**User Testing –** In-Person Prompt System

Completed by **Lars and Rohnil**

Idea being tested is a prompt system for in person discussions and debates. The prompts will help make the application a more mobile experience, engaging users with the app and stimulating conversation. The aim of the prompts is to help break the ice, facilitate turn taking and stimulate the debate.

**Evaluation**:

* Overall prompt system was well received, with only 1/5 participants finding it was not beneficial. It has been decided to add the prompt system to in person chats, with the option to turn it off on a per-debate basis.
* Users found the prompts helped to structure their discussion, and make them feel more comfortable speaking with a stranger. However, the introduction prompt was criticized for being redundant, so this will be tweaked accordingly.
* It was suggested to make the questions more personalized depending on the debate. For example, prompts could be tailored to the specific topic to make them seem more natural. This is definitely a feature that will be considered for the prompts system, as it will fulfill the goal of making a more natural conversation for the debaters.

**Prompts**:

* Introduce yourself and give a one sentence overview of your thoughts on the topic
* Person A, give your opening statements about the topic
* Person B, give your opening statements about the topic
* Continue discussion building on, or rebutting various ideas
* Whoops, both your positions of the topic have been switched! Each give a couple of sentences to summarize your new stance on the topic
* If you would like to discuss further, add your new Debate Mate on Facebook below!

**Questions**:

* Did you find that the prompts overall improved or detracted from the experience?
* Did use of the device in the real world conversation prove as an obstacle or a benefit? Did it put up a barrier between you or help break it down?
* Did the prompts make it more/less comfortable to speak with someone you hadn’t met?
* Were there any prompts that you felt were not appropriate, or do you have suggestions for any new prompts?

**Participants**:

* P1: John Bailey 4th year
* P2: Caroline Strong 1st year
* P3: Kate Mundell 2nd year
* P4: Josh Pyle 4th year
* P5: Scott Brooks 1st Year

**Results**:

Question 1:

**P1**: Improved the experience. Took nervousness out of the conversation in meeting someone for the first time

**P2**: Positive experience, liked having a structure to the conversation

**P3**: Didn’t like following a questionnaire. Wanted to drift into his own conversation rather than following a set structure

**P4**: Positive experience. Should be somewhat integrated with a debate, rather than the person just following a set of questions. More personalised

**P5**: Needs more freedom for the user to explore more freely. But good to have some sort of structure.

Question 2:

**P1**: Benefit. Wouldn’t know how to start the conversation, but this took awkwardness out

**P2**: Benefit. Made it easy to find the other user at university, also helped initiate the conversation

**P3**: Obstacle. Don’t feel the need for it as conversation was less natural this way.

**P4**: Benefit. Clear instructions and directions made it more comfortable.

**P5**: Benefit

Question 3:

**P1**: More comfortable. Participant stated they get nervous around new people

**P2**: More comfortable. Found initiating the conversation is normally the hardest part

**P3**: Less comfortable. Wanted a more natural conversation.

**P4**: More comfortable. Wouldn’t have known what to say to the stranger otherwise.

**P5**: More comfortable. Good to make users feel like they have a common goal (structured)

Question 4:

**P1**: Good questions. Liked the 4th prompt, so maybe could include more of those types

**P2**: They were good. Maybe tailor them to the topic

**P3**: No need for the introduction prompt. You will do that naturally

**P4**: Make the questions more specific to the topic rather than generalizing

**P5**: Questions were okay. The introduction one was a bit forced.