# Thinking and working visually for software testers

Jean-Paul Varwijk & Huib Schoots
Let's Test 2013

## About us: Jean-Paul





#### About us: Huib

## codecentric M







# Goals for today

Experience and learn about visual thinking

Experience you do not have to be an artist to think & work visual

## Your tools for today

**Gray marker for shading** 

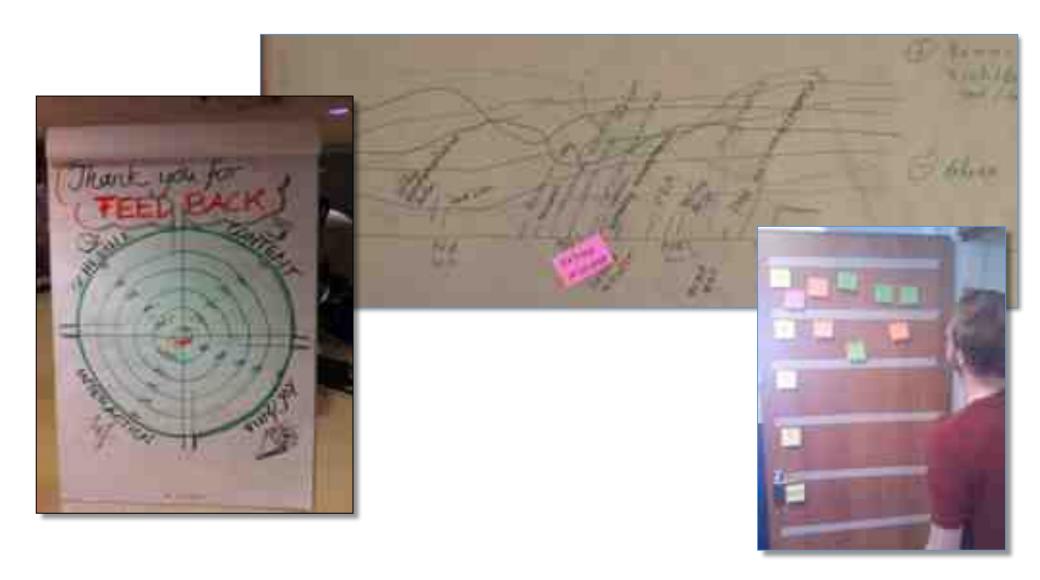
**Let's Test Notebook** 



**Marker for drawing** 

Colour marker to give your drawings some nice colour...

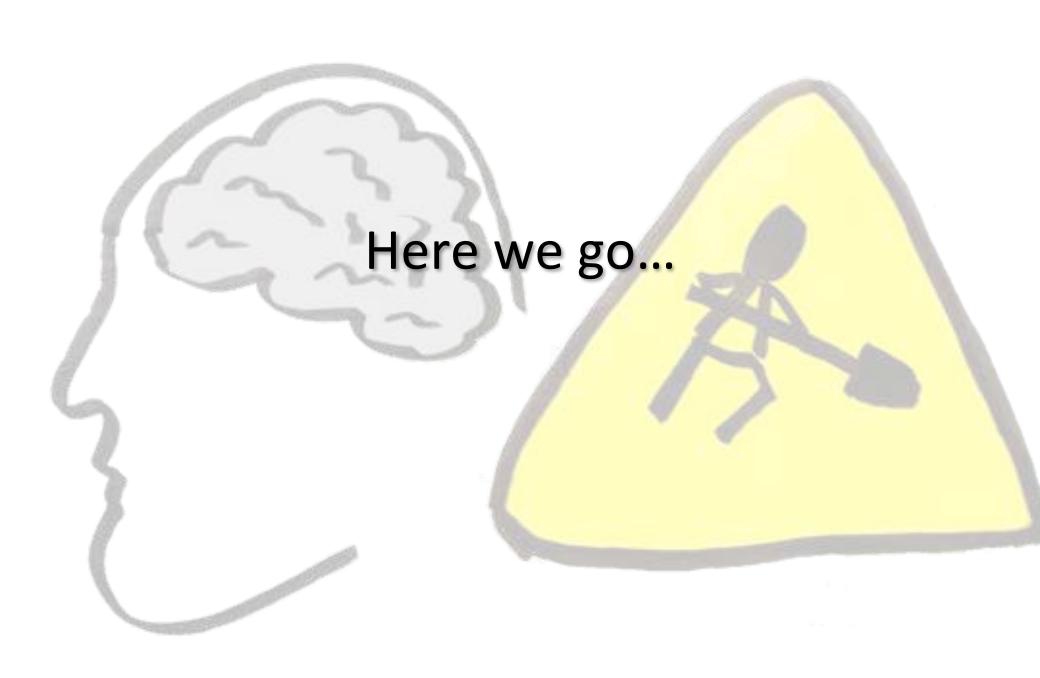
## Feedback

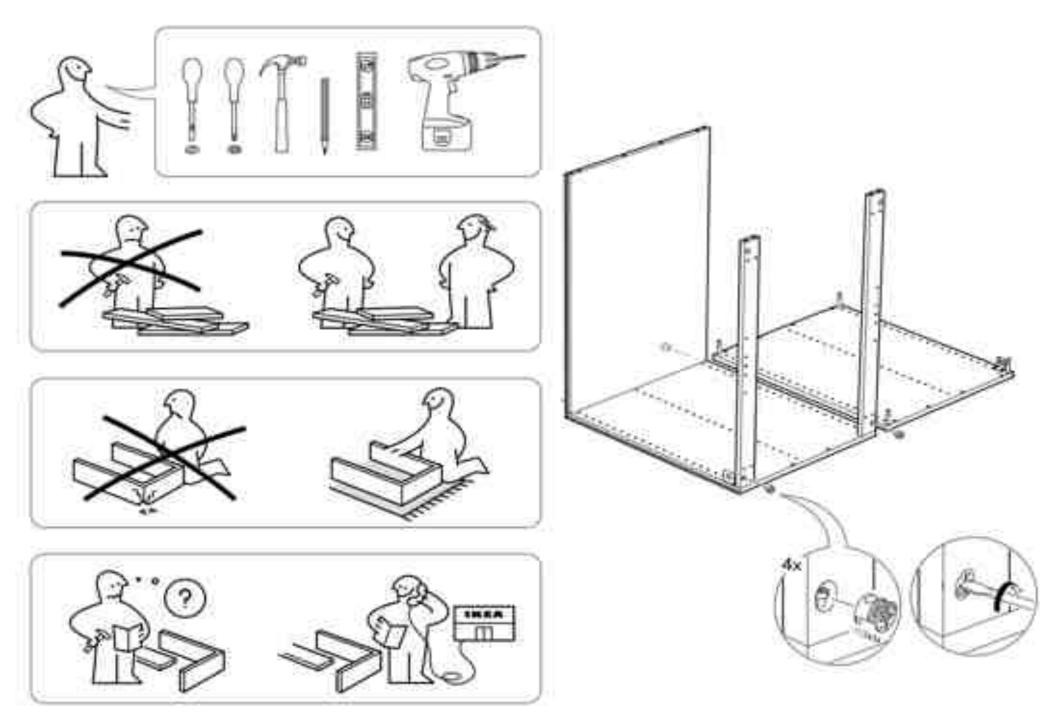


## Fast Feedback & Fun

13

- @arborosa
- @huibschoots
- #letstest







## Your brain

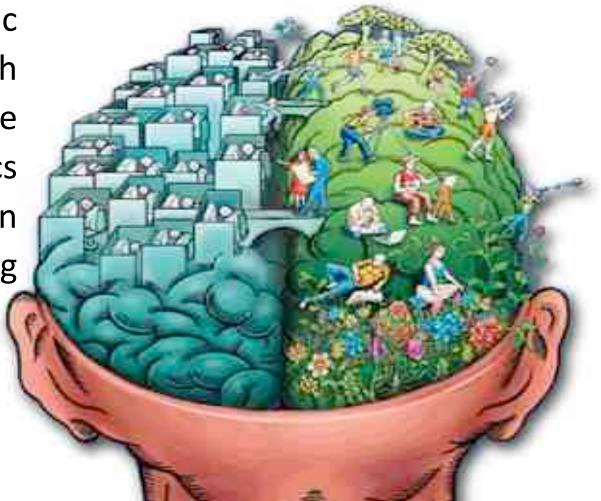
Logic Speech

Language

**Analytics** 

Calculation

Abstract thinking



Color
Phantasy
Music
Images
Feeling
Rythm
Creativity

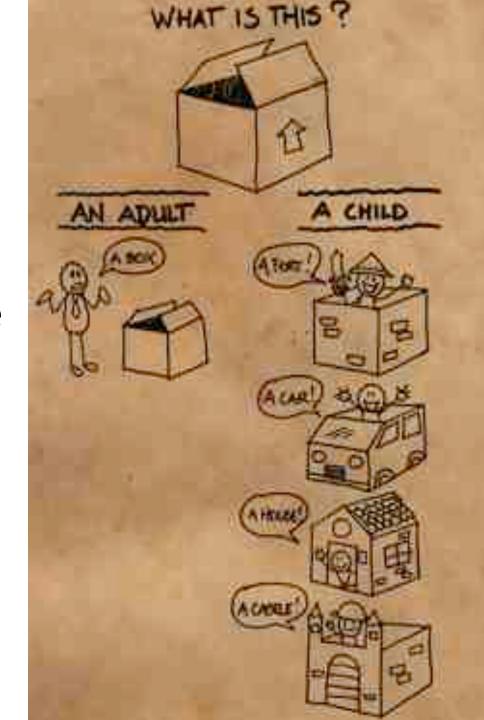
SOURCE: WWW.KARENDEVRIES.NL

## Creativity

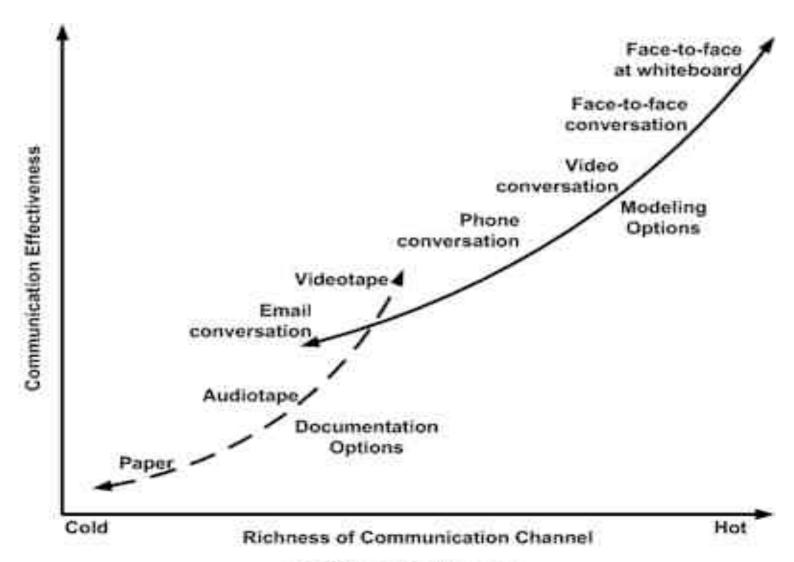
- Adults: on average 3 to 6 alternatives
- Children: often 60 or more alternatives

#### Numbed by ...

- Education
- Norms & values
- Inhibiting curiosity
- Coloring within the lines



#### Communication



## Visualisation

#### Best known forms:

- Traffic signs
- Diagrams
- Graphics
- Tables
- Maps
- Photos



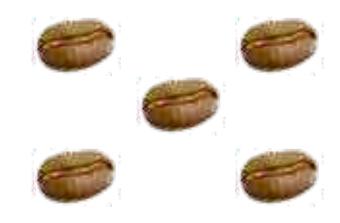


#### Rules of the game:

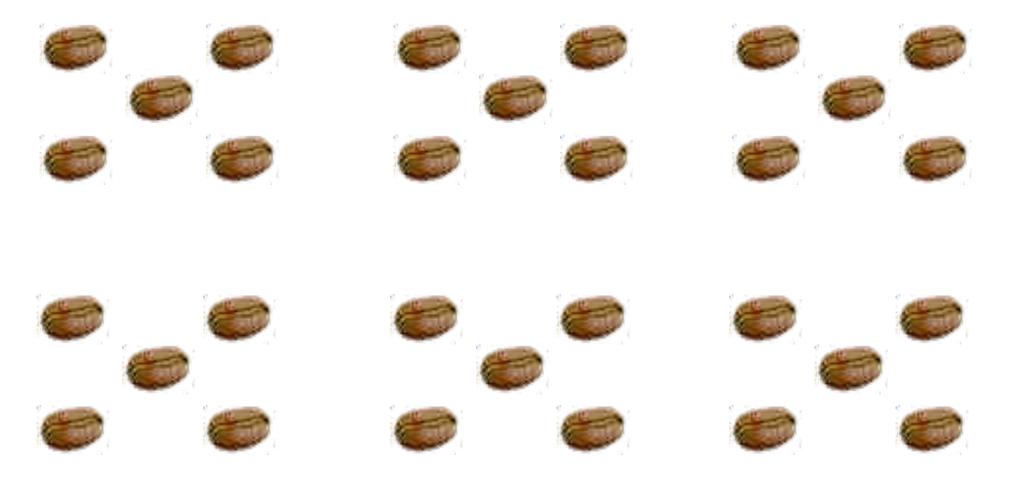
- 1. We show you 4 sets of beans
- 2. Every set will be on the screen for 1.5 seconds only
- 3. Count the beans!

