

# BRAINSTORMING & TEAMWORK



# When are assignments due?

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**exceptions:** completed  
during class/section



# Today

- Brainstorming +
- Teamwork =
- Team brainstorming
  - Assignment 2a: Project ideation

# Brainstorming

*Reading  
posted on  
webpage*

7

secrets to good  
brainstorming

1. Sharpen the focus.
2. Write playful rules.
3. Number your ideas.
4. Build and jump.
5. Make the space remember.
6. Stretch your mental muscles.
7. Get physical.



Tom Kelley,  
IDEO

# Brainstorming

7

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## I. Sharpen the focus.

“spill-proof coffee cup lids”

*too narrow*

“bicycle cup holders”

*too dry and  
product focused*

“helping bike customers to  
drink coffee without spilling  
or burning their tongues”

*good*

# Brainstorming

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## 2. Write playful rules.

Don't start to critique or debate  
Go for quantity *100 ideas/hour*  
Encourage wild ideas  
Be visual





# Brainstorming

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## 3. Number your ideas.

Keeps you on track

Easy to jump back and resume

# Brainstorming

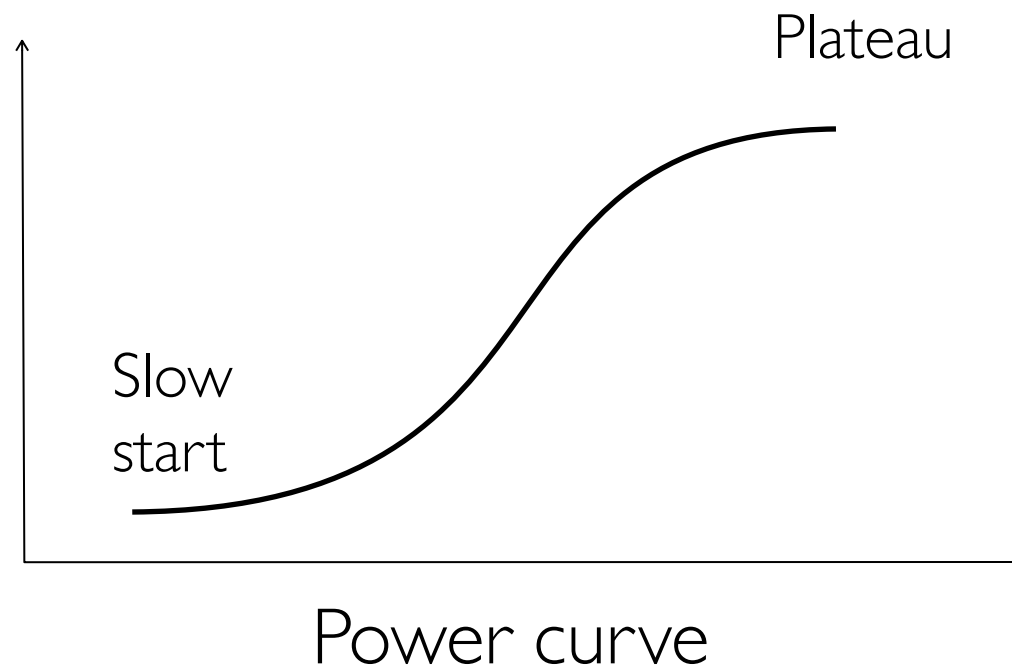
7

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## 4. Build and jump.

