



Team 2

Easing Life Transitions

Our Team



Amelia

Senior
Math & CS



Chris

Junior
SymSys



Jasmine

Senior
MS&E & CS

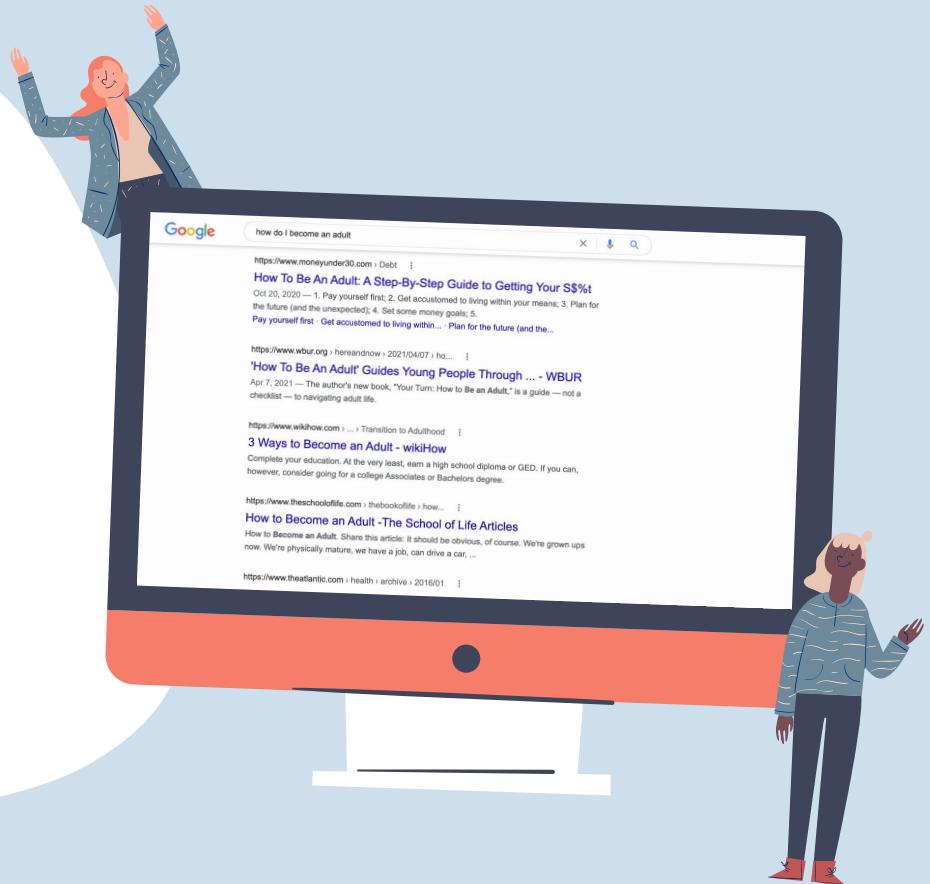


Tiff

Senior
SymSys &
English

Problem Domain

Transitioning out of college
to being a “real adult”



Participant Selection

1

Transition Stage



Still in college vs.
currently transitioning vs.
transitioned to post-grad

2

Geographic Location

Different areas of
the US,
international

3

Outside of Stanford 'bubble'

Variety of social environments,
academic pathways



Areas to improve: diversity in race, type of post-grad career path

Our Participants



Amanda

Yale Student
Switching from
academia to tech
New Haven, CT



Shivansh

Recent Duke Grad
International student
& Consultant
NC - Belgium - India



Rachel

NYU Grad
Marketer & Dancer,
Graduated in 3 years
New York, NY



Enrique

ASU Grad
Accountant &
Homeowner
Tempe, Arizona

Guiding Questions

General

What is/was top-of-mind for you in the post-college transition?

Career

Can you tell us about how you went about figuring out your post-grad job?

Financial

Are there differences in how you handle finances now vs. in college?

Living Situation

Tell me about the living situation(s) you've encountered since college.

Geographical

What surprised you about where you live post-college?

Social

Describe a typical hangout with friends now vs. in college.