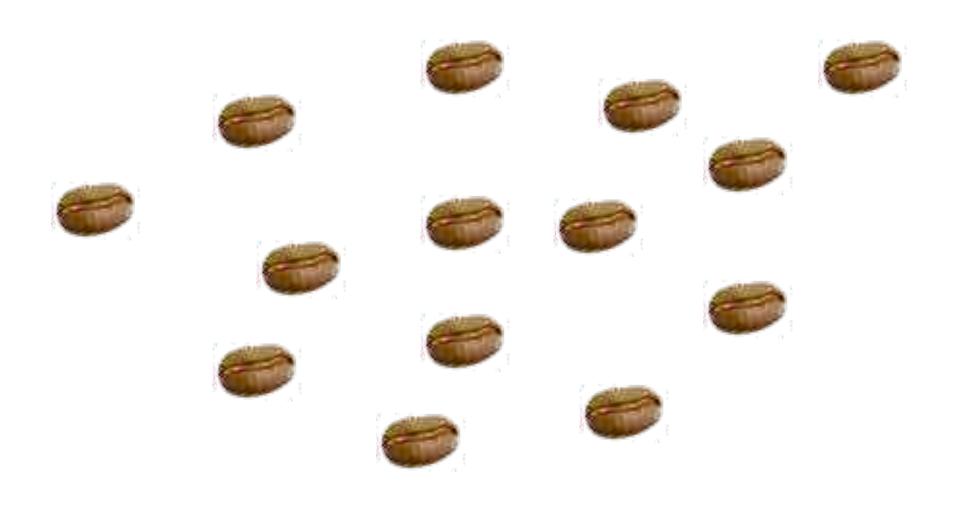
Are you ready?





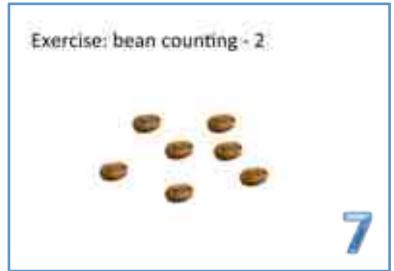


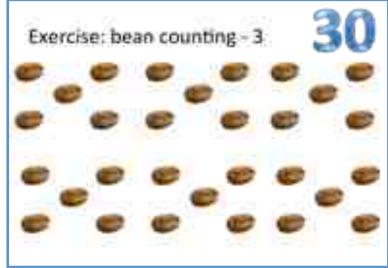


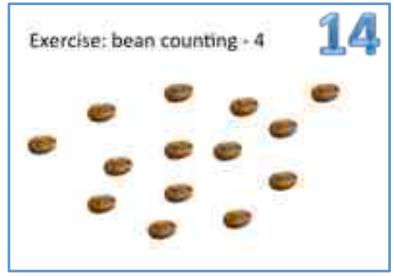


# So how many beans did you count?





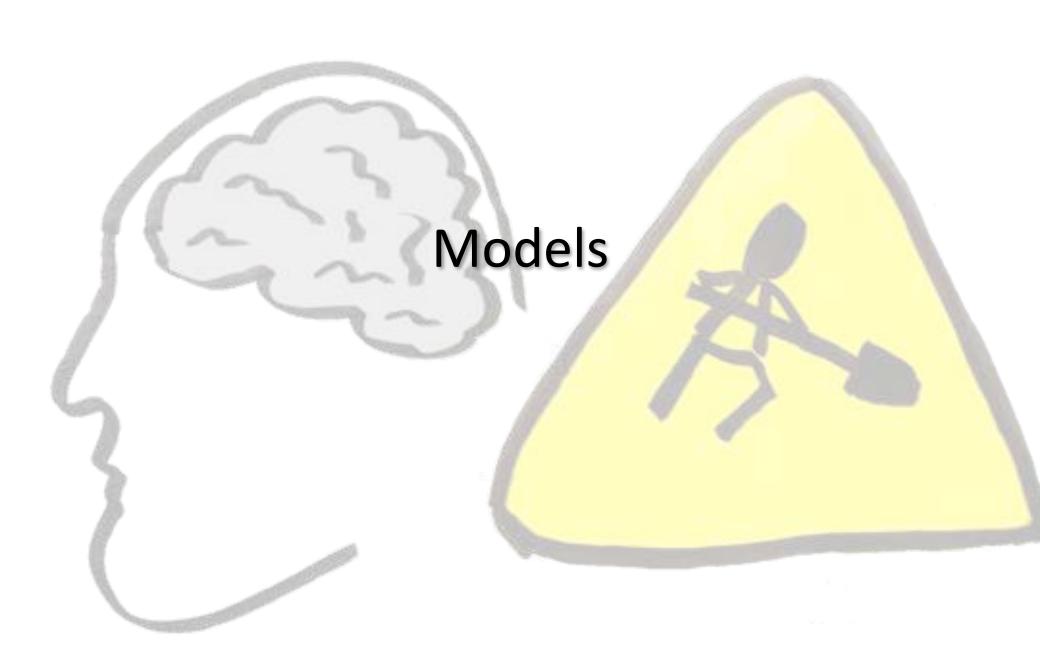




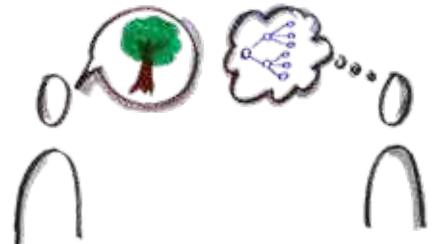
## Visualisation helps to:

- Develop ideas and information
- Steer thought processes
- Transfer ideas and results
- To express yourself using little text and

explanation

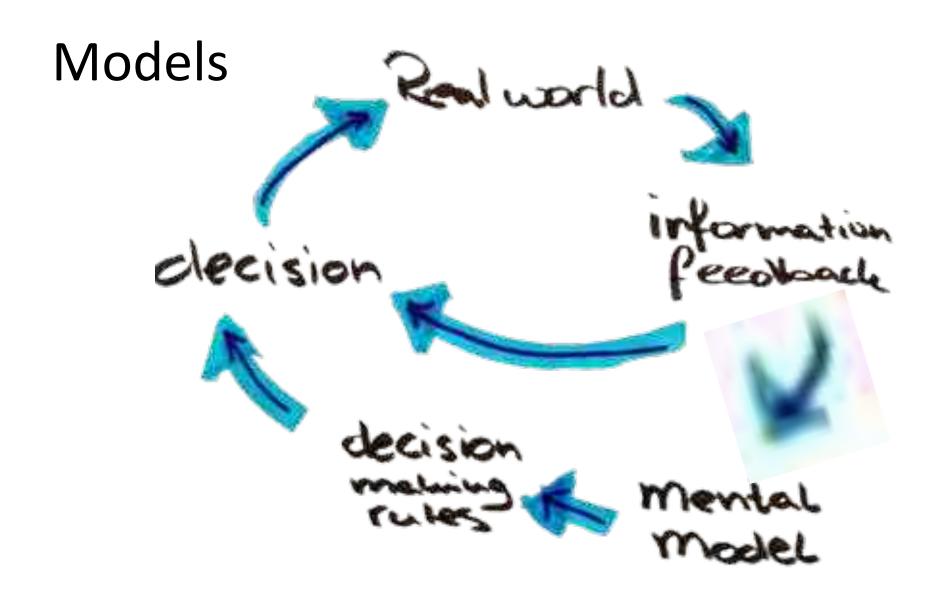


#### Models



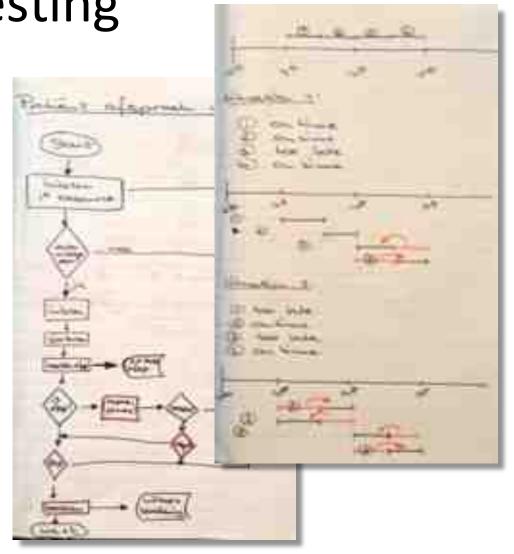
- Is a representation of anything else
- Help you understand and solve problems
- Simplify complex stuff
- A good model is one that helps you understand or manipulate the thing that it represents

"Essentially, all models are wrong, but some are useful" George E. P. Box (British mathematician and Professor of Statistics)

