

Appendix 1

Transcript of the introductory interview with client

- Developer:** Ms. Rýdza, you organised the initiation course for junior IB students¹ this year. I noticed that before every get-to-know-you activity, members were assigned to groups by hand. This task was complicated by the fact that many juniors – especially MYP students – knew each other from the class they previously attended and so, they had to be separated to encourage contact with new classmates. I would like to prepare an application that would simplify this process for future organising teams and thus save their time.
- Client:** I believe this is a good idea, given the number of activities for which we had to prepare groups this year. But don't forget that during night games, groups were also created so as to obtain as many boy-girl pairs as possible.
- Developer:** I would make sure to include gender-related functionality.
- Client:** Thank you. Now, please tell me how exactly this approach would save time. I do not really understand how the groups would be created – would I need to fill out some list of students every time I want to create a group?
- Developer:** No, Ms. Rýdza. The application as I see it would provide you with the ability to store and edit all relevant data about students. In this case name, previously attended class and, as you pointed out, gender, would be accessible.
- Client:** Okay, I see. Indeed, the app you described could save plenty of time to the organising team! So yes, I accept your proposal. Make sure to include the ability to remove students as this year, two of the juniors fell ill and unfortunately had to leave before the event ended.
- Developer:** Absolutely. Ms. Rýdza, when you were creating groups, did you create them solely based on the intended group size, or did group size sometimes depend on the number of groups you needed to create?
- Client:** Good question. This varied from activity to activity, so I would like to see both options included.
- Developer:** Of course. As for the program's output, how would you prefer to be able to view the groups once they have been created?
- Client:** I would like to first see the groups in the program and then have the option to output them to a file to distribute them to other organisers. This year, we did this by taking pictures of a handwritten list and, as you can imagine, this led to complications when organisers had to read out loud the juniors' names because sometimes, the lists just weren't readable sometimes.
- Developer:** I believe the application is going to resolve this issue. In terms of compatibility, do you have a preferred platform – like, for example, Windows or MacOS?

¹ Every year, the event is organised by a group of DP2 students. During this course, juniors get to know each other better thanks to plenty get-to-know-you activities

Client: I myself use a Mac, but from what I've seen, other organisers also used different computers.

Developer: I see. I will make sure that the application will be runnable on different operating systems. Ms. Rýdza, please tell me what your expectations are of the appearance of the application.

Client: I like simplicity and I believe that future organising teams would benefit from a simple visual with subtle graphics.

Developer: I will make sure to keep the user interface uncomplicated. Do you have any other requirements for the application?

Client: Not at the moment.

Developer: Alright. If you have any further requests, please, do not hesitate to contact me anytime. For now, thank you very much for your time, Ms. Rýdza. I will prepare and consult with you a preliminary sketch of the user interface.

Client: Thank you! I am looking forward to your work...

Interim request made by client

Client: Mr. ____, I just remembered that I forgot to mention one crucial thing. Please, do make sure that the groups are properly shuffled.

Developer: What do you mean by shuffled, Ms. Rýdza?

Client: I mean that if I create groups with the same criteria multiple times, the combinations of students will be different.

Developer: I see. Of course, I will keep this criterion in mind!

Client: Thank you.

Developer: Thank you for contacting me. Please, do not hesitate to do so anytime in the future.

Excerpt from the consultation of the first design

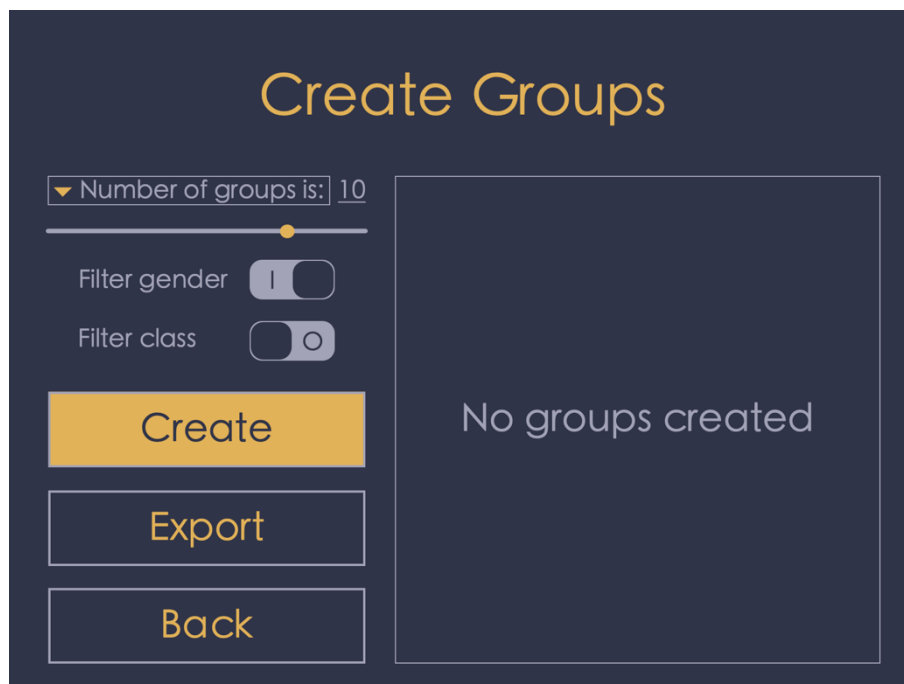


Figure 1: The screen for creating groups, before groups are created

Client: Although I very much like the design, I would like to have the ability to change the name of the activity when creating groups.

Developer: No problem, Ms. Rýdza, I will add this functionality.



Figure 2: The screen for creating groups, after groups were created

Client: Here I would like to have the option to choose group captains.

Developer: Absolutely, Ms. Rýdza.

Client: I think that it would also be nice to be able to add notes to the specific groups, such as where they are supposed to go – this is something we needed to do during this year’s city game.

Developer: Okay, Ms. Rýdza, I will add this option.

Client: Thanks. That’s all I have to say. Otherwise, I have to say I am pleasantly surprised with the design.

Developer: Thank you for your compliments, Ms. Rýdza! I will stay in touch and send you the updated designs of these two screens.

Client: Looking forward!

Interim inquiry by developer

Developer: Ms. Rýdza, I would like to inquire whether you would like to have the opportunity to display students’ names on the student list with diacritic or as text stripped of any special characters.

Client: I want to have the names stored with diacritic. When organising activities, we need to call out people’s names and so, it is crucial that the names are displayed with all special signs to ensure they will be read out loud with at least partially correct pronunciation. Also, please make sure that the names are displayed correctly, and no unreadable “squares” pop up when using the app – I have seen this happen in some applications and it was really frustrating.

Developer: I will make sure this won’t happen, Ms. Rýdza. Thank you for your time.

Client: Any time.

Interim proposal by developer

Developer: Ms. Rýdza, I was thinking about how to increase the accessibility of the application. I think it would be a good idea to make it available online.

Client: My thoughts exactly, this would also ensure that the program will not get lost on somebody’s flash-drive. That’s fine with me.

Developer: Thank you for your time.

Interim proposal by developer

Developer: Ms. Rýdza, since future organising teams will be sharing the program online along with important files containing data about students, I would like to propose that the access to the program be restricted and that the associated files containing student data be encrypted. That means that only people who know the credentials will be able to access the program, and only once they have gained access will they be able to read the text files.

Client: Indeed, that is a fine idea! Yes, I would like to see this functionality included.

Developer: Thank you, Ms. Rýdza.