

STUDY BREAK TIME!

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5139694 Exploring Interactions, Cycles 1-3 Final Presentation January 24th, 2020

**T**UDelft

# Study Break Time – Design Process EI 2019-2020

#### Define the situation



#### Define the context and target user group



#### Final Design Goal and Interaction Vision

Ifland high school take better healthin I're on a road trip where you suddenly h o fill up your almost emoty car gas tan

10 an 10

Cycle 1: Research through online questionnaire and generative session



Cycle 2: Analyze Generative Session

Build rough prototypes and test --Evaluate the Ideas





Cycle 3: Create two final concepts and evaluate them



#### Analyze and take Feedback into consideration

**Conduct Participatory Design Session** 





**Present Final Design!** 

# 5 MAIN RESEARCH GOALS AND QUESTIONS FOR EI

**).) Observe current interactions** between students and their study breaks

- a.) How can we make a private activity (like a study break) become more public?
- b.) How can we encourage students to get "out of their bubble"?

#### 2.) Conduct proper user research

- a.) Questionnaires, generative sessions, etc.
- b.) From here, what is my final "design goal"? "Interaction Vision"?
- c.) Let the users design a bit! Host a participatory design session
- **3.)** Analyze results from user research
- **Y.)** Create and iterate upon **low-fidelity prototypes** 
  - a.) Test and then iterate again!
- **5.)** Build and evaluate my prototype/**final design**!
  - a.) Are there any future recommendations my users will come up with?

Two main problematic behaviors students exhibit when in a study session:

 They study for too many hours and take NO study break. Studies have shown that brain breaks can help them improve both attention and focus.

If they do take a study break, it is usually spent on their phone, computer, watching TV, playing video games, etc. This leads to a study break that ends up lasting one hour... or even more.



Started working with uni students.... but......

??

Why not work with **younger students**? Like... **high schoolers**? The younger we start having them **form better study** habits, the better, right?

Before entering college, they should have a good sense of being able to **manage their time wisely** and have basic **organizational skills** -- maybe I could make a product that could help guide them so that they can reach their goals!



# DESIGN GOAL

I want to help teenage (14-18 year old) high school students that work at their home to take better, healthier, and more meaningful study breaks.

# INTERACTION VISION

# Interacting with my design should feel like you're on a road trip where you suddenly have to **fill up** your almost empty car gas tank.



## FIRST ROUND OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS

61.

How can a student take **periodic** study breaks and essentially make it a part of their study routine? 62.

What are the most effective **activities** that will leave the student **energized** after they take part in it? 63.

What are the **effects** of using a **phone** and/or a **computer** during a study break?



How do study breaks boost a student's productivity level?



#### TARGET USER GROUP: HIGH SCHOOLERS



- Visited and looked around the high school (3 floors) and came across 4 students
- Informal interview
  - "Everyone goes to study at home."
- Left a **flyer** with a QR code so that high schoolers could fill in the online questionnaire

What activities do you usually do when you take study breaks? 39 responses

 Browse instagram

 go in insta or snap

 TV

 Eat, watch Netflix.

 I'm going to eat when I have a study break

 Catch up on some reading material, watch some YouTube videos, or take naps

 Eating, sleeping, playing video games, etc.

 With dogs or using phone

 Homework

 Watch a quick video, music, or play a game

72%.

of high school students had **"social** media/TV/Internet" in their answer

\*glad I'll be working with this user group now!

# GENERATIVE SESSION

#### WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS





- **).** "Intro activity": to feel comfortable in the co-creating environment
- **2. Mindmaps**: map out their studying/study breaks and activities that energized them.
- **3. Collages**: a free form collage using "emotional toolkits"
- Y. Storyline: a study session timeline exercise
- **5. Group activity**: represents their current (inner circle) and ideal study breaks (outer circle).