Results





Amanda

Yale Undergraduate Senior, Physics
Zoom (40 min) interview

“I wish I had the opportunity for more general life skills preparation.”





Shivansh

Recent Duke Grad, Consultant,
International
Zoom (30 min) interview

*“In college, you’re
subscribing to a
community rather than
building a community
from scratch post-grad.”*





Rachel

NYU Grad, Marketer & Dancer
Zoom (50 min) interview

“It’s hard to realize you’re moving on. Even when you’re not ready, the world is still moving on.”





Enrique

ASU Grad, Homeowner & Accountant
Zoom (30 min) interview

*“Bigger transition than
out of college was from
apartment to house.”*



Empathy Maps & Key Takeaways



Geographic location is top of mind when thinking about my transition

Say

Geographic location

When thinking about parts of the

When thinking about where I want to be having a lot of opportunities

What country could be helpful to have a lot that doesn't immediately come to mind? I normally know the word of mouth, don't research abroad

Financial

"Cost of living is on my mind"

"I want to give back to my parents"

"I was thinking about the financial aspect of my life, like how many things are worth it and how much I'm willing to pay for college"

"I anticipate that I will be a lot more financially independent than I am now, and I want that independence"

Wish I had exposure to different applicable fields outside of academia. Right now it's just researching myself using Google, LinkedIn

Focusing on a lot at the same time (part-time job, getting a summer internship while still focusing on school)

Constantly adding more things to the pie chart in my brain of what to worry about

Hard to keep things organized in life about the transition—compares one location, one location

Distraction of wanting to plan in the long term but having instability right now coupled with so much being up in the air

As a student

Think

post-grad transition encroaching heavily on headspace, making it difficult to be a student too

Financial

most of thing on mind

anticipating more financially independent

Geographic/Living

geographic transition most important

thinks there should be a TripAdvisor but for long-term living

living situation/location impacts all other aspects of life

Career

when switching careers / interests to something outside of your background, you have to do a lot of research yourself

how to successfully navigate a career trajectory switch

balancing own career goals, partner's situation, finances

Do

Amanda

really into crowdsourcing about post-grad transition

focused on fallout of transition in career desires in middle of college

came back to idea of central place to keep track of diff transitional aspects

talked about the various sub-transitions as intertwined / dependent on each other

been self-learning about financial stuff (stock market)

theme of instability and uncertainty

theme of being overwhelmed and juggling many priorities

yes

st

wis

wa

pre

indu

feel
do
emo
fin
(budgeting, taxes)

