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Activity #1

Quinton's Instruction:

- 1. Exit out of the classroom door
- 2. Turn right
- 3. Walk until you reach a wall
- 4. Turn left
- 5. Walk forward 10 steps
- 6. Walk down the staircase on your right
- 7. Once you reach the first floor, take a right
- 8. Walk forward until you exit through the front entrance of Zachary Engineering Complex
- 9. Continue walking forward, following the path, until you reach Ross St
- 10. Turn right once you reach Ross St
- 11. Walk forward until the front entrance of the Sbisa Dining Hall is on your right
- 12. Turn left and cross the street
- 13. Walk forward until you reach the path between the YMCA and the Coke building
- 14. Turn right
- 15. Walk forward
- 16. Turn left before you reach Houston St
- 17. Walk forward
- 18. Take the nearest entrance into the MSC
- 19. Walk forward until you reach the help desk
- 20. Turn right
- 21. Walk forward until the room with the flags and leather chairs is on your right
- 22. Turn right walk forward and enter the room

Caleb's directions:

- 1. Exit the classroom using the door closets to the podium.
- 2. And take a right towards the mail hall.
- 3. Once at the main hall take a left towards the stairs.
- 4. Walk down the stairs to the 1st floor.
- 5. Once at the first floor, take a right and walk till you find the exit doors.
- 6. Once out of the building take a right and walk straight till you get to spence street.
- 7. Then take a left on spence street.
- 8. Walk on spence street till you come to ur first 4 way intersection and take a right.
- 9. Continue walking straight until you're right in front of sbisa.
- 10. Then take a left onto houston street.
- 11. The continue walking until you pass the simpson drill field
- 12. Walk until you get right next to the rudder fountain
- 13. Then go into the nearest door of the MSC to the fountain
- 14. Then walk straight down the hall until you see a big room with flags and leather chairs on your right.

Elisabeth's directions:

- 1. Open the door
- 2. Get out of this room (353)
- 3. Walk down the hallway and turn left
- 4. Walk some more until you see stairs and head towards them
- 5. Walk down the stairs until you hit the bottom floor
- 6. Turn right and walk out of the building
- 7. Turn right until you have to choose to go left or right to stay on the path and choose right
- 8. Walk until you can't go straight anymore and then go right
- 9. Cross Spence St. and choose the diagonal path that takes you between the Mechanical Engineering Office Building and the J Mike Walker '66 department of Mechanical Engineering
- 10. After you reach the end of the diagonal path go straight until you reach Ireland St and turn left and walk along it
- 11. Once you reach Ross St cross the road and turn right to walk along it
- 12. Then you are going to turn left towards the Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Distribution, and after Thompson Hall
- 13. After you pass those buildings go towards the Harrington Education Center Tower
- 14. And then if you look right you're going to see the century tree, walk under the friendship branch and follow the path
- 15. Cross the Academic Plaza, and continue on the diagonal path
- 16. And then once the diagonal path ended turn right and go between the coke building and student services building
- 17. Turn left once you reach Houston street and walk along it
- 18. Continue going straight

- 19. You will see the glass doors and enter them
- 20. Go straight into the MSC and until you have the ability to turn right
- 21. Pass the stairs the lead upstairs, don't go upstairs, and then as you continue walking to your right there will be a room with a huge globe and flags around it and signs in front of the entrance that say no food or drink You turn right into it, and you're there!

Zach's Directions:

- 1. Take a right out the door of the classroom
- 2. Walk until you get to the larger common hallway, turn left and walk to the top of the stairs
- 3. Turn right 180 degrees to be facing the stairs and walk down to the first floor
- 4. turn right at the bottom of the stairs
- 5. Walk forward until you exit the building
- 6. Walk south until you reach the street in front of the WEB and turn right
- 7. Walk forward until you hit spence street, then cross it and veer slightly to the left
- 8. Then straighten out again to walk under the bridge between the J Mike Walker building and Mechanical Engineering Office Building
- Walk straight until you pass the Engineering Innovation Center and turn left onto ireland street
- 10. Walk passed thompson hall towards the academic plaza, heading towards the coke building
- 11. Turn left on houston street and walk forward to rudder fountain
- 12. Turn right at the fountain and enter a door into the MSC, then turn left
- 13. Walk till you get to the main hallway passed the stairs, turn right
- 14. Then walk till you get to a brown looking room with flags and enter, your now at the flag room

Questions:

a. Which set of your team's sequences of steps did you identify as being the best? Why? Elisabeth's set of instructions was the best. She made effective use of buildings as landmarks, in order to avoid disorientation. She also added lots of descriptions in order to get to the MSC.

b. In what ways were the sets of sequences that were produced different? Some instructions used landmarks whereas some used more directions and street names.

c. In what ways were the sets of sequences that were produced the same?

All of the sequences produced included the proper name of a building or place, and included instructions regarding the change of direction.

d. Consider whether your choice of which of these would be the best set of instructions might change depending on the person following them. For example (you may think of other

examples), would the best set change if:

i. The person following them was already very familiar with campus, or had never set foot on campus.

If the person was already very familiar with the campus, emphasizing the names of buildings or popular locations in relation to the location we were directing them to (the msc flag room) would most likely be a more effective way of communicating, but if they had never set foot on campus, specifically emphasizing distance and or street names may be easier for them to understand. However, our best set chosen from what we made already would not change as none of our other instructions made changes with this intent.

ii. The person following the instructions was using a wheelchair, or the person following the instructions was interested in jogging.

If a person were to be using a wheelchair then someone should add bus routes into their directions, and with the least amount of street crossing, but currently none of our directions accommodate a person that needs a wheelchair. If someone were to be jogging we would need to keep in mind the highly concentrated routes, and include some more of the hidden routes, but as of right now none of our directions perfectly accommodate a person jogging but they still work.

iii. The weather was dark and raining outside, or it's a beautiful and sunny 75 °F. Briefly describe whether different sets of instructions might have been better options in other scenarios.

Even though most of our instructions use slightly different routes, one or the other would not be better based on weather because it's still a long walk and the majority of the walk is outside. In theory, we could change our instructions to cut through buildings and cut down on time spent in the rain.

e. This was a very open-ended question. What questions might you have asked to begin with in order to better know how your sequential steps should have been written? The point here is to help you understand the importance of requirements gathering at the first stage of attacking a problem – make sure you are solving the problem someone needs solved, rather than the one you want to solve.

We could've asked whether there were any physical limitations or outside circumstances that would affect how the user of the directions can navigate through campus. If the user is very familiar with the campus, they have the ability to follow landmarks better, which cuts down on the number of directions that are necessary.

However the prompt did not include any of these situations and said "use the best of your ability" which would require those students with little knowledge of campus to use many instructions and use what we could find from campus maps.