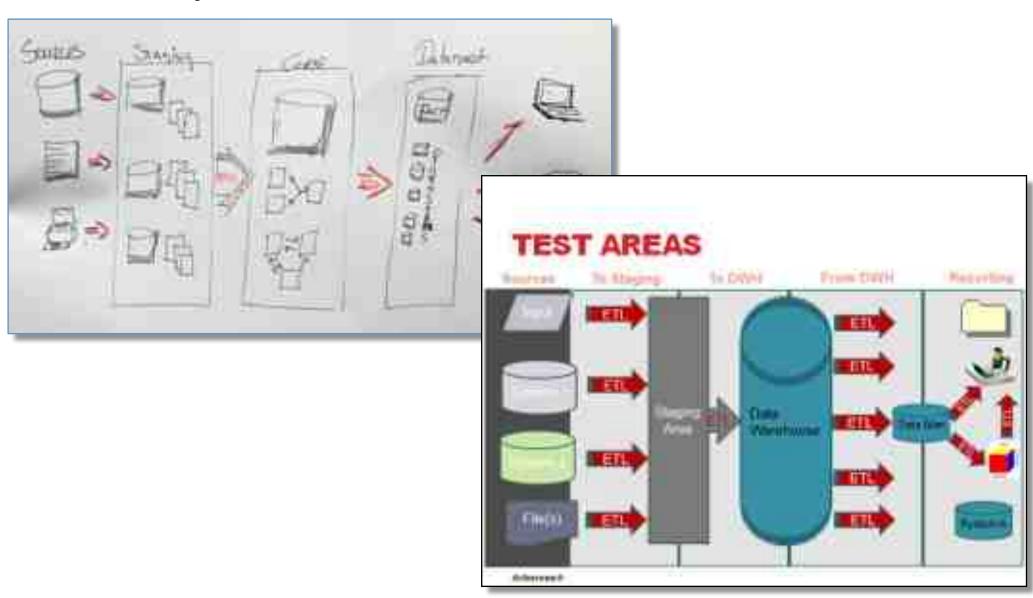


Modeling your testing

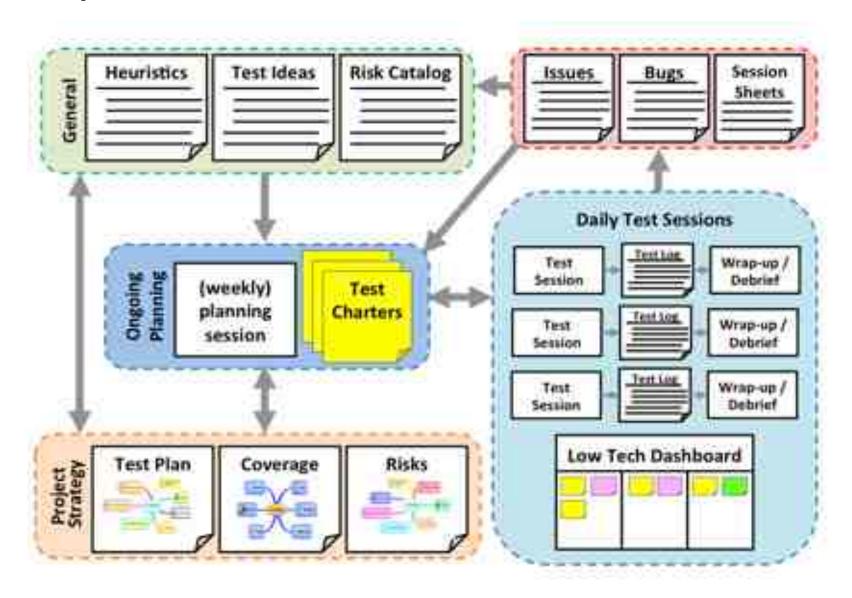
- Flowcharts
- Timelines
- Equivalence Classes
- SQL Joins
- State diagrams
- Story Boarding
- Etc.

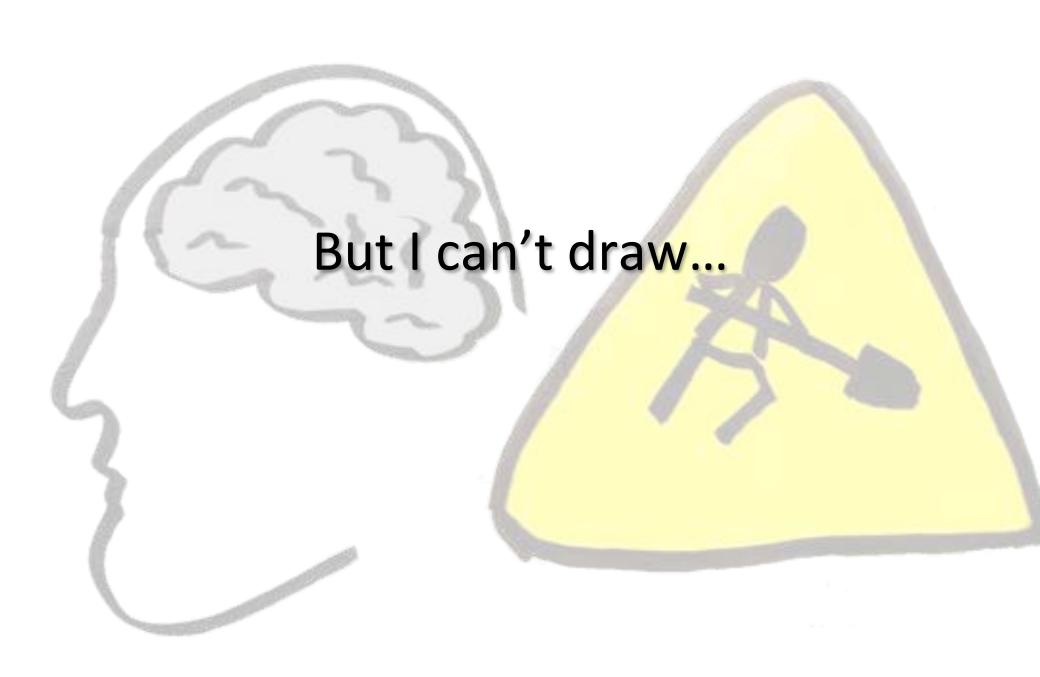


# Example: DWH model



## **Example: SBTM Model**





#### But...



## ... I can't draw!

Are you sure?

No fear!

All you need is paper and a pen or pencil!



#### Ideas not art

You don't have to draw like an artist to tell that these both are houses





## The basics

## Pick up your pencil and join me in drawing

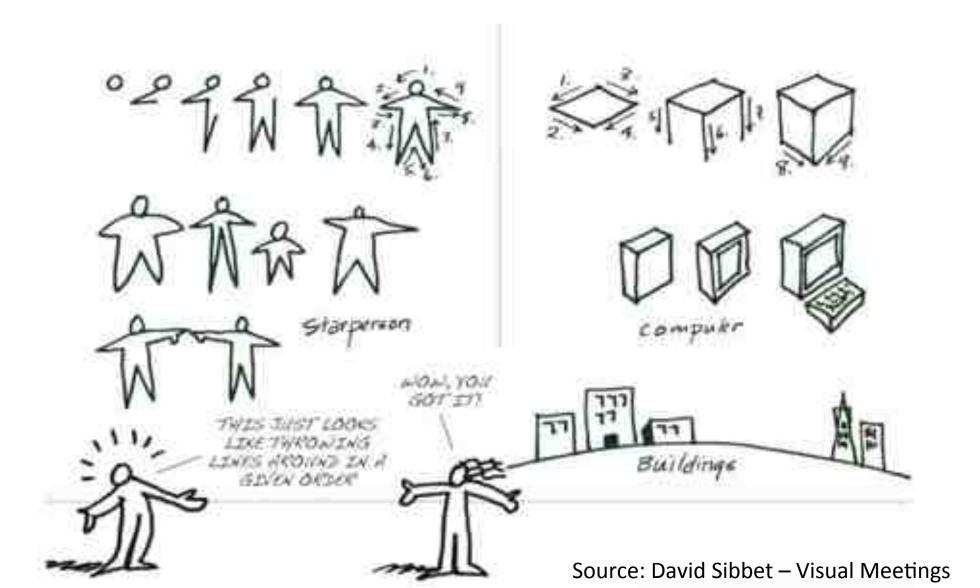
- A point
- A line
- A triangle

- A square
- Some arrows
- A circle

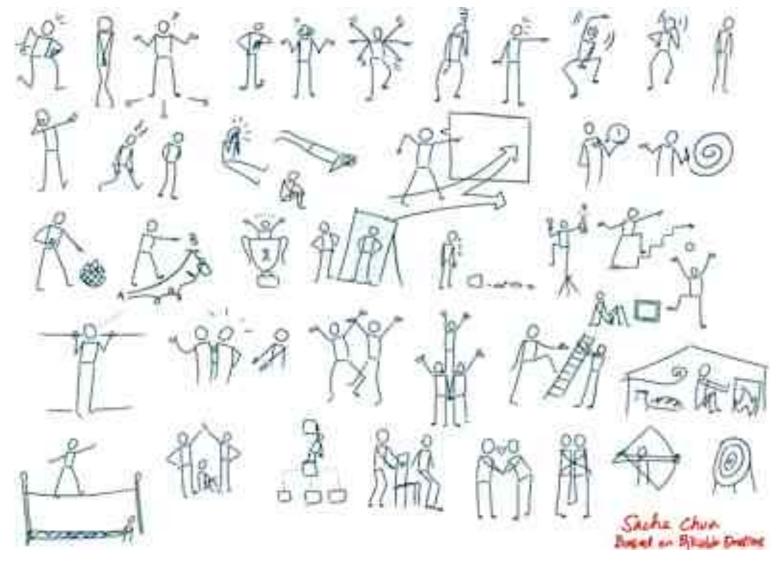
Use these basics to make any shape you want

Don't be afraid. You can always erase and start again.

# People and objects



# Visual Vocabulary



Source: http://sachachua.com/blog/2013/03/sketchnotes-building-my-visual-vocabulary/

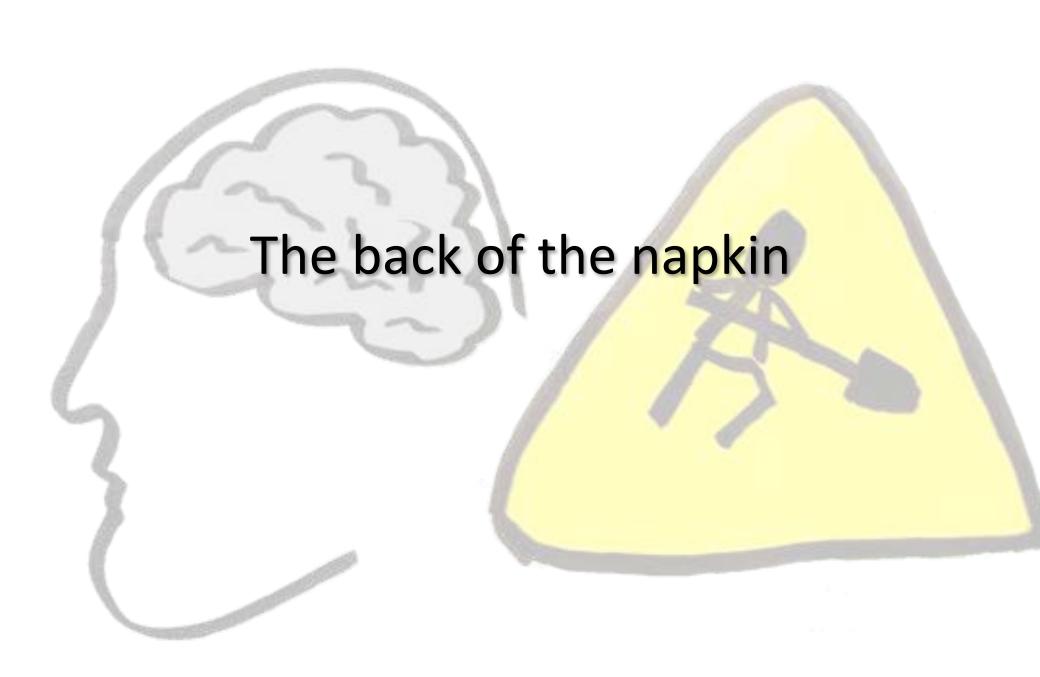


Source: http://cheryllowry.com/2013/05/03/sketchnote-building-blocks-visual-vocabulary/

#### Let's draw!

- Star figure
- Computer
- Cup of coffee
- Book
- Files
- Database
- Sailboat
- Flag
- Idea

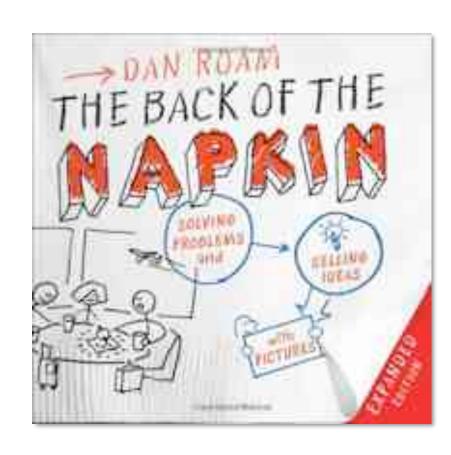




### Dan Roam – The Back of the Napkin

Every problem can be solved by drawing a simple picture!