underprepared in terms of general life skills

Feel

overwhelmed by all there is to do

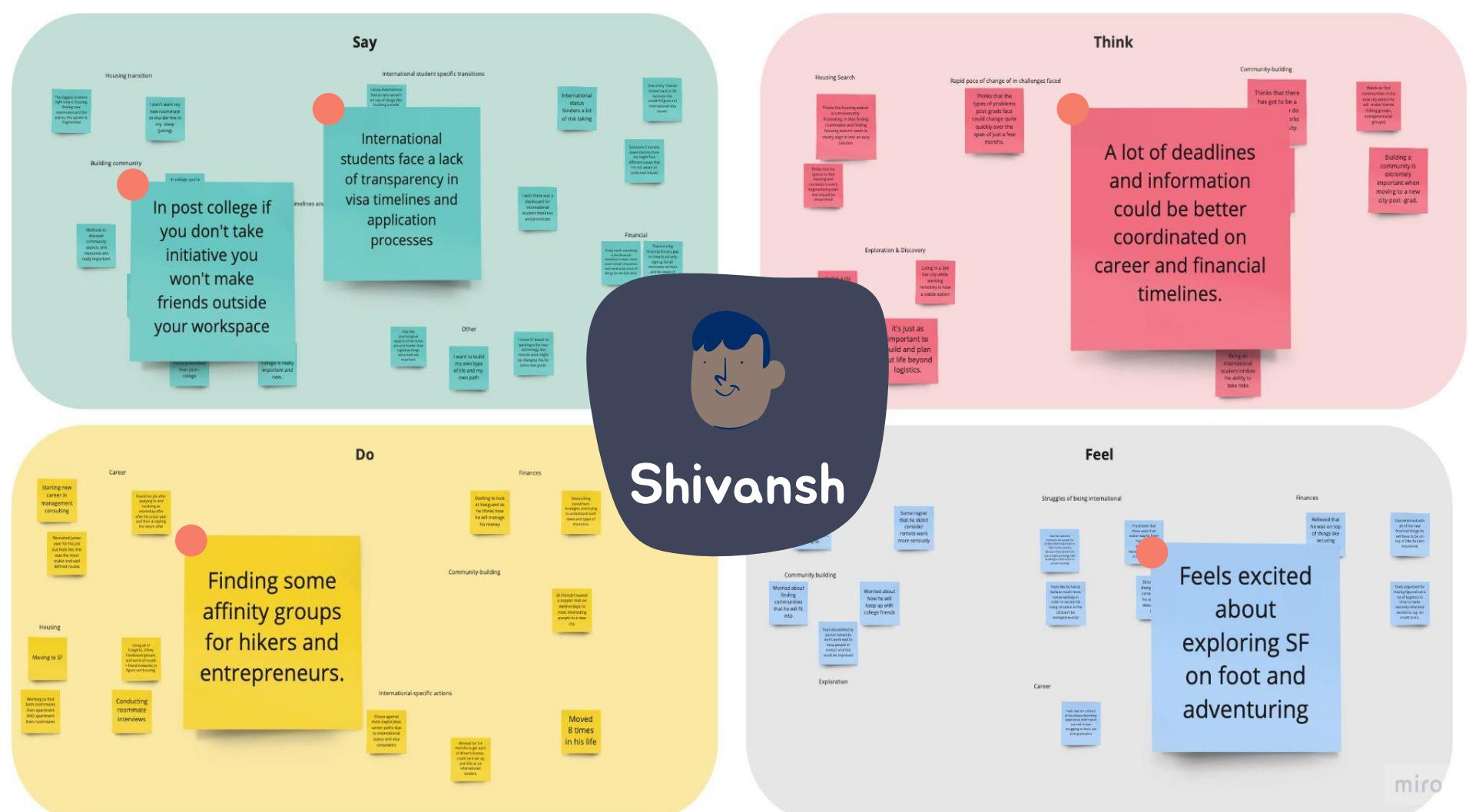
confident in new interests to explore when planning next os (SWE, Tech)

