

CSCW Fall 2007 – Instructor: Dr. Storey

Midterm Exam (max duration: 75 minutes)

October 1, 2007

Student ID Number_____

Student Name_____

Signature_____

Instructions:

This exam is a closed book, no notes, no calculator, no cellphone exam. This midterm will be marked out of 60 marks.

For **all** questions write your answers on the exam and hand in **all pages** of the exam. There are 6 questions in total. Point form answers are acceptable. You should attempt all questions.

There should be 8 pages including this page and a blank page for extra work, please check you have all pages before you begin. If you use the back of the pages for your answers, make sure you indicate so on the front side.

Please write your student number and name at the top of this page, and sign in the space provided.

Note: You may not leave during the last 10 minutes of the exam. Good luck!

Question 1	/8
Question 2	/8
Question 3	/8
Question 4	/8
Question 5	/10
Question 6	/18
Total:	/60

Question 1: (8 marks) List two important lessons user interface designers gained from designing early **calendaring** and **office management** systems.

Question 2: (8 marks) List one way to improve (A) **privacy** and (B) **interruption management** in either your favourite email or chat client.

Question 3: (8 marks) Define the following four terms:

- **Articulation work** (as defined by Bannon):
- **Telepointer:**
- **Ethnography:**
- **Deictic reference:**

Question 4: (8 marks) In class we experimented with the new Google presentation document (which is similar in some ways to PowerPoint but provides shared editing support). Using one or more diagrams, propose how a **radar view** could support **synchronous distributed** co-editing of the document.

Question 5 (10 marks):

Part A (4 marks): Describe the **discourse structure** underlying the Google blogging system we use for this course. (Hint: this structure is quite simple compared to the structures discussed in the reading on discourse structures.)

Part B (6 marks): Describe how the Google blogging system supports **feedthrough**.

Question 6 (18 marks): Your manager has asked you to design an **empirical** study to provide insights on whether the radar view you designed for the Google presentation document tool matches your users' needs (see Question 4).

Part A (6 marks): Briefly describe the approach you would take for evaluating the radar view. Justify your choice of methodology and clearly state any assumptions made.

Part B (6 marks): List and describe **two threats to validity** you should consider in your study design.

Question 6 cont.

Part C (6 marks): Discuss the tradeoffs you may need to make between **precision** and **realism** in your study design.

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