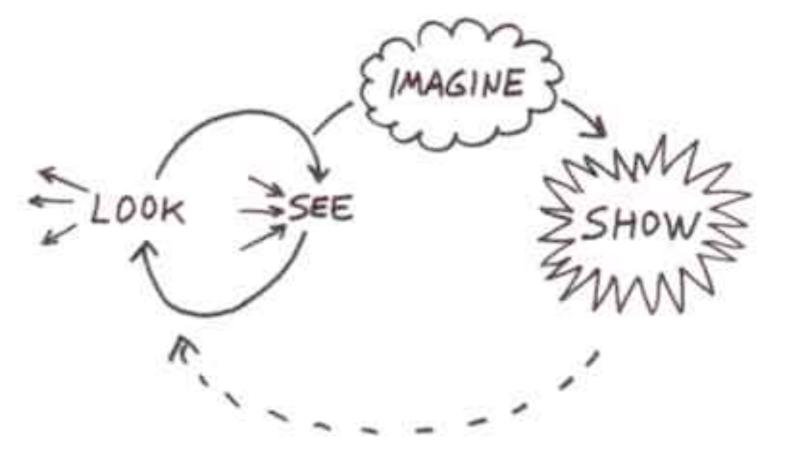
4 steps of visual thinking6 ways we look5 questions that help focus



SOURCE: HTTP://WWW.DANROAM.COM

# 4 steps of visual thinking

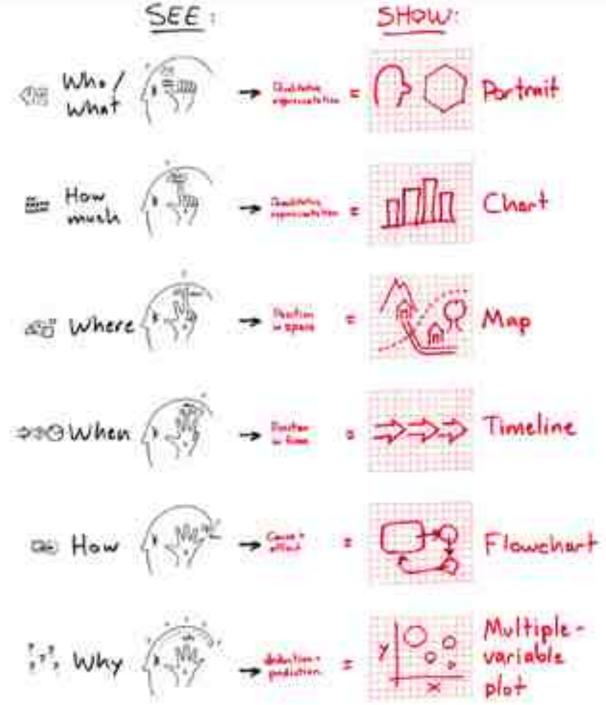
- 1. Look
- 2. See
- 3. Imagine
- 4. Show



SOURCE: HTTP://WWW.DANROAM.COM

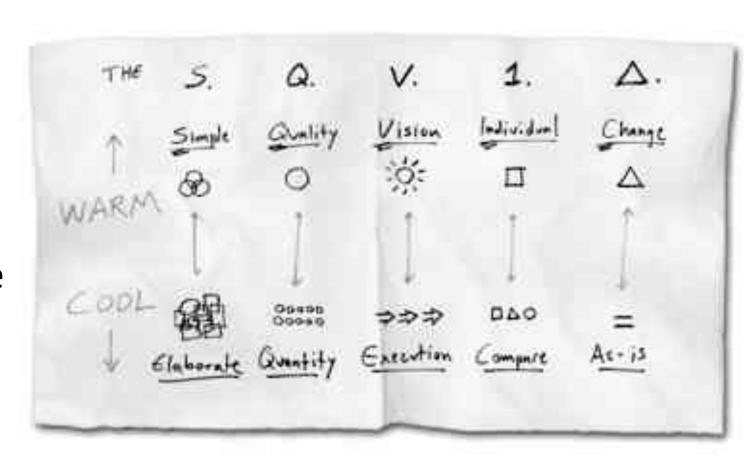
# 6 ways we look 6 ways we show

- 1. Who/What
- 2. How much
- 3. Where
- 4. When
- 5. How
- 6. Why



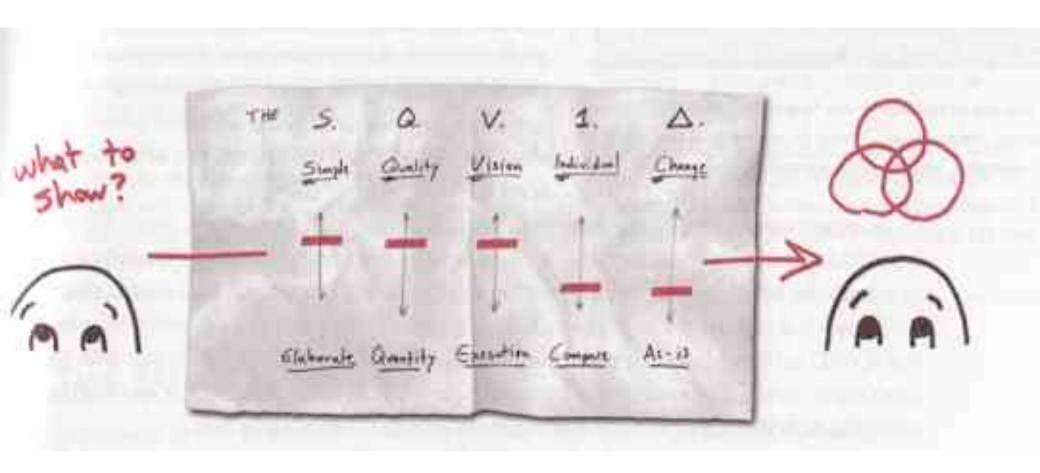
### 5 questions that help focus: the SQVID

- 1. Simple
- 2. Quality
- 3. Vision
- 4. Individual
- 5. Difference



SOURCE: HTTP://WWW.DANROAM.COM

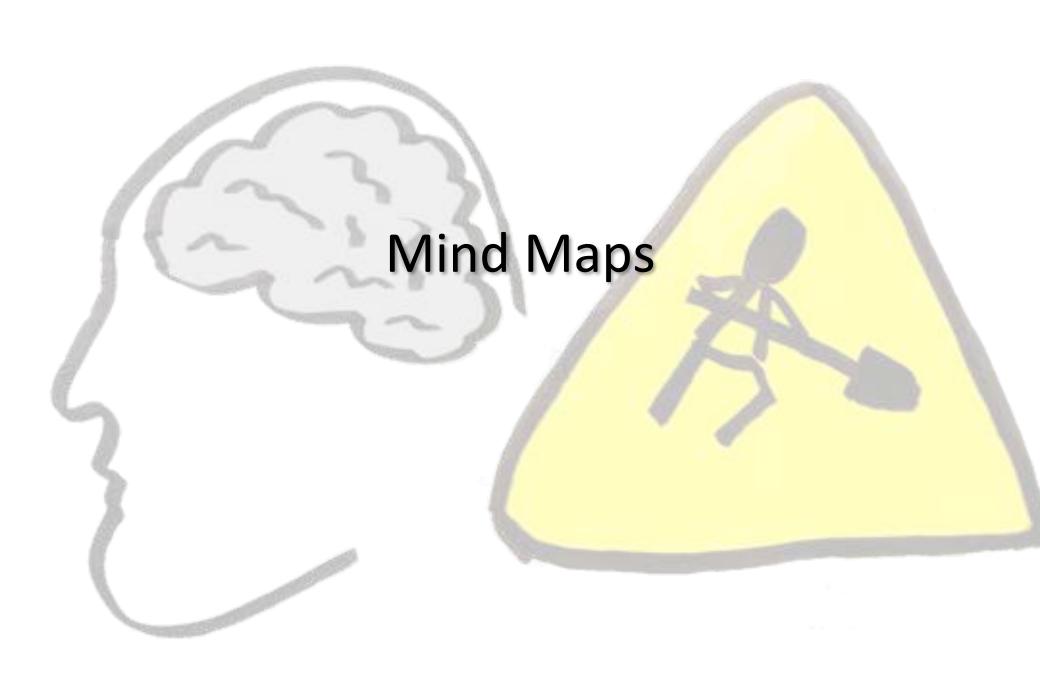
### 5 questions that help focus: the SQVID



SOURCE: THE BACK OF THE NAPKIN – DAN ROAM (PAGE 101)