# ANALYSIS FROM GENERATIVE SESSION

#### **Empathy Map**

#### **Affinity Diagram**

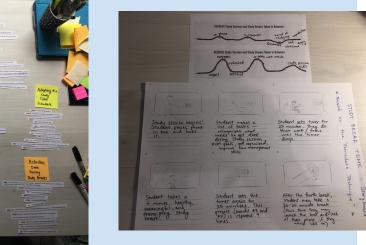
#### Storyboarding



very happy"

8.) Bored and stressed: "At the end I'm

getting bored and I'm getting stressed so I think to myself, 'When is it done?!'"



was over an hour!" 8.) [When I asked if he goes back to studying after playing video games]: "No! Haha"

# SECOND ROUND OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS

61.

What are the most effective **activities** that will leave the student feeling **energized**?



What sort of interactive elements can I make use of in the low-fidelity prototypes?

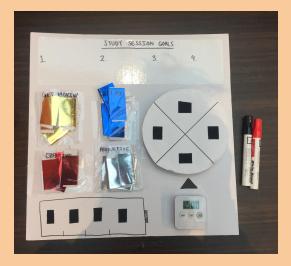


How can students learn to better apply self-control/selfdiscipline?



How can I promote the **"Pomodoro Technique"** through my low-fidelity prototype?"

## SOME FINAL LOW-FIDELITY PROTOTYPE CONCEPTS







PROTOTYPE 3

PROTOTYPE 4

PROTOTYPE 5



# THIRD ROUND OF RESEARCH QUESTIONS

# 61.

What is more popular amongst high school students? A customizable or random element to the prototype?



How can I **foster the interactions** with my board and connect them to my **IV**?



How will **working** with/testing with a new high schooler affect the overall usefulness of the board?



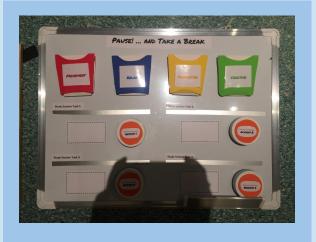
Will **one week of user testing** be enough to form some sort of study break habit?

# BUILDING TWO FINAL CONCEPTS

With these two concept ideas, I hope to test this extra research question I have:



CONCEPT 1: "BLACKBOARD"



CONCEPT Z: "WHITEBOARD"

Do students like to have a "random" (see concept 1's spinning wheel) or "customizable" (see concept 2's magnetic dotted box) element to the design of the board?

#### UNMODERATED USABILITY TESTING

- 5 users = 4 original high schoolers + 1 new high schooler
- The schedule was as follows:
  - Week 1 = Dec. 13th Dec. 21st (Julia BB, Björn WB)
  - Week 2 = Dec. 21st Dec. 28th (Julia WB, Björn BB)
  - Week 3 = Dec. 28th Jan. 4th (Julia WB again, Björn BB again)
    - I was sick during that week so I had them continue to use their week 2 boards
  - Week 4 = Jan. 5th Jan 11th (Tishayra BB, Baris WB)
  - Week 5 = Jan. 12th Jan 18th (Final Concept with Kaitlyn, BB)



#### SELF-EVALUATION JOURNALS



Since this would be an unmoderated usability test, I decided to give them **journals to self-evaluate themselves** and how/when they used the board throughout the week.

Basically, if the student had the board for 7 days, the above pictures show what kinds of questions the user would go through and answer if they used the board for 1 out of the 7 days.

## POST-STUDY ANALYSIS

Once each high schooler was done testing their board for the week, I used **4 main methods** to collect qualitative and quantitative data ... and later analyze and evaluate those usability tests:

- **).)** Conducted a **short interview**
- 2.) Went through their journals
- **3.)** Handed out a User Experience Questionnaire
- **4.)** Lastly, gave an **IV Quality Assessment**



# INTERVIEW INSIGHTS

#### Interviews regarding blackboard concept:

- <u>Björn</u>
  - Used during holiday break a little
  - Showed the biggest change in terms of what he spends time doing during his breaks
    - Successful "nudging"!
- <u>Tishayra</u>
  - "It helped. I was more excited in the beginning, but in general, it's amazing to have."
- <u>Julia</u>
  - "Movement" was her favorite category.





