The Problem: Engage students in online learning

Better engage the students in online learning.
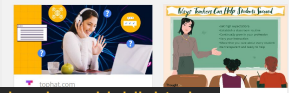- Many students are shy.
  - "I don't want to interrupt the class'
  - Don't want to show face.
  - Chat is dominated by a few students, who are often more advanced.
- Teachers need feedback from the students to teach better and judge the classes understanding.
- Solution needs to be simple so people actually use it!

Ideation: (Some ideas we didn't go with)

1) A filter that sits over everyones face and makes them more beautiful / cool / different.
   Pros: If people can hide behind an avatar, they won't feel as shy, and engage more.
   Negatives: Difficult to implement across platforms. (Teams, Canvas, etc)
                    Could be a shock when people meet offline!!

2) A chat bot which sits in the chat and engages with the content.
   Pro: Shy students encouraged by seeing by a chat filled with messages.
   Negatives: Teacher knows it's not real, students might find out and feel tricked
                  Difficult for tutors to filter the chat (needs integration with existing platforms).
                  Doesn't solve the problem of teachers assessing understanding!

We needed a better solution!!

More Research!

Instructor responsiveness and availability has been highlighted as a key predictor of online student satisfaction

Teacher support online involves effective monitoring of student progress, anticipation and resolution of key learning queries, and establishment and maintenance of rapport.
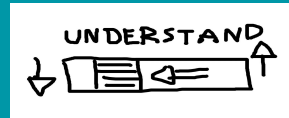
Solution: EngageMate

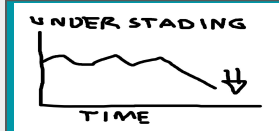Teacher presenting content. Empty chat, blank videos
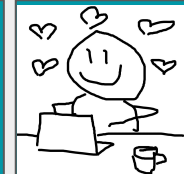

Teacher: Do they understand?

Student: I don't understand! :(But I'm shy!

Student moves slider down. Information sent to web app

Teacher checks app Teacher sees that students don't understand

Teacher explains again. Happy Student. Happy Teacher.

Prototype ->