*build: what are other  
ideas?*

*jump: let's switch gears*

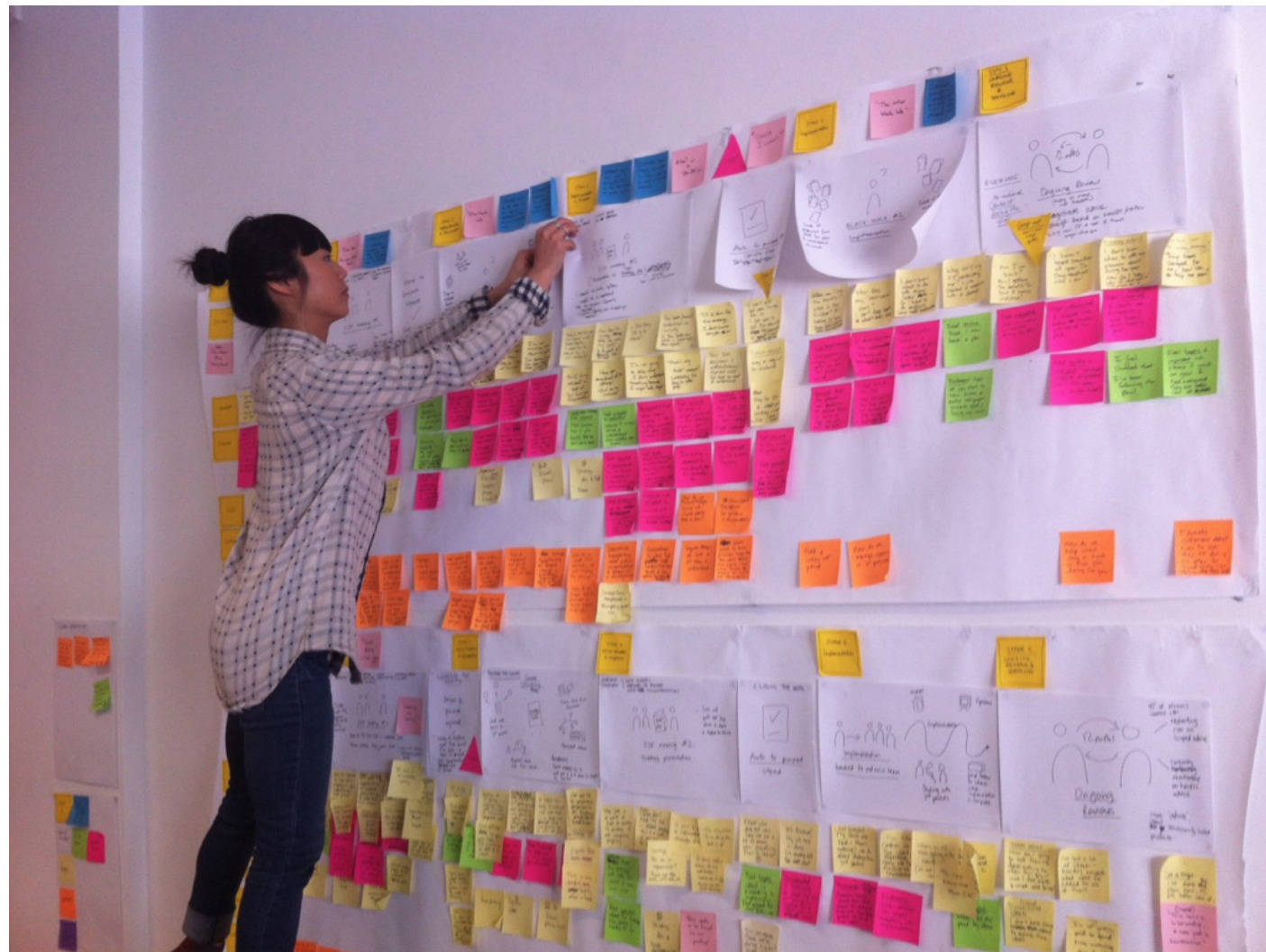


# Brainstorming

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secrets to good  
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## 5. The space remembers



# Brainstorming

7

secrets to good  
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6. Stretch your mental muscles.