#### Interviews regarding whiteboard concept:

- <u>Baris</u>
  - Likes that he has a "plan" and "can see what he has to get done"
- <u>Julia</u>
  - Found that the colors of the pockets were "too bright"
  - She also bluntly said, "I didn't like this board"
- <u>Björn</u>
  - When asked what he would like to see added or adjusted to the board, he replied with "the spinning wheel!"

When prompted with the question, "Which board, out of the two, did you like the most?" the answer was the same amongst everyone:

# "THE BLACKBOARD!"

## SELF-EVALUATION JOURNAL ANALYSIS

Why students did not use the board everyday were due to four possible reasons.

- **).)** They **did not have any homework** to do or finish
- 2.) They were **sick or busy** with other life happenings
- **3.)** They had **hobbies** they took part in during the rest of the day
- **4.)** ... or some other reason(s)? Maybe they just forgot to document it in the journals?

Perhaps the reason that was said amongst **all** of the high schooler, including the new one, was that **they just did not have any homework to do**.

		SELF-EVALUATION JOURNAL ANALYSIS						
USER:	Julia	Björn	Tishayra	Kaitlyn	Julia	Björn	Baris	
BOARD USED:	"Blackboard"			"Whiteboard"				
Days Used:	4/8	? Don't know specific days because he didn't write in journal (so refer to interview)	2/7 (had board during Christmas break)	3/7	2/15	2/8	3/15 (had board during Christmas break + extra time)	
To-do List/Tasks:	English, math, reports, HW for economy, HW for cooking class	"Used the board only for activities"	English, studying for Dutch	English, health care, math, beauty, biology	Economy, math, cooking,	Dutch, history, geography, English, math	Math	
STUDY BREAK ACTIVITIES ENGAGED IN:	Talk to someone, listen to music, drink and eat something, just sit and close eyes, go walk outside, doodle, write something, take deep breaths	Category: Relax, listen to soothing music	Doodle, drink and eat something	Categories: (2) Relax, (1) creative, (1) productive (2) Movement, (1) productive, (1) creative (2) Creative, (1) relax, (1) movement	Talk to someone, listen to music, just sit and close eyes, write something,	Do some physical exercises, listen to music maybe even dance, listen to soothing music	listen to music, just sit and close eyes, take a walk outside	
HOW LONG THE ACTIVITY LASTED:	10 min, 5 min, 10 min, 15 min	5 min	5 min, 13 min	20 min, 10 min, 20 min	20 min, 15 min	5 min, 5 min	15 min, 10 min, 5 min	
Accomplished Tasks?:	Some, Some, Some, Some	-	Yes, Some,	Yes, Yes, Yes	Yes, No	Yes, Yes	Some, Some, Some	
WENT BACK TO STUDYING AFTER BREAK?:	Yes, Yes, Yes, Yes	-	No, No	Yes, Sometimes, Yes	Sometimes, Yes	Yes, Yes	Yes, Yes, Sometimes	
USED PHONE DURING STUDY SESSION TIME OR STUDY BREAK?	Yes (for music), Yes (texting, but not for long), Yes, Yes	Kind of - but did not look at memes that much	No, No	No, No, A little	Yes, Yes	A little, A little	Yes, A little, No	
USED COMPUTER/PLAYED VIDEO GAMES/TV DURING STUDY SESSION TIME OR STUDY BREAK?	Yes (for the reports), Yes (for the reports), No, No	-	No, Yes	No, No, No	No, Yes	No, No	Yes, A little, A little	

## INSIGHTS ON POPULAR ACTIVITIES

- "Movement" = most popular category amongst all the high schoolers
- "listening to music", "taking a walk outside" and "just sitting and closing their eyes" = the activity that helped them the most in terms of coming back to the study session feeling energized

They mentioned they really enjoyed the different categories, but would like to see even more activities offered!

