## Test Protocol

**Preparation before the participant arrives**

Prepare/lay out materials for the participant so that everything is ready. The materials required for this testing session are one set of The Beacon paper prototypes and note taking materials.

Make sure the participant does not see the questions on the questionnaire until after completing the testing process to ensure that the data collected remains unbiased.

**Introduction**

Introduce yourself to the participant and give them a high-level idea of what they will be doing in the testing session today.

**Consent**

Ask the participant to fill in and sign the consent form for the testing session

**Instructions**

Give the participant more detailed instructions about the tasks they are about to complete (i.e., create a user profile, go to a certain level). Tell them how long you’ll give them to complete the tasks (10 minutes). Ask them to think out loud or to make comments as they work through the tasks.

See if there the participant has any final questions before starting the testing process and answer them.

**Observation Tasks**

When the participant is ready, ask the participant to start on the tasks:

1. Create a User Profile
2. Save the User Profile
3. Go to back to the home screen
4. View level 1 news stories
5. View level 2 news stories
6. View level 3 news stories
7. View level 4 news stories
8. Add story to social board

Take hand notes as the participant works through the tasks noting which tasks the participant has difficulty with.

If the participant goes quiet, or begins to struggle with completing the tasks ask, “what are you thinking now?” or “Are you finding this task more challenging to complete?”

When time is up, thank the participant for completing the tasks and using the interactive prototype.

**Questionnaire**

Then ask the participant to fill in the questionnaire (As seen below). Clarify anything needed.

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| **Questionnaire**  **Participant ID:**  **Participant Age:**  **Education:**   1. **What Is The Highest Level of Education You Have Completed? (Please Circle)**  * Primary School * High School * TAFE * Undergraduate Degree * Post Graduate Degree   **Occupation:**   1. **Are you currently employed?** 2. Yes 3. No   ***If Yes, what is your current occupation?***  ***If No, what was your previous occupation?***   1. **Do you experience any of the following issues that might hinder your ability to use technology?** 2. Hearing loss 3. Vision Loss 4. Colour Blindness 5. Other (specify below) |
| **Technology Habits:**   1. **How many hours a day do you view local/global news**  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | O – 1 hour | 2 – 4 hours | 5 – 6 hours | 7 hours + |  1. **How do you get your news and on what device do you access it? (if applicable, you may circle more than 1 option)**   1.       Newspaper  2.       Digital newspaper  a.       Mobile  b.       Computer  c.       Laptop  d.       Other (Write down answer)  3.       Online dedicated news sites (Forbes, google news)  a.       Mobile  b.       Computer  c.       Laptop  d.       Other (Write down answer)  4.       TV news (ABC, SBS)  a.       Own TV  b.       Other (Write down answer)  5.       Word of mouth (talking to other people)  a.       At work  b.       Social situations  6.       Radio station  a.       At home  b.       In transit/travelling  c.       At work  d.       Other (Write down answer) |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Technological Skills:**   1. **On a scale of one (poor) to ten (excellent) how would you rate your ability to use technological devices such as tablets, computers and mobile phones to access news content.**  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | | Poor |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Excellent |   **If you rated yourself below 5, do you feel your current technological ability isolates you from friends and family?**   1. Yes 2. No   If Yes, Why?  **If you rated yourself below 5, please specify which areas of technology/ technological devices you struggle to use.**   1. **Would you use an online news application if it was simple to use and understand and enabled you to connect with friends and family online?** 2. Yes 3. No |

When the participant has finished filling in the questionnaire, check over the responses to make sure that all parts have been filled out.

**Further Data Collection**

Ask any further questions or do any further interactions you might have planned (optional)

**Closing**

Tell the participant that the testing session has been completed. Thank the participant for the time and tell them that you appreciate the data that they provided.

Let the participant know that they are free to go.