*warm up before starting*

Background reading + expert lecture

Go to a toy store

Do nothing

*< - - outperformed*

# Brainstorming

7

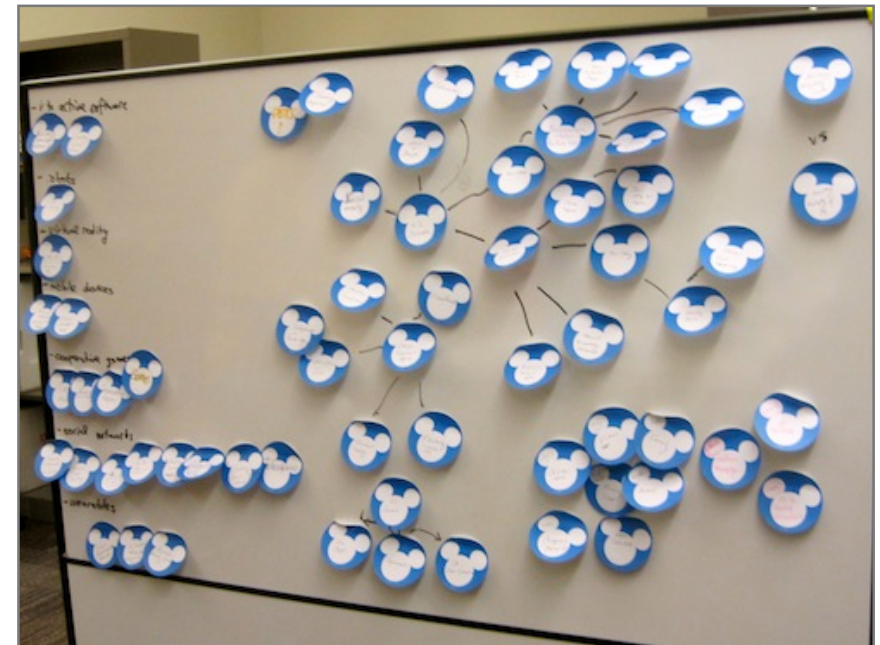
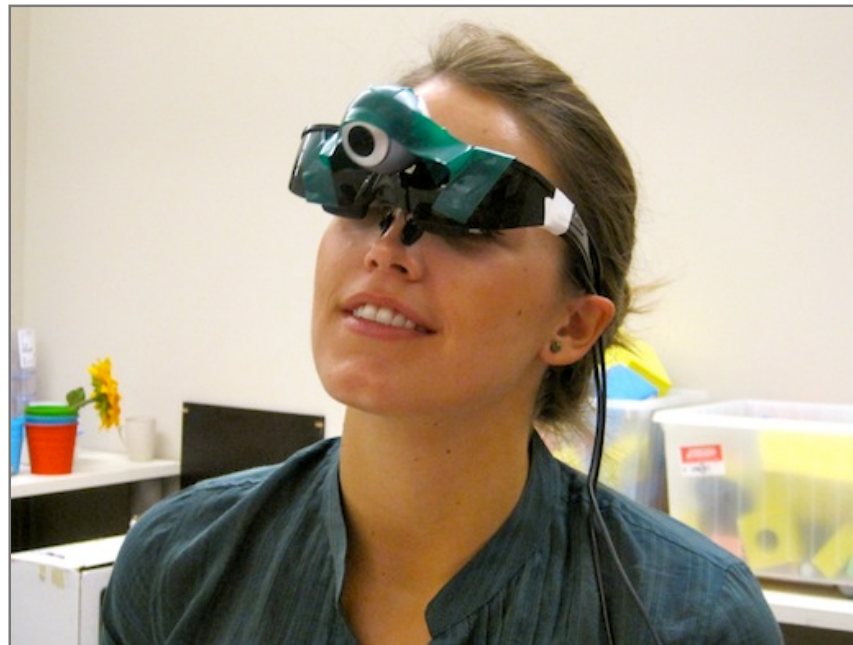
secrets to good  
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7. Get physical.