#### Popular activities that were picked and their categories:

Movement: Talk to someone X Movement: Listen to music XXX Movement: Go walk outside XX Movement: Physical exercise X Productive: Drink and eat XX Relax: Sit and close eyes XX Relax: Take deep breaths X Relax: Listen to soothing music X Creative: Doodle XX Creative: Write something X

How many times a popular activity was picked and which category it was in:

Productive XXX (3) Creative XXXX (4) Relax XXXXXX (6) Movement XXXXXXXX (8)

# USER EXPERIENCE QUESTIONNAIRE

The scales of the questionnaire cover a comprehensive impression of the user's experience with each board. Both classical usability aspects (efficiency, perspicuity, dependability) and user experience aspects (originality, stimulation) are measured.

#### UX with blackboard:

- <u>Positives</u>: Good, organized, easy, friendly, creative, understandable, supportive
- <u>Improvements</u>: Security, make it less "usual", and make it more "innovative"

#### UX with whiteboard:

- <u>Positives</u>: Predictable, organized, understandable, easy, efficient, clear, practical
- <u>Improvements</u>: make it less "usual", make it more "attractive", "creative", and "exciting"

The **blackboard** seemed to provide a better overall user experience when compared to the whiteboard (see table on next slide).



"User Experience Questionnaire." *User Experience Questionnaire (UEQ)*, www.ueq-online.org/.

Please assess the product now by ticking one circle per line.

#### 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 annoying 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 enjoyable not understandable 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 understandable creative 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 dull easy to learn 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 difficult to learn Δ valuable 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 inferior boring 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 exciting not interesting 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 interesting unpredictable 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 predictable a fast 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 slow inventive 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 conventional obstructive 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 supportive good 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 bad complicated 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 easy unlikable 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 pleasing usual 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 leading edge unpleasant 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 pleasant secure 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 not secure motivating 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 demotivating meets expectations 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 does not meet expectations <sup>19</sup> inefficient 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 efficient clear 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 confusing impractical 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 practical organized O O O O O O O O cluttered attractive 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 unattractive friendly 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 unfriendly conservative 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 innovative

#### BLACKBOARD - USER EXPERIENCE ANALYSIS

#### User Σ Iulia Biörn Tishavra Kaitlyn Enjoyable Understandable Creative Easy to Learn Valuable -1 Exciting Interesting Predictable Inventive Supportive Good Easy Pleasing Leading Edge -3 Pleasant Secure -3 Motivatina Meets expectations Efficient -2 Clear Practical Organized Attractive Friendly -3 Innovative -2 -2 -5

#### WHITEBOARD - USER EXPERIENCE ANALYSIS

	User			Σ
	Julia	Björn	Baris	ALL
Enjoyable	-1	2	2	3
Understandable	2	3	1	6
Creative	-2	2	1	1
Easy to Learn	1	2	1	4
Valuable	0	0	0	0
Exciting	-1	2	0	1
Interesting	-2	3	1	2
Predictable	3	2	2	7
Inventive	-1	2	1	2
Supportive	0	3	-1	2
Good	-1	2	1	2
Easy	2	2	2	6
Pleasing	-2	3	2	3
Leading Edge	-1	2	-2	-1
Pleasant	0	2	2	4
Secure	0	2	2	4
Motivating	0.5	2	0	2.5
Meets expectations	3	2	1	6
Efficient	2	3	1	6
Clear	2	3	1	6
Practical	1	3	2	6
Organized	2	3	2	7
Attractive	-2	1	0	-1
Friendly	0	2	1	3
Innovative	0	2	0	2

# IV QUALITY ASSESSMENT

- Have students pick, out of 20 possible qualities, which 4 best represented the feelings the students got when using my product
- Then evaluation of the actual IV qualities I was hoping to achieve with my design

All in all, many picked "comfortable", "easy", and "self-control" as qualities ... but also picked at least one of my actual qualities. The only one that was not easily recognizable was "urgency". Mostly, students felt "satisfied" with the blackboard