emotionally overwhelmed by being student + living for post-grad

...nts help in finding opportunities in new career trajectory

had more exposure to diff types of jobs

miro





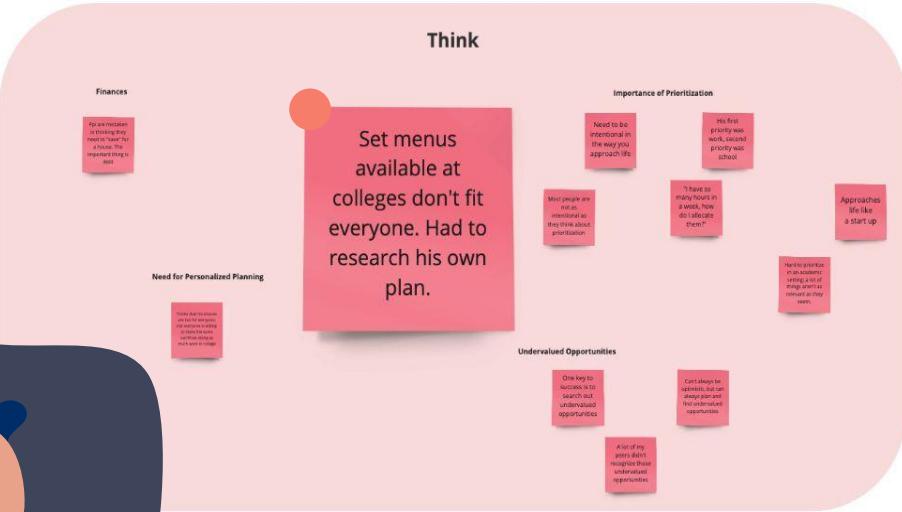
Rachel



Say



Think



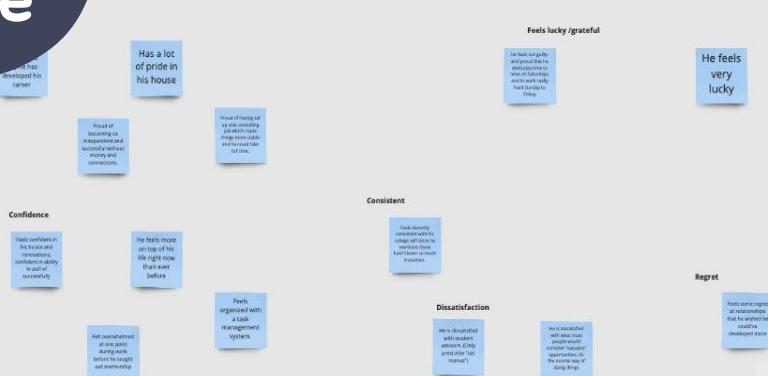
Do

Started thinking about buying house before he graduated, though didn't plan super hard