3D materials  
Bodystorming



# Brainstorming



*here's how we brainstormed google glass back when it didn't exist :)*

# Brainstorming

6

ways to kill a  
brainstormer

1. The boss gets to speak first.
2. Everybody gets a turn.
3. Experts only please.
4. Do it off-site.
5. No silly stuff.
6. Write down everything

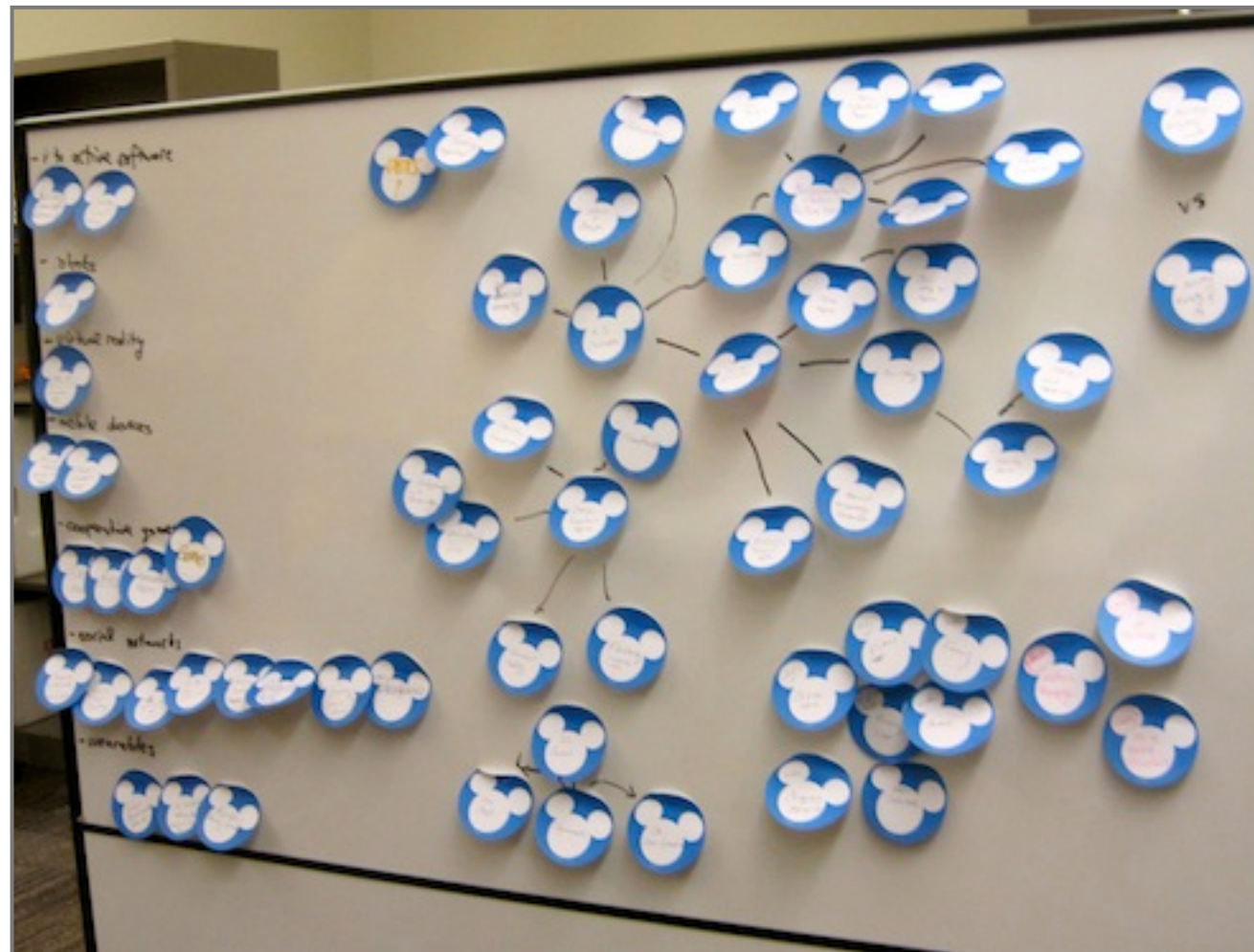
# Organizing data/ideas

- Affinity diagrams
  - Step 1: Put bite-size observation/idea on a card or post-it
  - Step 2: Place related observation/idea close together, indicate relationships
  - Step 3: Discover clusters and categorize all observation/ideas in a cluster (sometimes useful to have misc cluster)