Entertaining	
Encouraging	
Periodic	
Informal	
Modern	Evaluating Actual IV Qualities
Satisfied	
Comfortable	
Durable	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Competitive	Did not feel an urgency to use use the board Did feel an urgency to use
Gentle	
Refreshed	
Commitment	•
Self-control	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Gratitude	Felt energetic when doing an activity (assuming you took Did not feel energetic when doing an activity
Urgency	activity (assuming you took doing an activity part in that activity)
Curious	
Easy	
Trustworthy	
Energetic	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
Adventurous	Felt refreshed after doing the OOOOO Did not feel refreshed after activity Did not feel refreshed after doing the activity
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	Did not feel satisfied once break finished and had to press the light

Which 4 qualities best represent the product? ... aka what (4) feelings did you

mostly get when using my product? \*

• BB = Blackboard

• WB = Whiteboard

		ACTUAL IV QUALITIES EVAL				VATED	
			User			Σ	
		Julia (BB)	Björn (BB)	Tishayra (BB)	Kaitlyn (BB)	ALL	
IV QUALITIES EXPERIENCED	Felt an <b>urgency</b> to use the board	3	0	0	2	5	
	Felt <b>energetic</b> when doing an activity	3	-2	3	2	6	
	Felt <b>refreshed</b> after doing an activity	3	-2	2	3	6	
	Felt <b>satisfied</b> once break finished and had to press the light	2	2	3	2	9	

		ACTUAL IV QUALITIES EVALUATED
		User
		Baris (WB)
IV Qualities Experienced	Felt an <b>urgency</b> to use the board	-1
	Felt <b>energetic</b> when doing an activity	2
	Felt <b>refreshed</b> after doing an activity	1
	Felt <b>satisfied</b> once break finished and had to press the light	-1

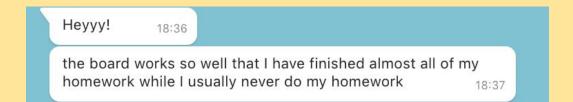
- Words in red are my actual IV qualities
- Words in green are IV qualities that were popular amongst students

USER	IV QUALITIES PICKED (OUT OF 20 THAT WERE GIVEN)
Julia (BB) Modern, Refreshed, Self-control, Easy	
Björn (BB)	Entertaining, Self-control, Easy, Energetic
Tishayra (BB)	Encouraging, Comfortable, Refreshed, Energetic
Baris (WB)	Periodic, Comfortable, Easy, Energetic
Kaitlyn (BB)	Satisfied, Comfortable, Competitive, Easy

- Self-control: 2
- Comfortable: 3
- Easy: 4

In addition, summarizing all the results (given by the three high schoolers that tested a particular board) from the four analysis methods, I was able to come to the conclusion that one board was clearly more popular than the other:

The unanimous decision by the high schoolers was that the blackboard concept should be the final design! The interviews, journals, UX questionnaire, and IV assessment also support that decision. With that said, I finished off my 5-week long unmoderated usability tests by giving a new high schooler the blackboard design to test out for one week.



A reassuring text from Julia that I got mid-usability testing week!