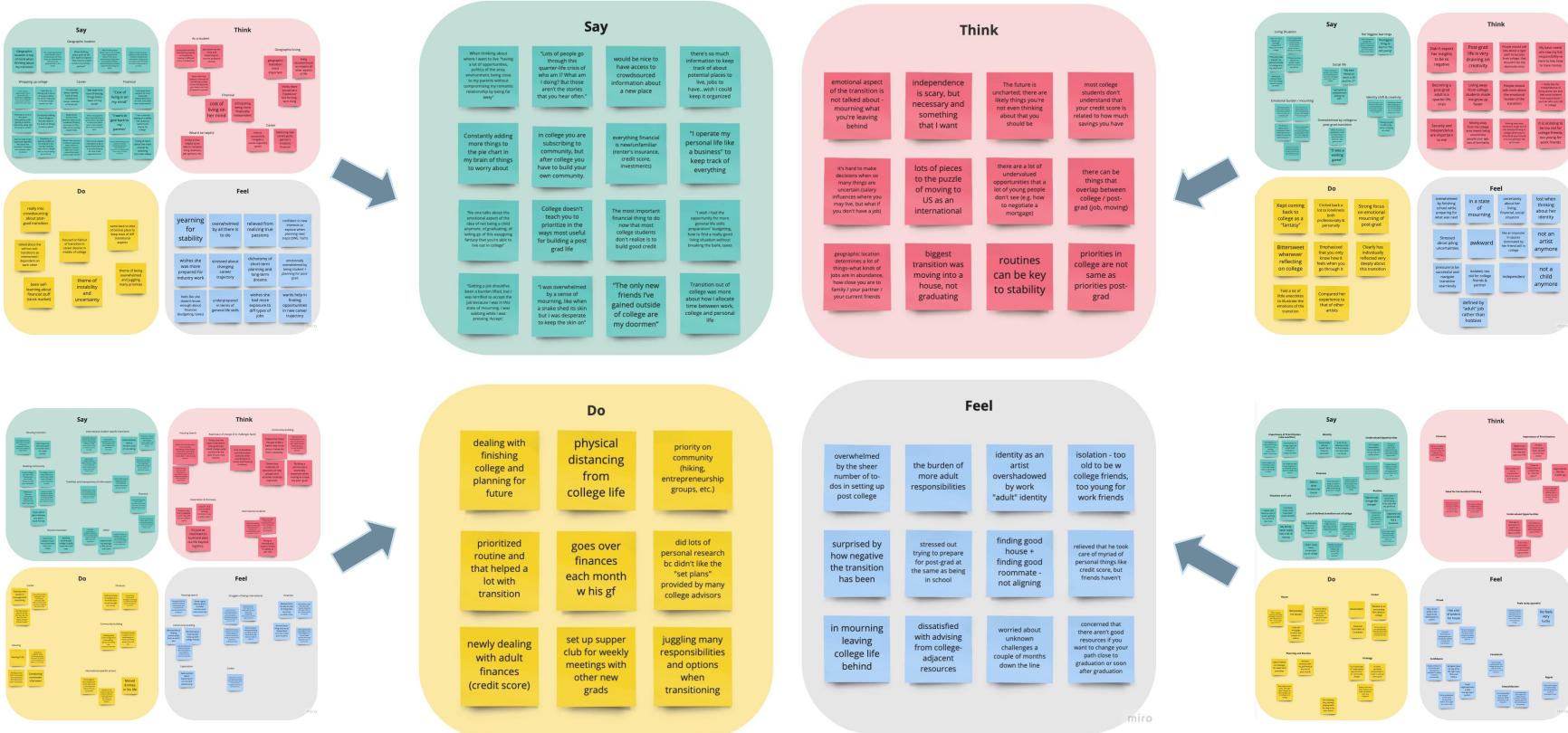
Enrique



Feel



Synthesized Empathy Map



Tensions, Contradictions, & Surprises

Tensions

Insufficiencies of prescribed paths in lining up with future goals/aspirations and desired explorations

more freedom in dictating schedule but drained by adult responsibilities and work

A stable job is great for figuring out logistics but also wants to have some instability to explore

Living alone is great because you gain independence, but lonely

Wanting to secure a job quickly because of stability, but wanting to keep searching for opportunities to find something you really love

Wanting to know everything needed to be considered when leaving college, not wanting to be overwhelmed by so many new responsibilities

Focusing on professional life verses focusing on building / maintaining relationships

Sometimes short term planning does not align with long term goals

Contradictions

Different aspects were prioritized (geographical location vs. job being more important)

Some are holding onto pre-transition / pre-defined communities (college, work) more than others

some people find college vs. post college to be very separate, others find a lot of things are the same

Some people feel more prepared to handle adult financial responsibilities than others

people are at different stages in their transition to adult life, so they are thinking about similar things but in different ways

Some are holding onto pre-transition / pre-defined communities (college, work) more than others

Prioritizing long run finances and logistics (Enrique) vs prioritizing building community and network (Shivansh)

Some people might be most concerned about saving money when securing debt (credit) might be more important

Surprises

The importance of timelines in figuring out a bunch of logistics

The transition can be an extremely emotional time

Housing vs roommate alignment conundrum

Difficult to find people around the same age to hang out with and build community

