Individual Contribution Sheet

Complete the sheet below, commenting on your contribution to your group project on EACH of the following areas. Ensure that there is evidence on your group pages in wikispaces to support each. (Max 1000 words in total)

- Regular meeting attendance

  I attended all sessions in Mount Street for this module.
  We allocated a timeslot each week, initially towards the end of each Tuesday morning session, to look at our project and identify tasks for each week. For the final two weeks we met up before and during class for which I was in attendance at all times. The face to face discussions proved to be the most effective form of communication during the course of the project. It enabled us to delegate key project tasks, identify project deliverables, share ideas and provide feedback to each other

- Equity of contribution

  Overall may I say there were certain members, including myself, that were more actively involved and responsible for driving the project forward than others, certainly in the early stages.

  As the project progressed and we developed a concept for our info graphic we delegated tasks to each other and the project participation and effort became more of a collective effort.

  I assumed the role of updating and maintaining the wiki space, as well as capturing our project journey on a digital storyboard namely "Projeqt". Evidence of this can be viewed on our working space.

  We all contributed towards the research and reading. We divided the design and implementation of our info graphic in such a way so that each member of the team was responsible for a different area of the info graphic as well as researching the overall concept.

  The breakdown is given below.

  Dominic -   Designed the info graphic from the initial draft to the
                       final info graphic and researched the overall systems model.

Pat   -   Primarily researched the field aspect of the systems
                  model and looked at other aspects of the systems model.

Catrina   -   Primarily researched the individual aspect of the systems
                  model and looked at other aspects of the
                  systems model.

Valerie   -   Primarily researched the domain aspect of the systems
                  model and the overall systems model.

The approach worked well as each team member assumed responsibility for exploring a different aspect and presented their findings to Dominic who subsequently added them to the info graphic.

- Evidence of co-operative behaviour

The design of our info graphic demonstrates co-operative behaviour as each member of the team was allocated an area to work on for the overall design. This required us to work together as a group before Dominic incorporated our findings into the final info graphic. Face to face discussions and, to a lesser degree, email correspondence resulted in making significant progress throughout the course of the project.

- Appropriate time and task management

As referred to above in the earlier stages of the project we allocated time towards the end of each Tuesday session to our info graphic design. Towards the end of the project we meet up before class to discuss and brainstorm our ideas around our info graphic. This proved helpful as it allowed us to delegate tasks and set aims and objective for the following week.

Outside of info graphic I dedicated some time on a weekly basis to update and maintain our wikispace

- Application of creative and critical problem solving

As a group we decided to focus on the area of creativity.

I was intrigued by the whole area of creativity and had some queries such as:-

(1) What exactly is creativity and how do we define it?

(2) Does everyone possess creative potential?

(3) How can we harness creativity ?

Initially I focused my efforts on looking at the individual and particularly the characteristics of the creative individual.

Curiosity , perseverance and flexibility are important chartacterisitcs of creative individuals (Csikzentmihalyi, 2006). These characteristics are further supported by (Lehrer, 2012) who identities "grit" as one of the key characteristics for an individual in the creative process. (having the perseverance, resilience and stubbornness to stay the course) .(Lehrer, 2012) asserts that a moment of insight or that "sudden emiphany" can arrive at a totally unexpected moment but as Henry contends **"As long as the idea or product has not been validated, we may have originality but not creativity**" (Henry, 2006)

This led me to query how we evaluate creativity and differentiate between originality and creativity. Dominic uncovered a paper entitled "*A Systems Model on Creativity* "which was a fascinating read and addressed the area of creativity from a social perspective. We subsequently decided to look at this whole area of the domain, field and individual and their roles within this systems approach.

- Use of a range of working methods

Face to face discussion and email were our main forms of communication. Other methods of communicating with one another included updating our [discussion forums](#) with new posts and updating our general working area on wikispaces with comments, general post and feedback etc. I used "projeqt" as a digital storyboard to capture our project journey. Tumblr was also used as a repository for capturing data, text, audio and video.

- Appropriate level of engagement with task

My own level of engagement is clearly evident within the wikispaces as it captures the following

  - [Email correspondence throughout the course of the module](#)
  - [Maintenance and updating of the wikispaces](#)

- o Updated and maintained our journey throughout the course of the project by using "projeqt" – online digital storyboard resource.
- o Info graphic captures input from all team members as mentioned aforesaid.

- Evidence of capacity to listen

  I felt this was evident from the first week.
  Due to my previous success of utilising word press as a collaborative blog I suggested we use the same for this module. On the second week it became apparent that other group members did not share the same enthusiasm for a word press blog so rather than force the issue, I decided to incorporate discussion forum widgets into our group space on word press as a work around.

  Further evidence of our collective effort to listen and take on board each of our ideas can be captured on our wikispaces working area.

- Responsiveness to feedback/criticism

  Feedback proved to be invaluable during the design of our info graphic. The "Six Thinking Hats" was an excellent idea as the feedback and input from other groups was reflected in our later design phase.   The general consensus amongst other colleagues concluded that it was necessary to add additional text and references if our info graphic was to be effective as a standalone. Our final infographic clearly demonstrates that we incorporated additional text and references in our final design.

<u>References</u>

Csikzentmihalyi, M. (2006). A systems perspective on creativity and its implications for measurement. *On Creativity, Towards an Understanding of Creativity and its Measurements* (pp. 407-414). Brussels: European Commission.

Henry, J. (2006). *Creativity Management and Development* (3rd ed.). London: Sage Publications.

Lehrer, J. (2012). *Imagine: How creativity works*. Aisghafa 2013 ó Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce: http://www.thersa.org/events/video/vision-videos/jonah-lehrer