# How is the Napkin useful?





### Mind map

#### A combination of:

- Images
- Symbols
- Codes
- Dimensions
- Key words

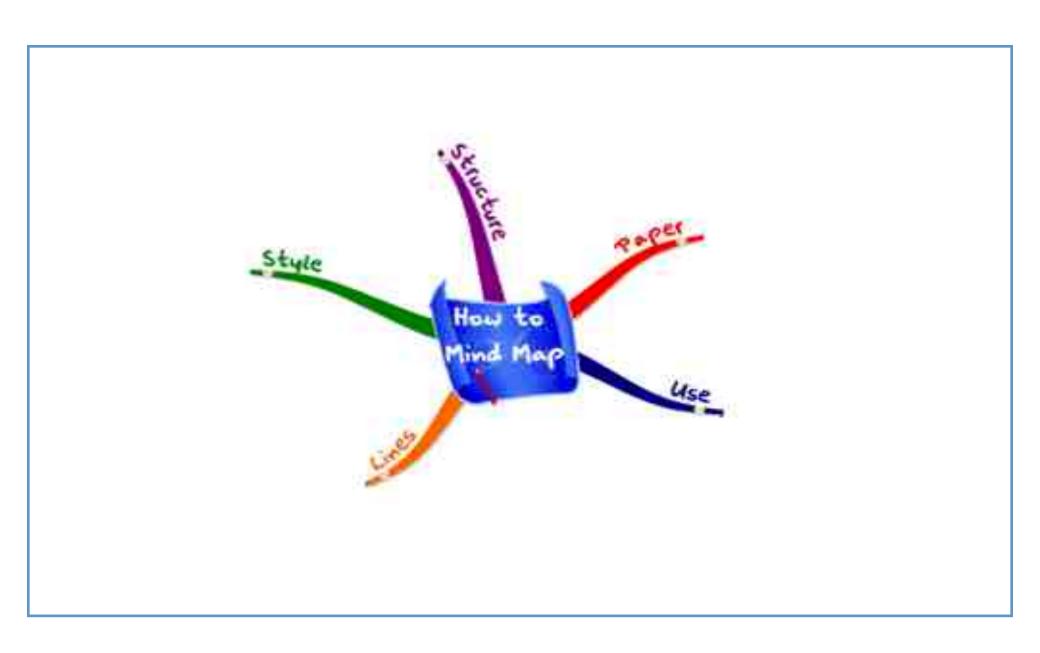
Goal: To store and transmit information

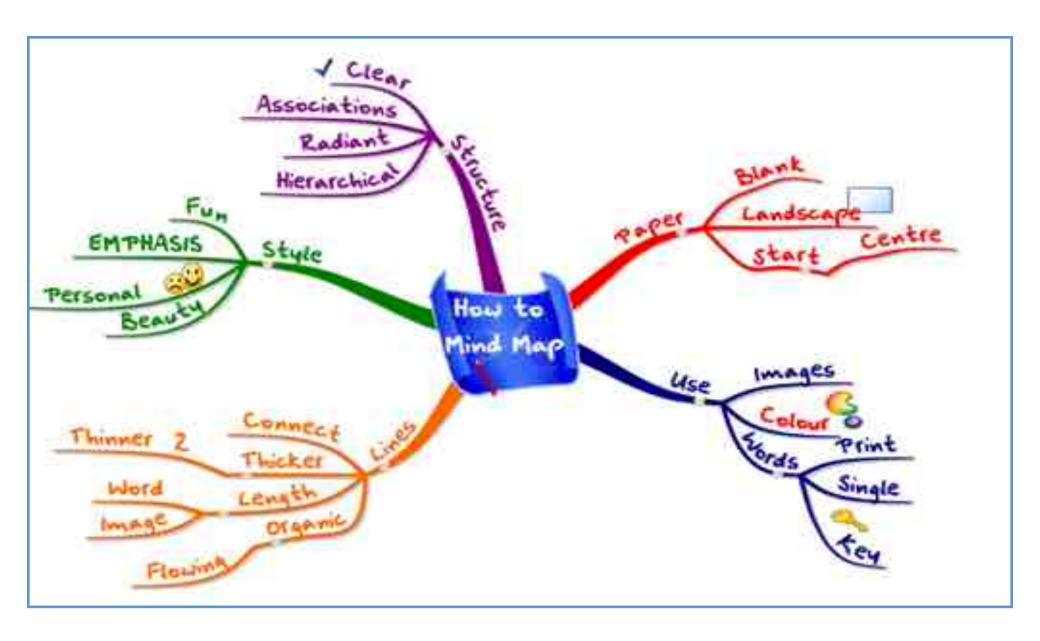


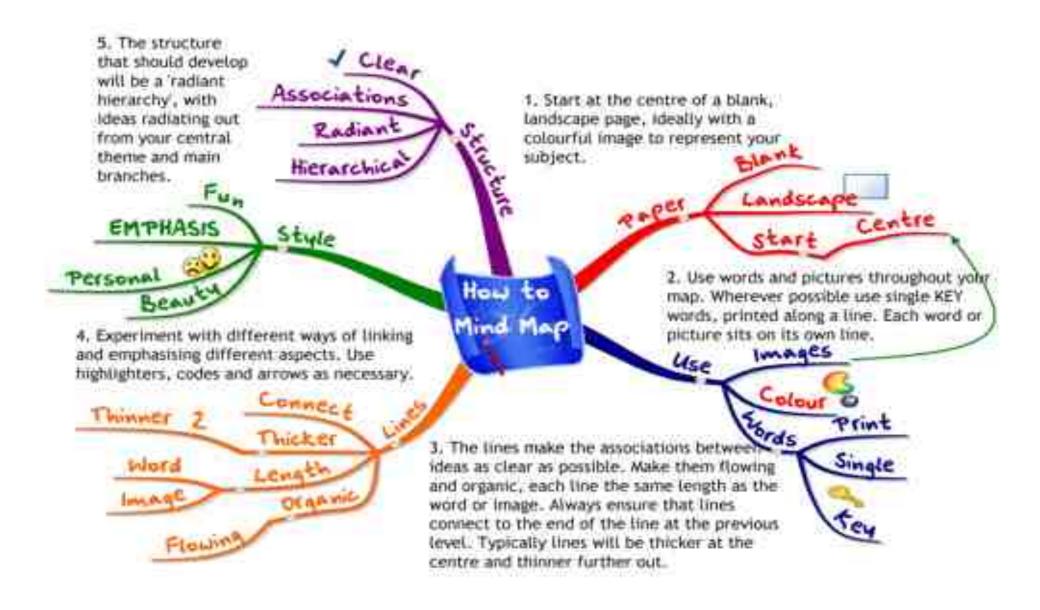












### Create your 1st mind map



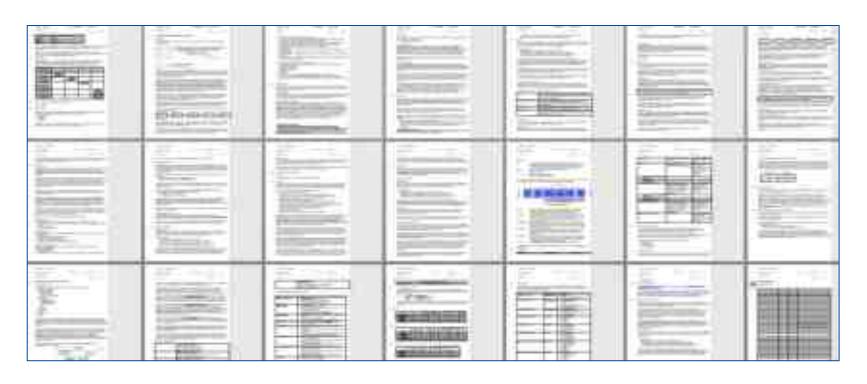
Create a mind map in 10 minutes:

- Who are you?
- What are your goals for Let's Test
- Your projects test strategy
- How would you test a salt shaker?
- Anything else you want to share...



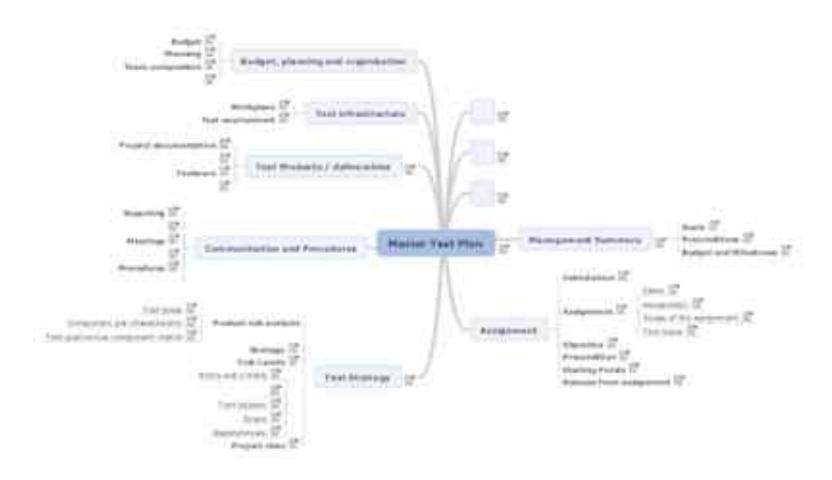
Present your mind map to the group in 60 seconds

### Test plan example



- Lots of text (this example = 55 pages!!!)
- Inaccessible
- Does anybody really read these?

