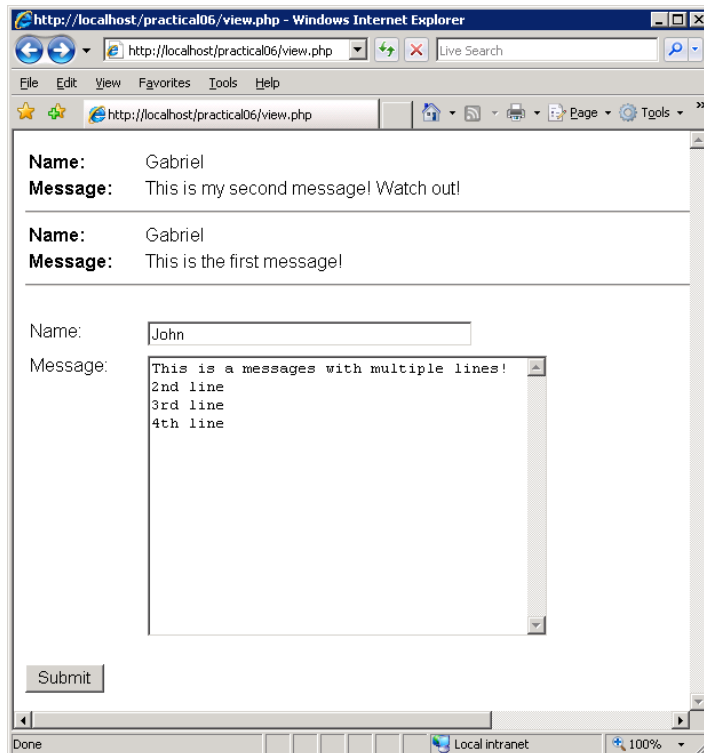


5. Certainly, the user can input another message immediately:



Note that the messages are ordered by the time when the users leave the messages. The latest messages will be ordered first.

6. If the user input multiple lines, the following should be appeared:



Marking guideline:

- a. The user input information is stored into the database successfully. **(1%)**
- b. Messages can be displayed. **(1%)**
- c. The message order is correct. **(1%)**
- d. The URL is still “view.php” but not other URL. **(0.5%)**
- e. The programs are readable while the total number of lines of all programs is less than 100. **(0.5%)**
- f. No error checking is necessary. You can always assume all information is fill-in correctly. The user will NOT input special character, single quotation mark or double quotation mark.

Hint:

- a. You can create a page called “insert.php” and the action of the form in “view.php” is set to “insert.php”. When the user press the button “submit”, the information of the form will be sent to “insert.php”, and then it will be inserted into the database immediately.
- b. After the information is inserted into the database, you can then redirect the URL back to “view.php”
- c. In “view.php”, you can first check whether there is any record in the database. If there are some records, then you display the messages in a table like format ordered by id.
- d. The SQL command for ordering something in descending order is: “select aaa, bbb, ccc from ddd **order by** ccc **desc**”.
- e. Read Example 1 of <http://au2.php.net/manual/en/function.str-replace.php> carefully. Towards the end of this example, it tells you how to replace the newline characters with
 so that you can do (6) successfully.
- f. Note that the column ID is “auto increment” so that you may not need to manual insert any record. For more details about it, please refer to your database course that you have taken before or consult your tutors.
- g. Remember to use \$_REQUEST[‘XXXX’] to get the information from the form. Please refer to lecture note 5 for details.