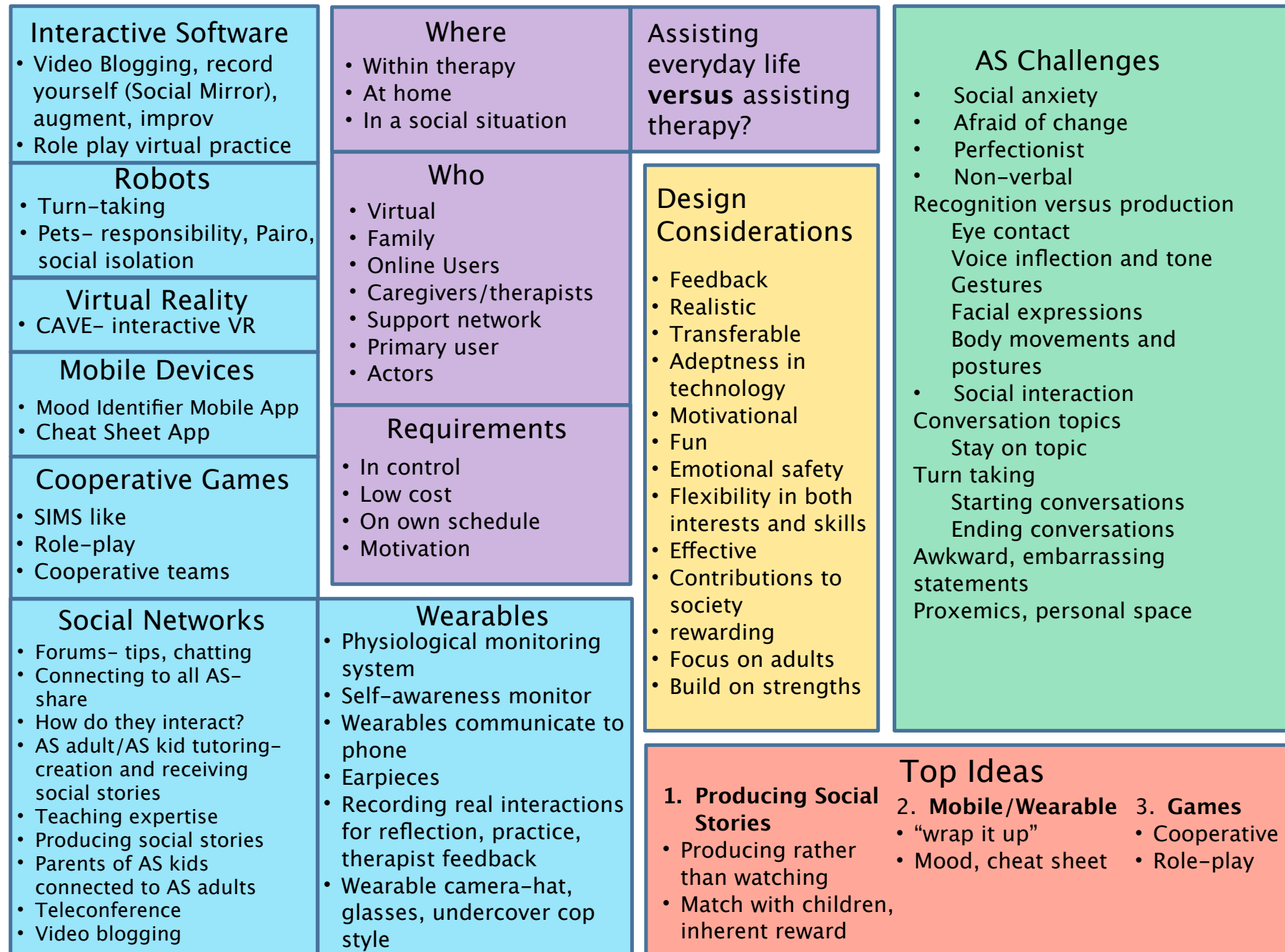


# Organizing data/ideas

Discover relationships and groups



# After affinity diagraming



# Teamwork

- Teams are different from groups
- There is a place for groups

**Working groups** are both prevalent and effective in large organizations where *individual accountability* is most important. The best working groups come together to:

- share information, perspectives, and insights
- make decisions that help each person do his or her job better
- reinforce individual performance standards.

# Teamwork

- Teams are different from groups
- There is a place for groups

**Teams** require both individual and mutual accountability. Teams rely on more than group discussion, debate, and decision; on more than sharing information and best practice performance standards. Teams produce discrete work-products through the joint contributions of their members. This is what makes possible performance levels greater than the sum of all the individual bests of team members.

# Teamwork

## Groups

- strong leader
- individual accountability
- organizational purpose
- individual work products
- efficient meetings
- measures performance by influence on others
- delegates work

## Teams

- shared leadership
- individual & mutual accountability
- specific team purpose
- collective work products
- open-ended meetings
- measures performance from work products
- does real work together

# Key to team success



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  - requires a purpose in which team members believe
- Specific performance goals
  - comes directly from the common purpose
  - helps maintain focus – start w/ something achievable



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- A right mix of skills
  - technical/functional expertise (programming/design/writing)
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  - interpersonal skills
- Agreement and mutual accountability
  - who will do particular jobs, when to meet & work, schedules

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  - You can split up, but you have to come back together
  - Use complementary skills, be mutually accountable

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- Too many projects are done in groups
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  - You can split up, but you have to come back together
  - Use complementary skills, be mutually accountable
- The “real world” requires this too