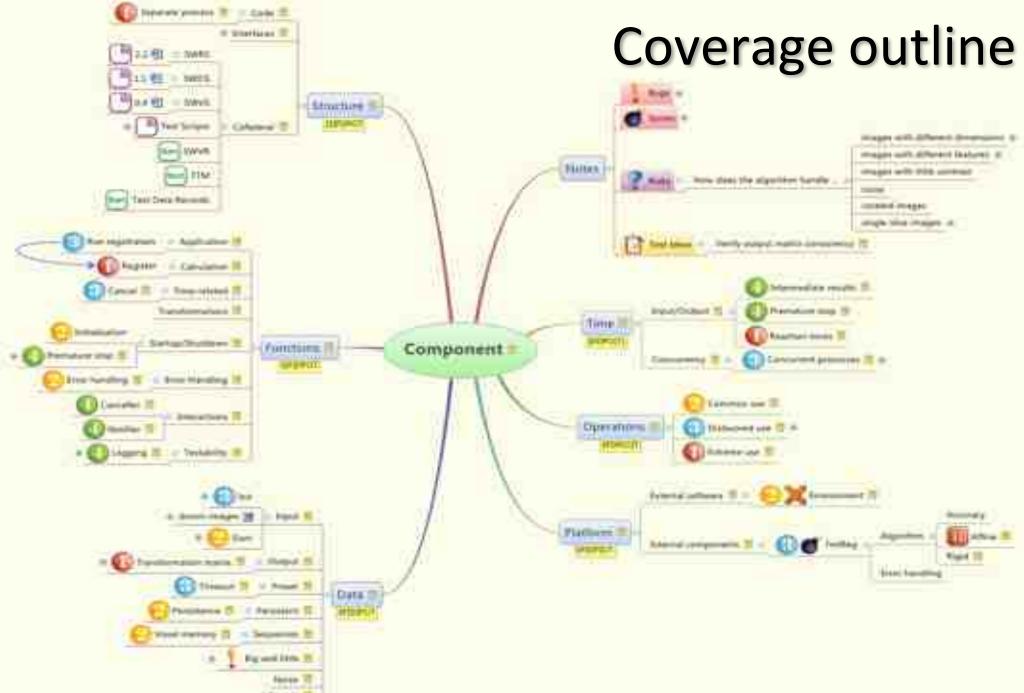
## Test plan example



Doc imported

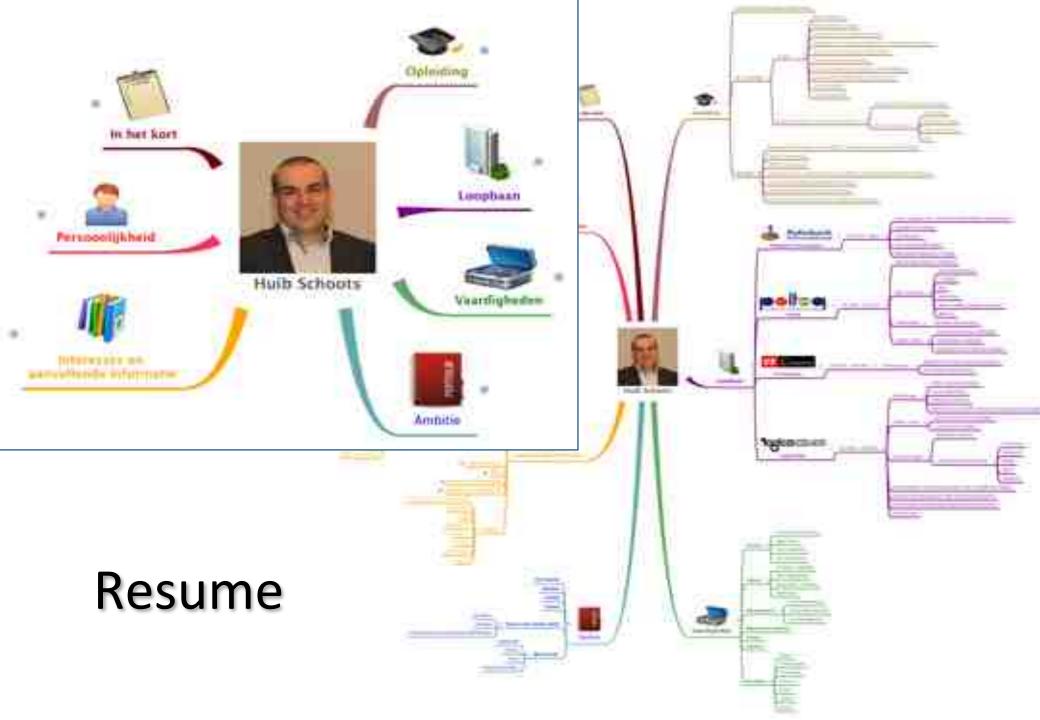
### Test plan: mind map

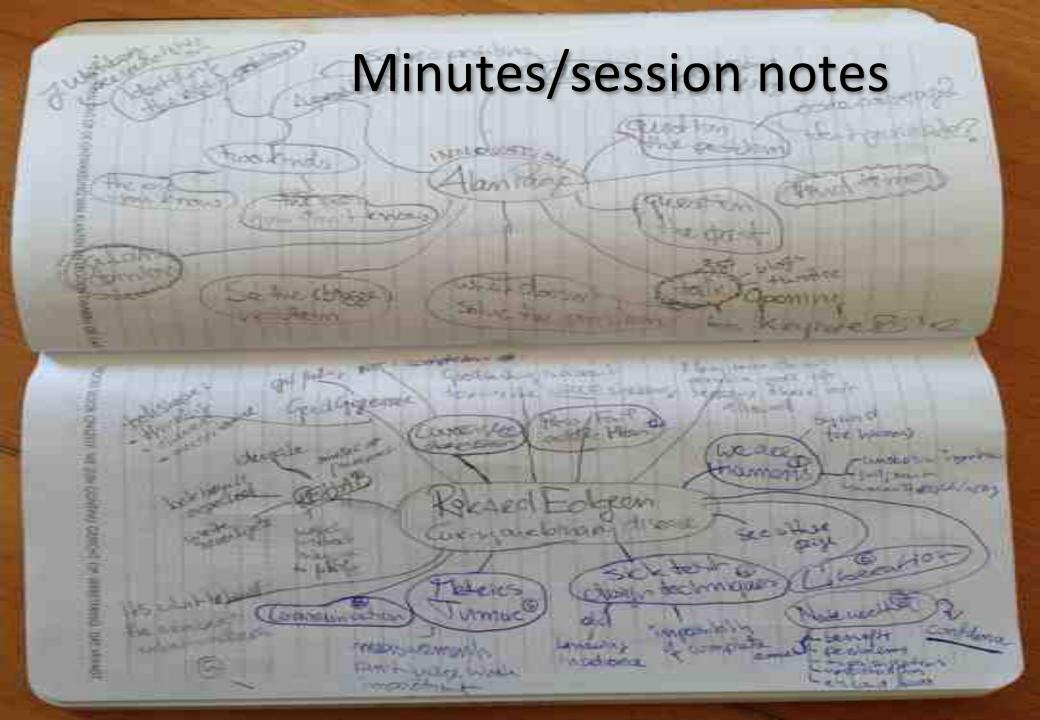




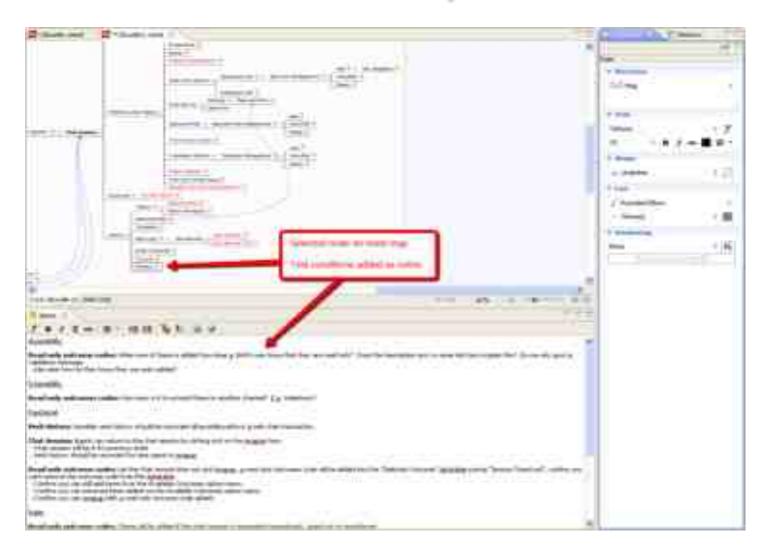
Source: Ruud Cox, Testing in a Medical Device Context, EuroStar 2012







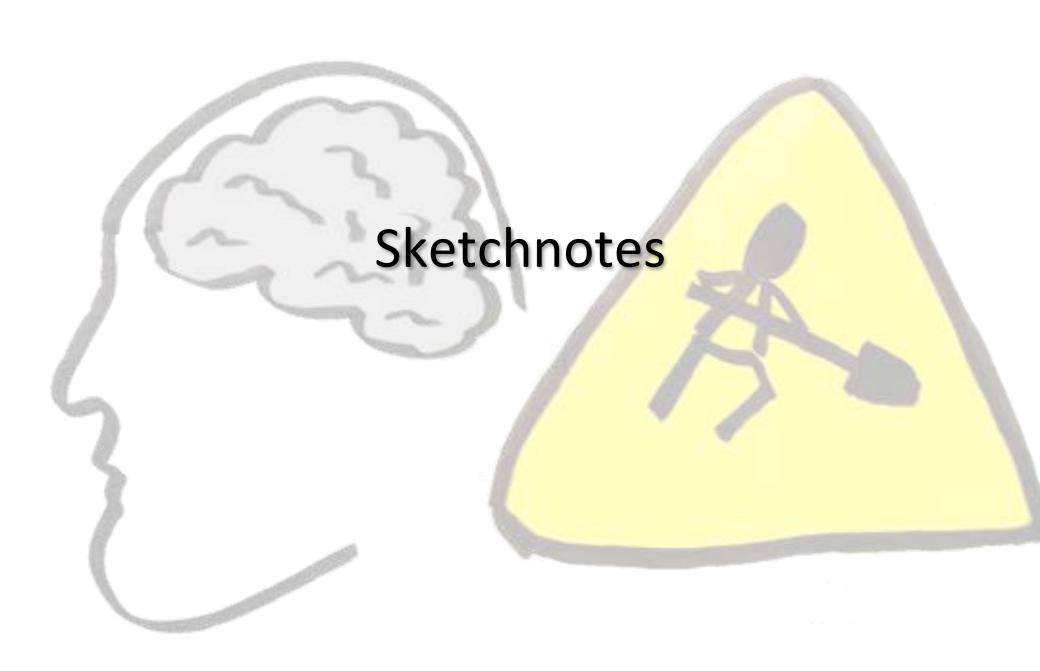
### Test cases / test ideas



Source: http://www.bettertesting.co.uk

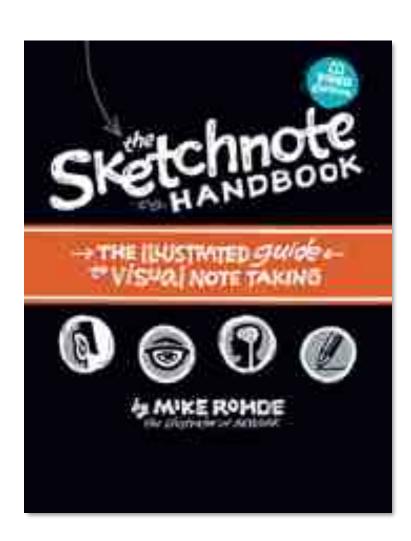
### Impact Mapping



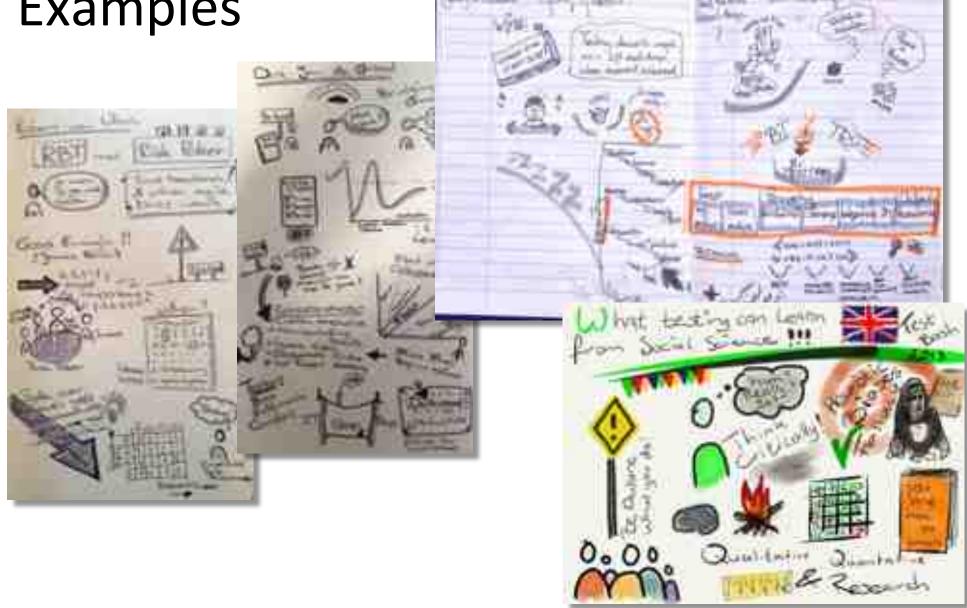


#### Sketchnotes

- 1. Engages your whole mind
- 2. Creates a visual map
- 3. Helps your concentration
- 4. Taps your visual language
- 5. Relaxing
- 6. Dynamic and fun!



# Examples



#### **Exercise Sketchnotes**



You will now see two short movies:

- 1. Sugata Mitra: Build a school in the cloud
- 2. Fiona Charles: Requirements suck. Get over it!

Sketchnote them...

### Sugata Mitra: Build a school in the cloud



Source: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3jYVe1RGaU

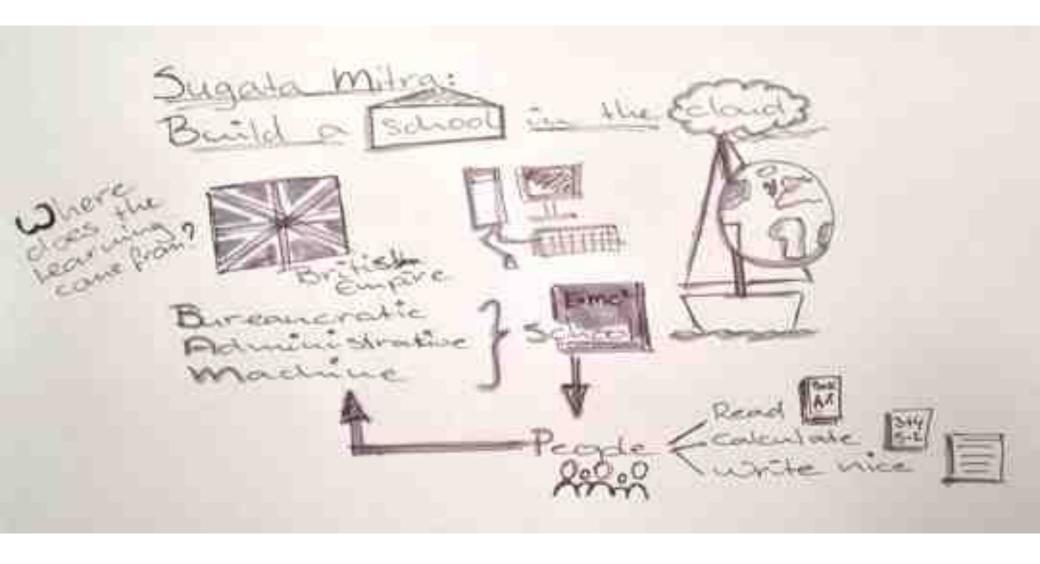
#### **Exercise Sketchnotes**



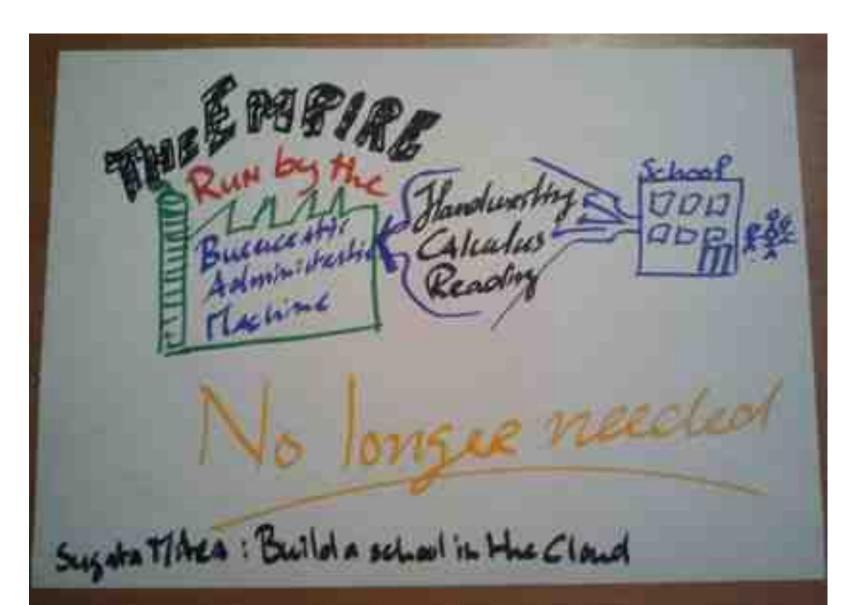
So? How did that go?

What was easier than you expected? What was hard to do?

