



REVIEW OF JUDGING CRITERIA / BLOG OR JOURNAL

We suggest reviewing the judging criteria with your team to see where they think their strengths and weaknesses lie. This self-awareness will help them figure out where to invest their time and energy between now and the final event.

Please pay special attention to the teamwork category. They **only** way the judges will be able to ascertain how well your students worked together is by reviewing their journal / blog. Teamwork will be evidence by what they record, for example:

- The initial brainstorm of ideas
- How they narrowed down their ideas and landed on a project
- How far they explored their chosen subject / conducted research
- The roles assumed by each team member
- How they assessed their project using the judging criteria
- How they developed their poster, and final presentation.

First Meeting: February 13th

First meeting with our mentors. We got to know each others names and reviewed the kick-off meeting on January 9th. Assigned me (Veyda Campos) as the Journalist.

Second Meeting: February 20th

Problems: Brainstorming

- back problems
- opening bottle caps
- technology
- bad eye vision



-walking

-Interview someone as a group

-Bringing two things already made together?

-Make something that prevents problems (back, arthritis, bad eyesight...)

Created a Timeline For Our Meetings:

January 9th: Kick-Off Meeting

February 20th: Getting to Know each other

February 27th: Brainstorming

March 3rd: Brainstorming the Problem

March 13th: Proposal Brainstorm

March 22nd: Research, Finalizing Proposal/Idea

April 1st: Brainstorming -Arthritis

April 8th: Brainstorming Poster

Third Meeting: Interviewing the Elderly: February 27th

Main Topic of Trouble:

The people we spoke to all had difficulties with technology. Computers, phones, laptops. They had all said the new advanced technology of today, such as Apple, was much too complicated for them to

understand. They would at least like a reference that says which button does what.



**Trouble Making their Beds:**

They said that because of their fragile, shaky hands they couldn't pull the blankets/sheets over the corners of the bed.



Fourth Meeting: March 3rd

We took a tour of the lab where people at PSU are able to make computer chips. We began brainstorming a problem for us to solve, voted, and decided on the Elderly and their confusion with technology.



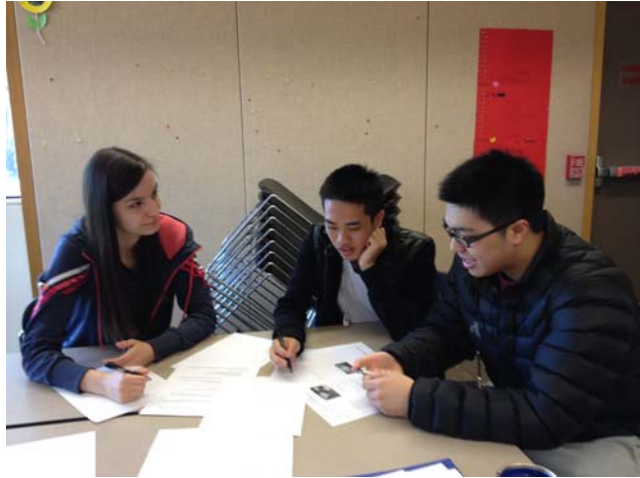
Fifth Meeting: March 13th

We decided on solving the issue of people who are blind, have arthritis, deaf, and the older generation in general by being something like a geek squad. Where we would come by and modify the computer, install any programs that our company can offer to help make things easier ect... Also the idea of it being non-profit with possible volunteers that make scheduled house visits to teach how to use the computer and answer any questions.



Sixth Meeting: March 22nd

I (Veyda Campos -Journalist) was not able to attend this meeting. However; Tanya, Raquel and Ephraim showed up. They finalized the proposal, as well as our final idea and solution. They talked about how the elderly, and anyone else suffering from arthritis, have trouble typing and using the mouse on a computer. They did some research and this is what they came to write.



Proposal:

The Franklin students met today to revise their proposal, They have decided to address the problem of the elderly who are unable to use a computer due to their arthritis or other similar motor issues in their arms. The students came to this conclusion after they had met with a panel of elderly people in the assisted living facility named Courtyard at Mt Tabor. One of the residents mentioned that they had difficulties using the computer because the buttons were too small and bending their fingers was an issue, the other residents agreed or had similar issues. With some research we have found that according to www.arthritis.org over 50 million Americans suffer from arthritis and 1/3 are over the age of 65. The students believe that their proposal offers a better solution than other things that are out there because voice command technology is mainly offered through phones rather than computers and those with advanced arthritis are unable to use smart phones or possibly any phone and this solution will be convenient for those who want to make a skype voice/video call, send an email, and many other things. The students plan to create a non profit organization to modify existing or provide new computers for the elderly who have little mobility in their fingers or arms. These computers will have a voice command tool that will help the user navigate the computer as well as a modified keyboard with a few large buttons for things such as scrolling and a button to video chat a member of the organization if they are having any trouble with the program. Although this solution is designed with the elderly suffering arthritis in mind it can benefit almost anyone!

Informative email from Tanya

Today Raquel Ephraim and Kevin showed up to the meeting. We went over how to change the proposal and decided to only help the



elderly with motor issues. We decided to make it voice command with a few large buttons on a keyboard for changing pages or to "facetime" someone from our organization for help.

Kevin and Ephraim are going to research and see if anything like this has been created and to make decisions on how it would be changed or how we would make ours better. They all told me that Miguel was going to do the finance stuff of it. And that we would make a prototype keyboard (not functional) but for people to see the size and spacing of buttons.

7th Meeting: April 1st

We have finalized our idea. Proposal turned in. We decided to focus on a solution for the elderly who are not able to use computers or keyboards for typing and such due to their arthritis or other problems in their arms.



Notes from Proposal

- According to www.arthritis.org, over 50 million Americans suffer from arthritis and are over the age of 65
- voice command technology
- simplified keyboard
- computer with bigger screen (touch screen?)

8th Meeting: April 8th

Today finalizing idea/poster. Laying out what it's gonna look like so we can work on it next week. We are designing the poster. All members of the team were given the assignment of





thinking of what type of pictures we would like on the poster.

9th Meeting: April 11th

Today we all came back with proposals for what pictures we should include on the poster. Ideas were narrowed down to old people visibly mad at, or possibly hitting, a computer. This would go with the problem section. In the solution section we thought of either a picture of an old person that's happy or a picture of what the call center would look like. We also want to include a picture of the prototype keyboard.

We also discussed possible issues that our solution may cause, so we can keep those things in mind as we start to develop the presentation.

10th Meeting: April 15th

Today the final touches were put in the poster. The team listened to a member read each category in the poster and the team added their input on what should be changed or added. Alex was assigned to make an illustration of the prototype to be placed on the poster. Ephraim, Kevin, and Miguel were assigned to take another picture for the solution section. The third and final picture for the problem section was decided on by everyone. There was discussion by the team about the next meeting day and what the goals would be.

April 24 - Work on Presentation

April 25 - Work on Presentation

TBD - Finalize and rehearse presentation