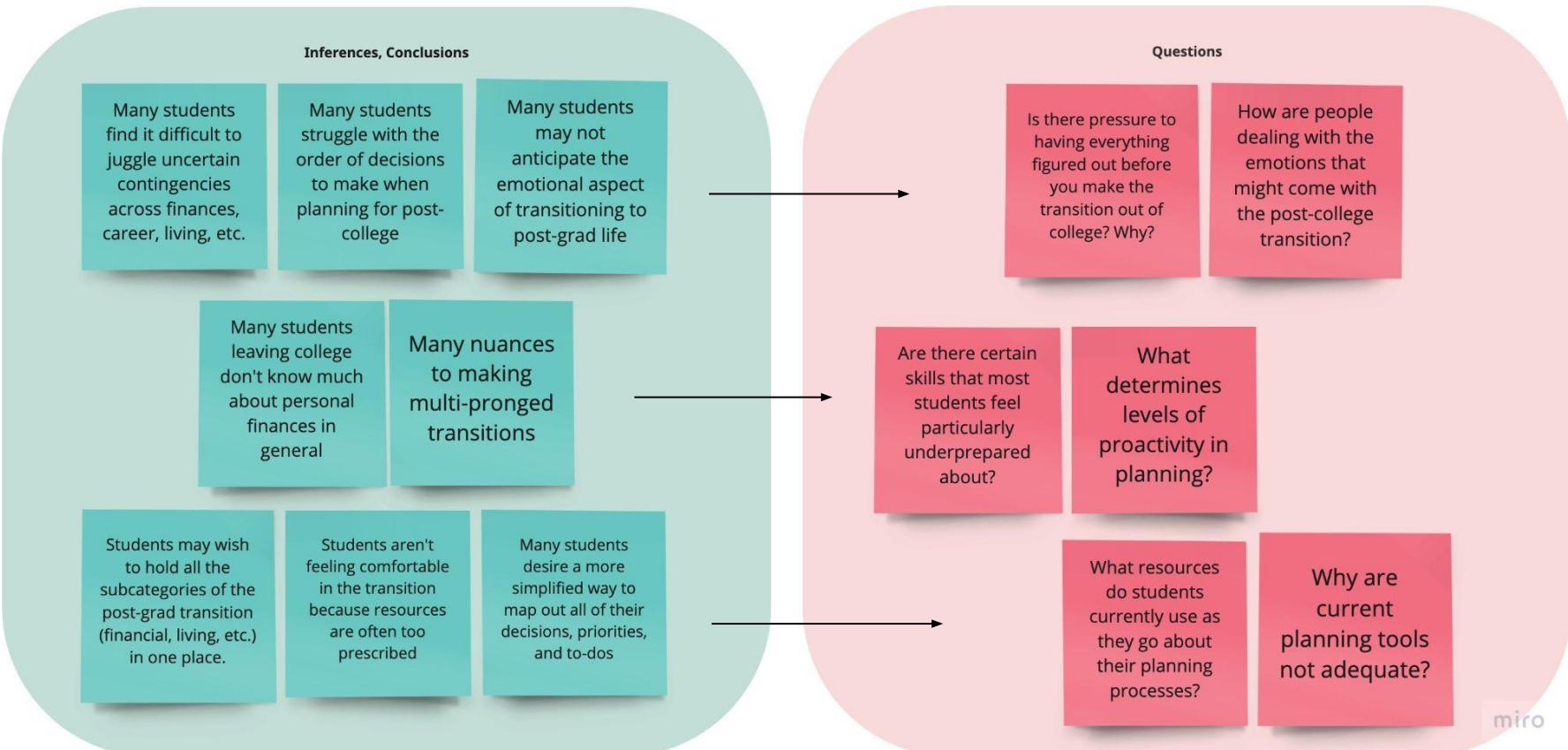
Strong desire to have an easier way to map out all of the decisions / priorities / todos that are required in the post-grad transition

There's so much information online yet it seems hard to figure out what you should actually do or choose; discovery process is still hard

Decisions are super interconnected: e.g. job, geography, finances - you're thinking about them in tandem

Importance of credit score

Inferences, Conclusions, & Questions



Initial Insights & Potential Needs

1

Grappling with emotional distress of leaving college

3

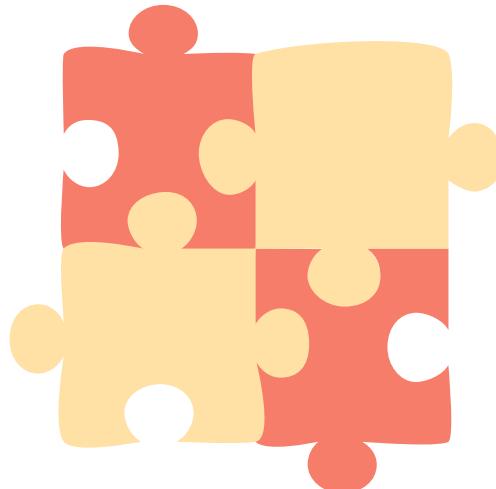
Gaining confidence in building a new community

2

Organizing onslaught of new responsibilities (financial, career, living situation)

4

Keeping track of contingency plans and options



Summary

A

…to feel less overwhelmed by impending “adult” responsibilities.

B

…a way to build community in new environments.

C

…to feel supported in the emotions of leaving college.



D

…a more concrete knowledge of all the to-dos of post-grad.

E

…a way to organize plans for different subgroups of transition.

Next Steps: Ideate & Prototype





Thanks!

Questions?