### Sketchnotes Huib



#### Sketchnotes Jean-Paul



#### Fiona Charles: Requirements suck. Get over it!



Source: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VefQrJ\_h84g

#### **Exercise Sketchnotes**



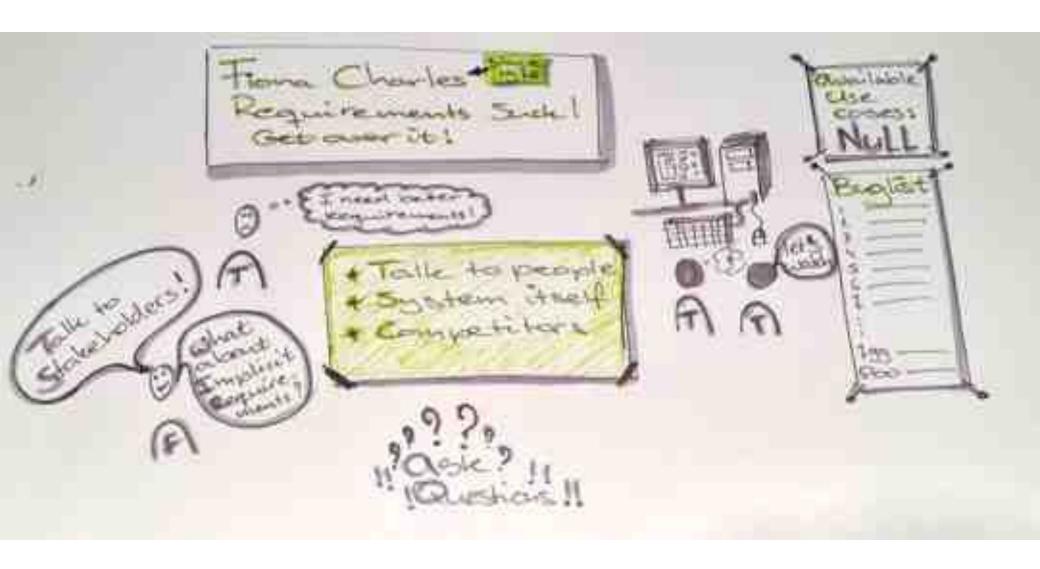
And now? How did that go?

What was easier than you expected?

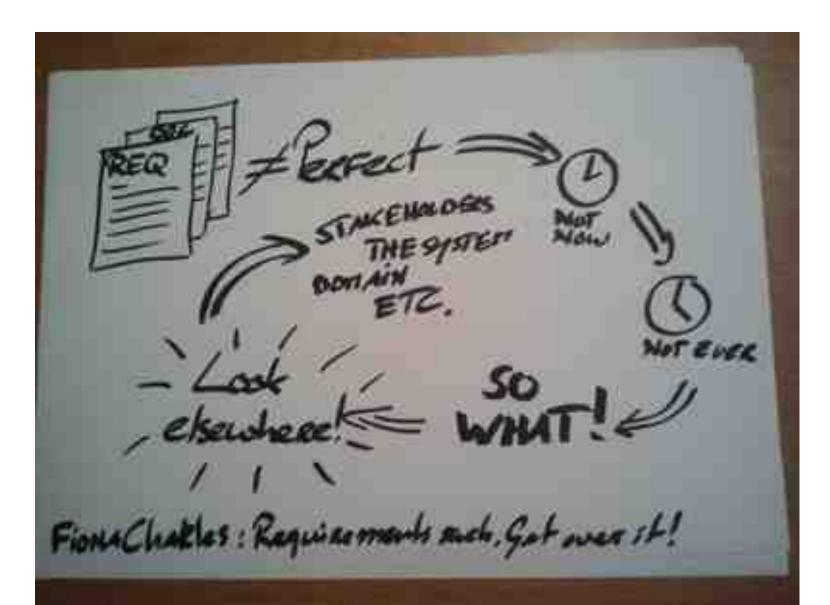
What was hard to do?

Did you do something different the second time?

#### Sketchnotes Huib



#### Sketchnotes Jean-Paul

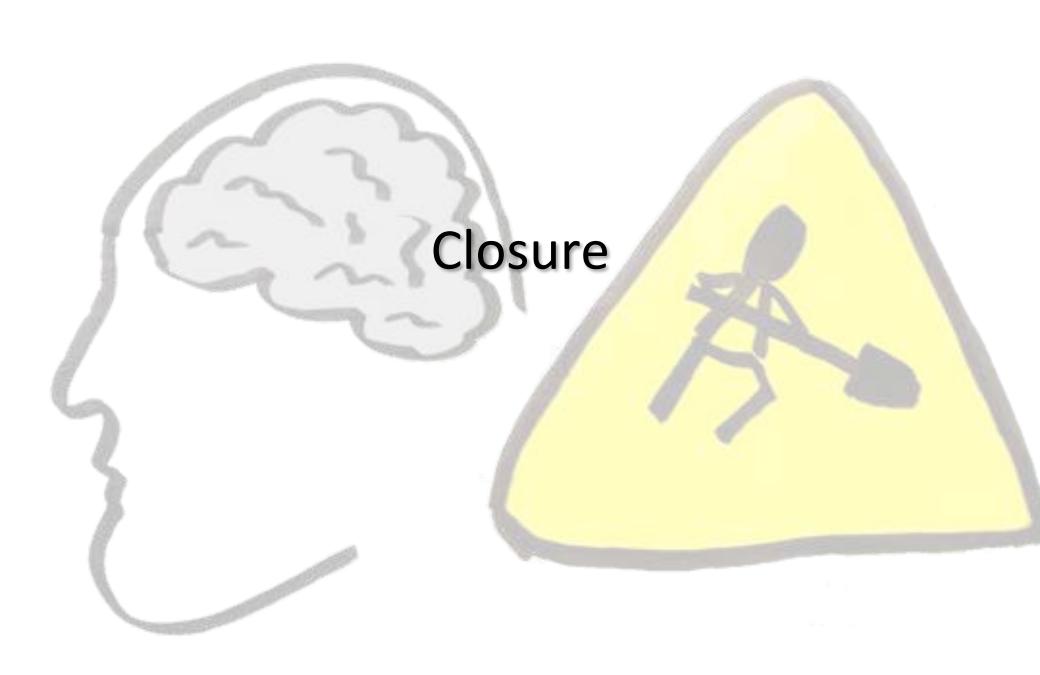


## Draw something

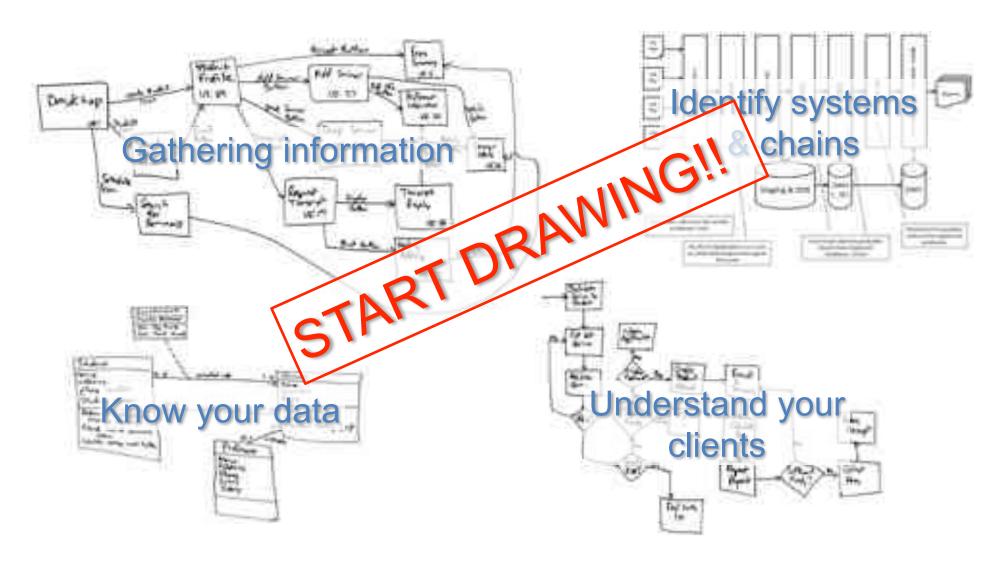


Now draw anything your current project could benefit from...

Discuss with your neighbour why it is benefitial



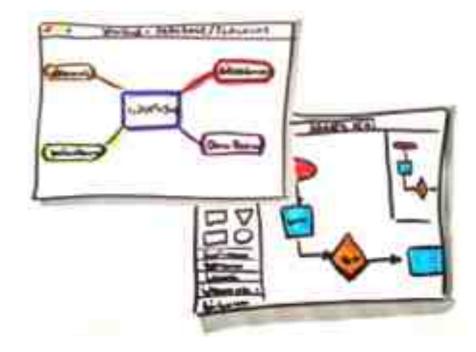
## Working & thinking visual for testers...



## **Tools**

- Freemind
- Xmind
- Paper (ipad)
- Sketchbook (Android)
- Gliffy
- yEd
- pixlr.com
- Notepad++, UltraEdit, Textwrangler
- Powerpoint
- Excel
- Screen Capture

And your notebook and fineliners ©



"Think. Make your thinking visible. Communicate your thinking. And do it your way."

Alan Richardson

# Questions?



## Acknowledgements

Many of the ideas in this presentation were inspired by colleagues including Michael Bolton, James Bach, Gojko Adzic, Mike Rohde, Dan Roam, Jeff Patton, Jurgen Appelo, Ruud Cox, Pascal Dufour, Derk-Jan de Grood, Fiona Charles, Sugata Mitra and Alan Richardson



#### **Books:**

- Back of Napkin (Dan Roam)
- Sketchnotes (Mike Rohde)
- The mind map book (Tony Buzan)
- Visual Meetings (David Sibbet)
- Bikablo (Neuland.com)
- Edward Tufte: http://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte/books\_vdqi
- 12 visualisation books:
  http://www.targetprocess.com/blog/2012/09/visualization-books.htm



#### Videos:

- Alan Richardson: Thinking Visually In Software Testing http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4hvAbN2QbE
- Rob Sabourin: Whiteboarding for Testers, Developers and Customers too http://vimeo.com/55845357#
- Sunni Brown: Doodlers, unite!
  <a href="http://www.ted.com/talks/sunni\_brown.html">http://www.ted.com/talks/sunni\_brown.html</a>
- Rachel Smith: Drawing in class http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tJPeumHNLY
- Hans Rosling: Stats that reshape your worldview
  <a href="http://www.ted.com/talks/hans">http://www.ted.com/talks/hans</a> rosling shows the best stats you ve ever seen.html



#### **Presentations:**

- Rob Sabourin Visual Test Design
  <a href="http://www.amibugshare.com/workshops/Workshop\_Visual\_Test\_Design.zip">http://www.amibugshare.com/workshops/Workshop\_Visual\_Test\_Design.zip</a>
- Visual Thinking Liz Burow
  <a href="http://www.slideshare.net/burowe/visual-thinking-presentation-for-united-health-innovation-day">http://www.slideshare.net/burowe/visual-thinking-presentation-for-united-health-innovation-day</a>
- An Introduction to Visual Thinking Ryan Coleman <a href="http://www.slideshare.net/rycoleman/an-introduction-to-visual-thinking">http://www.slideshare.net/rycoleman/an-introduction-to-visual-thinking</a>
- Visual Creative Thinking Kelsey Ruger
  <a href="http://www.slideshare.net/homehelper/visual-creative-thinking-1260733">http://www.slideshare.net/homehelper/visual-creative-thinking-1260733</a>
- Solving Problems with pictures Santo Thie <a href="http://www.slideshare.net/stsanto">http://www.slideshare.net/stsanto</a>



