**Affinity Diagram Discussion**

**Home Page:**

The home page consists of a minimal design that allows users to quickly access the key features of our application. Our design requirements from stage two focused on being able to set reminders, access the plant catalogue, and plant identification. These key features are all made accessible through the home page. In addition, the home page also contains key features found in most other applications homepage such as settings, and log/sign in options (if applicable). The strengths of this approach to the home page are that users are not bogged down by having to navigate through multiple layers of interfaces in order to access a key feature, reducing user fatigue from using the application and creating an easily memorable UI where the user can always return to the home page if they want to use a different key feature. A potential weakness in this implementation could be that non-key features become harder to locate, and a user might have to relearn where a specific feature is if the feature is not commonly used, creating a not easily memorable UI. Though in practicality, this weakness might be a necessary one as the identifiable solution of having everything, key feature or not, accessible through the home page would create a wildly cluttered UI that might result in being even harder to navigate. So instead by focusing on improving the user experience around the key features, we can hopefully minimize the overall complexity and maximize the user friendliness of our application. The feasibility of this approach is very realistic as cutting down the home page to the key features does not prevent us from implementing the features that the application requires. In terms of originality, the minimal design of the home page is not new or revolutionary as many applications (e.g., Snapchat, Google, Facebook, etc.) tend to simply their home page to the key features of their applications intended usage.

**Catalogue:**

The catalogue consists of an interface where the user can search plants, view recommended plants, add plants to their personal lists, and learn more about the plant by clicking on it. This approach remains in theme with the design requirements of being able to learn more about some plant through its index in the catalogue, being able to add plants to a personal list, and receiving plant recommendations. The strength of this approach is that it is intuitive in that the catalogue contains a catalogue of plants that the user can access that further catalogues each plants information. Being able to add a plant directly from the catalogue to your list is also intuitive and removes the need to navigate back and forth between interfaces. A weakness to this approach is that searches might return lists that are too long for users to easily navigate. The feasibility of this approach is realistic but not easy as implementing an effective search engine and creating the database of plants would be a massive undertaking. The originality of this approach is not new in the sense that, there are applications that also implement search engines that allow users to filter and add results to a personalized list, one example being restaurant recommendation applications.

**Reminders:**

The reminders feature allows users to create reminders for a multitude of tasks, and to dismiss said task once reminded. This remains true to the key feature discussed in our design requirement, though removes the recommended timings for watering and maintenance based on said plant/species. The strength for this approach is in the simplicity and the familiarity as most users have probably also used other reminder applications such as a simple alarm clock. A weakness is that having to create a reminder for each new plant could be repetitive and might lead to users becoming disinterested in creating new reminders. The feasibility of this feature would be very realistic as it mainly reduces to the feature being a specialized reminders application. The feature would therefore not be very original as reminder applications are very common.

**Plant Info:**

The plant info feature acts as a type of encyclopedia for plants which remains true to the design requirements set in stage two of being able to access plant information. In addition, users are also able to journal and add a plants status/health and to update it. The strength of this approach is that users would be able to individualize plants to better care for their health. A weakness would be that if the plant is categorized falsely, it could be detrimental to the health of the plant. The feasibility of this feature would be difficult to implement, as similarly to the catalogue, a search engine and database would have to be implemented as well as refinement of both to reduce the likely hood of false categorizations. The originality of this feature is a mixture of both already done (encyclopedia, journal) and original (plant specific categorization for upkeeping plant health/status).

**Add New Plant:**

The add new plant feature allows users to use their camera, a survey, or the catalogue to find out what a certain plant might be on a best match basis which remains true to the design requirements set in stage two. The strength of this approach is that it covers a wide range of ways to finding out what a plant is. The weakness would be that there would be many false positives as none of the given methods would be able to guarantee a correct result. The feasibility of this feature would be massively difficult as with the camera scanning method, a complex, refined, and revolutionary algorithm would have to be developed for it to produce any meaningful desired results, and with the survey method, an intensive questionnaire with another complex algorithm would also have to be developed. The catalogue method would be the most feasible yet would still face challenges as mentioned with the catalogue method, where a deep database and search engine would have to be made. The originality of this feature would be very high, as due to the difficulty, no other application (that we know of) have been able to implement said type of feature.