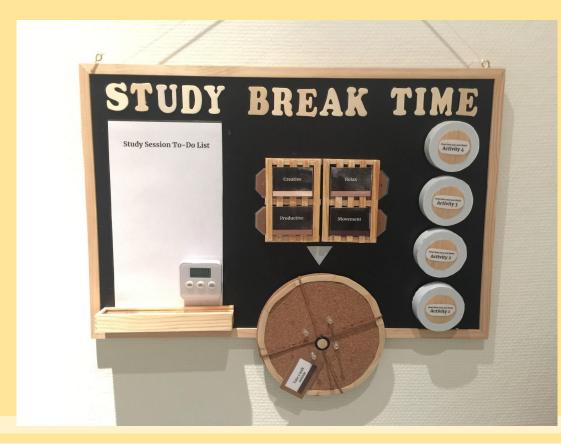
# TESTING THE FINAL PROTOTYPE WITH A NEW HIGH SCHOOLER - RESULTS

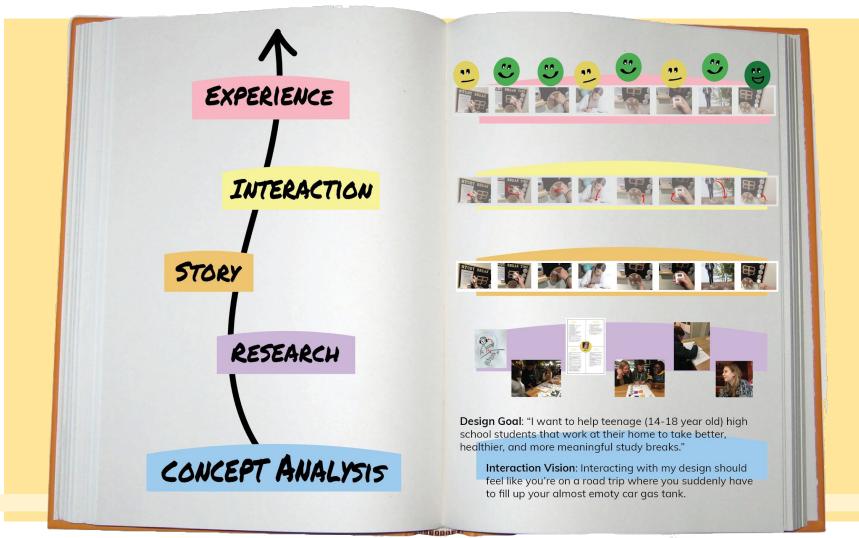
Allow me to introduce, Kaitlyn --

- the new high schooler I worked with for one week
- 16 year old
- last year of high school
- avid horse-back rider
- seemed as though the board helped her stay "organized" and on top of her studies! Here are some quotes from her interview:
  - "The first day was very new... but then I got more used to it so it became easier to use."
  - "I liked the drawing activity!"
  - On a scale of 1-10, 10 representing the overall usefulness of the product, how useful was the board?: "10"
  - What frustrated her: "When the timer went off... and then I think, 'Oh, do I really have to stop?"
  - Her favorite part: the whiteboard and how she gets to list her study session goals/tasks



#### THE ABSOLUTE FINAL DESIGN AND CONCEPT ANALYSIS





# FURTHER RESEARCH AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Other user groups I could potentially work with:

- elementary/middle school students preferably
  - Björn's 12 year old brother wanted to use the whiteboard because he had an exam week.
  - Insight: maybe I focus in on students even younger than high schoolers... reason for that is, the sooner students build healthy/better study habits, the better!
- <u>university students</u>
- working professionals
  - For them, the product would then not be called "Study Break Time"... but rather just "Break Time", for instance.

#### **Recommendations for the final board:**

- Have more activities and categories to pick from
- Make lights even more dynamic -- instead of having them vertically adjusted
- Possibly lose the timer? Every student works on their own time and, in a way, find the timer to "stress them out".

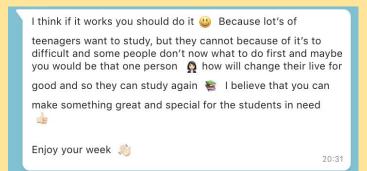


# FINALLY ...

I think what I learned the most throughout this project was that a **design will never be perfect**. It can always and constantly improve. Ahh yes; the beauty of design thinking and the **iterative process**. Something I truly believe in as a designer.

I'd like to share this text I got from one of the high schoolers. He asked me if I would make extra boards for everyone once the project was finished. This made me realize that I truly am "**designing for our future**" and that this is the reason I'm doing what I'm doing/for where I'm at in life/etc.. Such a **rewarding feeling** for me!

Lastly, a big thank you to **coaches, colleagues, and high schoolers** for making this El project such an amazing learning experience for me. Your help was greatly appreciated!



You can check out http://bit.ly/EI-SBT to hear some testimonials!