#### Websites / blogposts:

- 14 Ways to Present Information Visually <a href="http://www.velocitypartners.co.uk/our-blog/infographics-14-ways-to-present-information-visually/">http://www.velocitypartners.co.uk/our-blog/infographics-14-ways-to-present-information-visually/</a>
- Thinking Visually Johan Jonasson http://blog.johanjonasson.com/?p=154
- Breaking the Tyranny of Form Fiona Charles
  <a href="http://quality-intelligence.blogspot.nl/2012/06/breaking-tyranny-of-form-part-1.html">http://quality-intelligence.blogspot.nl/2012/06/breaking-tyranny-of-form-part-1.html</a>
- Visualisation Huib Schoots
  <a href="http://www.huibschoots.nl/wordpress/?p=927">http://www.huibschoots.nl/wordpress/?p=927</a>
- Big Visible Testing Claire Moss
  <a href="http://blog.aclairefication.com/2012/08/big-visible-testing/">http://blog.aclairefication.com/2012/08/big-visible-testing/</a>
- Can you solve these visual thinking puzzles?
  <a href="http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/brain-workout/200903/can-you-solve-these-visual-thinking-puzzles">http://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/brain-workout/200903/can-you-solve-these-visual-thinking-puzzles</a>

#### Websites / blogposts:

- Patterns for Information Visualization
  <a href="http://www.targetprocess.com/articles/information-visualization/">http://www.targetprocess.com/articles/information-visualization/</a>
- Sketchnote Index http://sketchnoteindex.com/
- Sketchnote Army <a href="http://sketchnotearmy.com/">http://sketchnotearmy.com/</a>
- Sketchnotes on plntrest.com
  <a href="http://pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=sketchnotes">http://pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=sketchnotes</a>
- Sketchnoting for absolute beginners Laurens Bonnema <a href="http://laurensbonnema.blogspot.nl/2013/02/sketchnoting-for-absolute-beginners.html">http://laurensbonnema.blogspot.nl/2013/02/sketchnoting-for-absolute-beginners.html</a>
- Building a visual vocabulary
  http://sachachua.com/blog/2013/03/sketchnotes-building-my-visual-vocabulary
  http://cheryllowry.com/2013/05/03/sketchnote-building-blocks-visual-vocabulary/

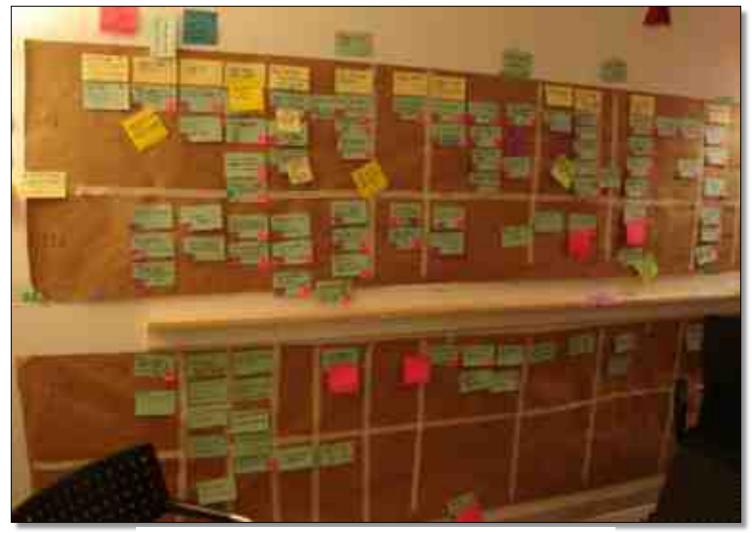


## Visual walls

Business Canvas
Product Canvas
Personas

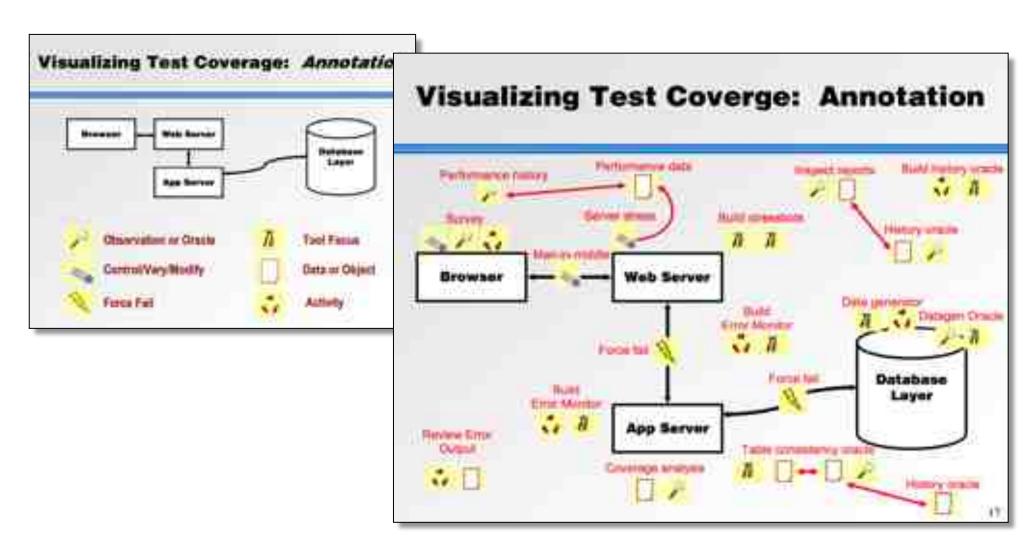


# Story and effect mapping



JEFF PATTON - STORY MAP - HTTP://AGILEPRODUCTDESIGN.COM

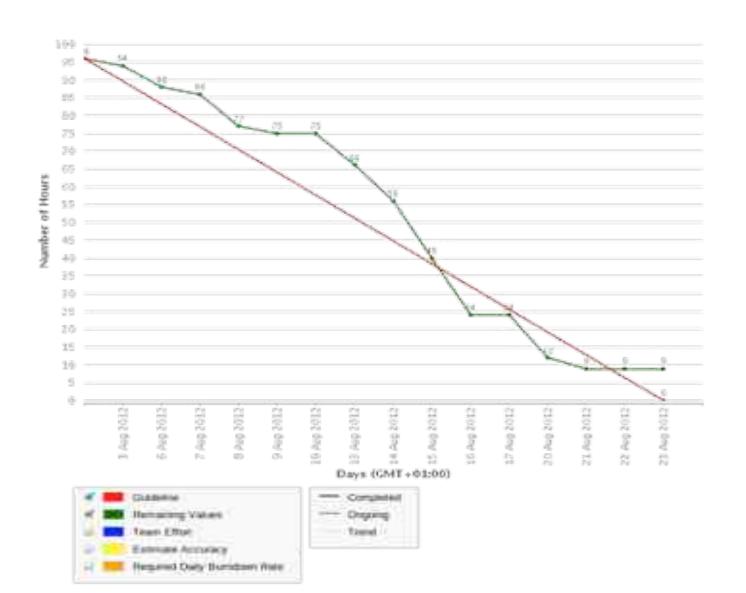
## Visual Test Strategy



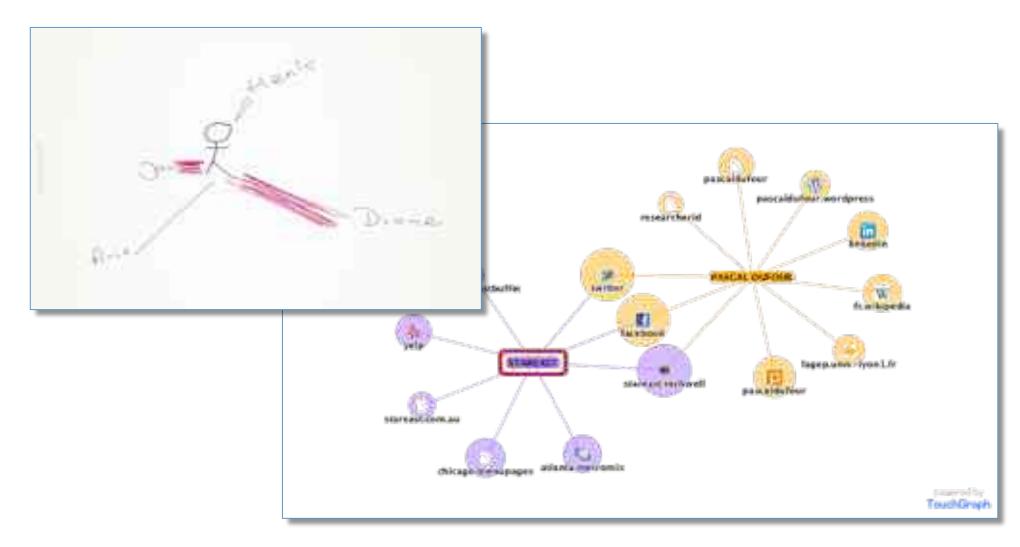
## Scrum Boards



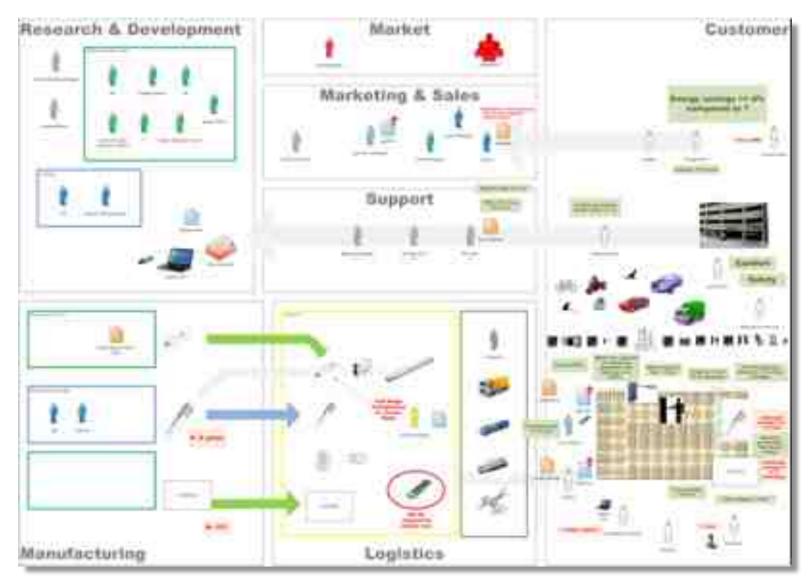
## Burndown



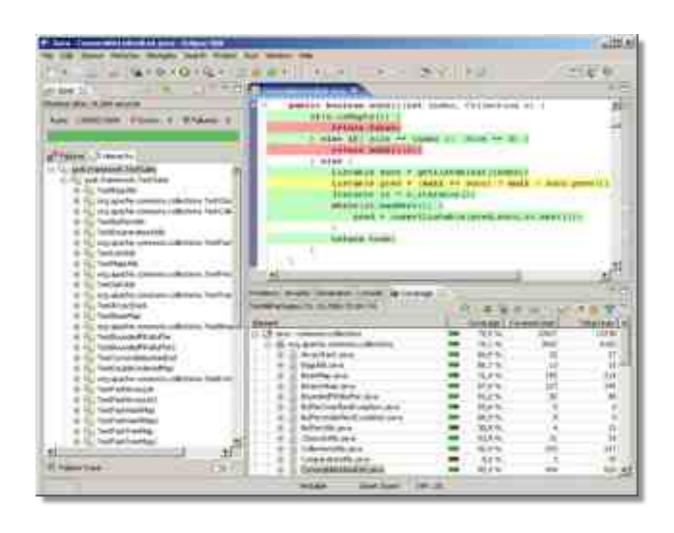
## Contact graphs



## Stakeholders



## **Code Coverage**



## Low Tech Dashboards

Testing Dashboard				Updated: Build: 2/21 38
Area	Effort	C	Q.	Comment s
file/edit	high	1	65	
view	low	1+	(3)	1345, 1363, 1401
insert	low	2	523	
format	low	2+	(3)	automation broken
tools	blocked	1	(3)	crashes: 1406, 1407
slideshow	low	2	(3)	animation memory leak
online help	blocked	0	0.0	new files not delivered
dipart	none	1	3	need help to test
convert ers	none	1	(3)	need help to test
install		0		
compatibility	start 3/17	0		lab time is scheduled
general GUI	low	3	(55)	

# **Current Project**