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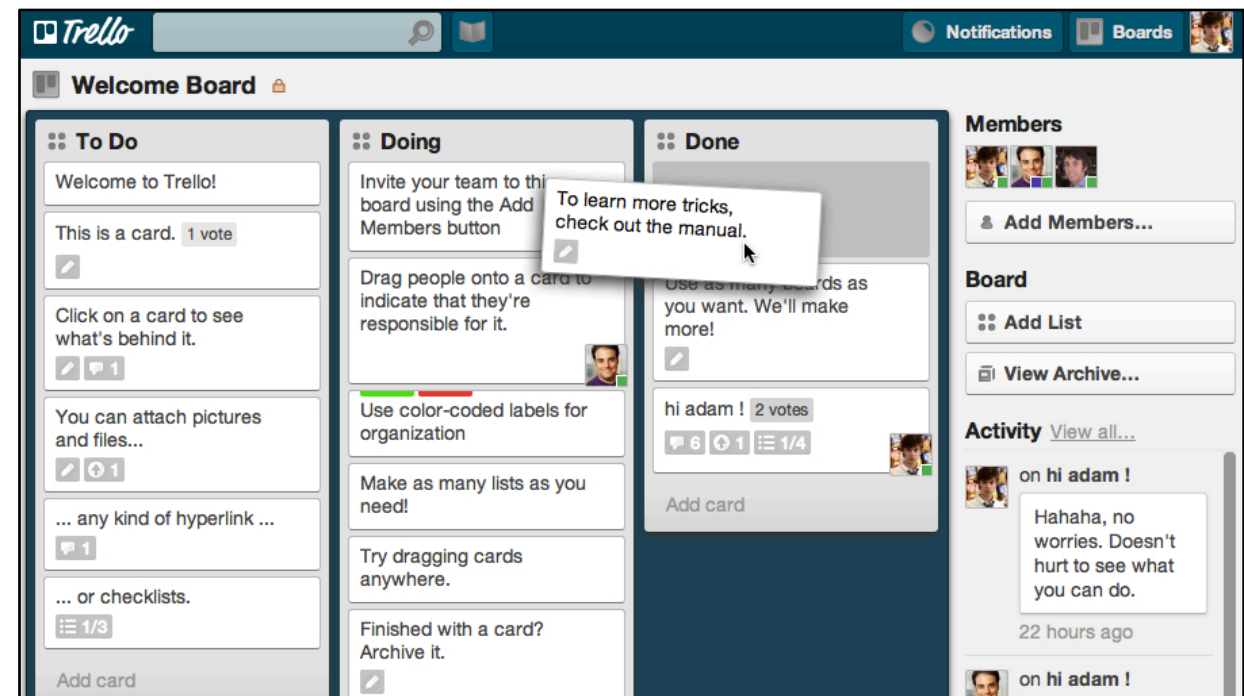
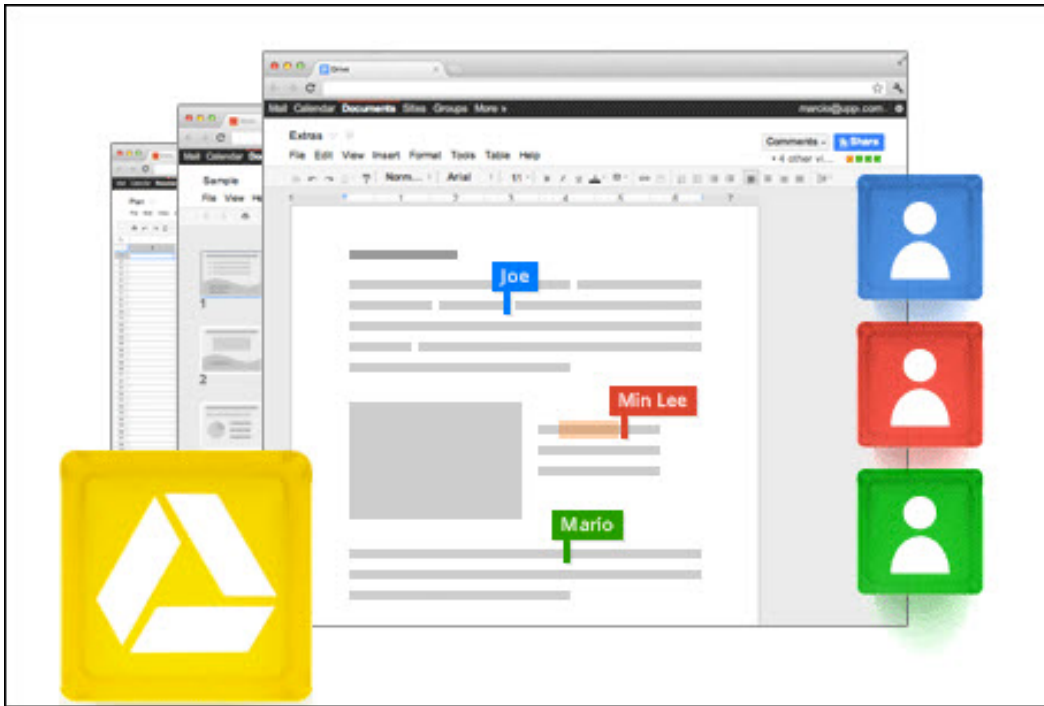
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- Names/roles listed on major reports
  - Group Manager (coordinate team)
  - Documentation (coordinate writing)
  - Design (coordinate visual/interaction design)
  - Fieldwork and Testing (coordinate fieldwork and testing)

# Collaboration tools



# Team assignments

- We did our best!

# Assignment 2a: Project Ideation

- 64 ideas about your project
  - specific problems and needs that a person might have in the context of your larger problem
  - tasks: what a person might accomplish in this context
  - features: a capability a design might have
  - interactions: how a feature might work

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*starts now!*