

CREATING REQUIREMENTS FOR SOFTWARE PROJECTS

A Business Analyst's Guide to Requirements Management (eBook Version)

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Creating Requirements During Times of Constant Change

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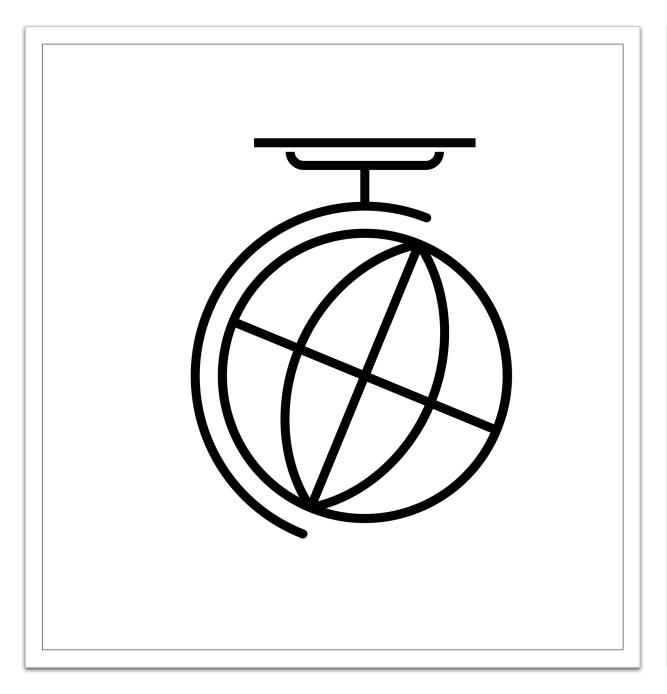
A webinar for IIBA® Raleigh Chapter May 26, 2021

Contents

- 2020 to now-what changed?
- Challenges in remote working/creating requirements
- Example stakeholder interview (with and without top 10 tips)
- Top 10 tips
- Closing remarks

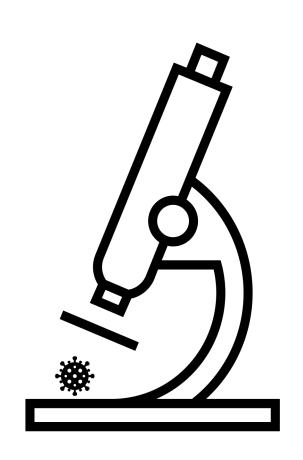


2020-2021 ... WT...?



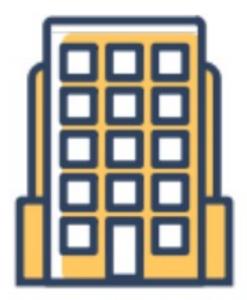
... the world turned upside down ...

... because of something we can't see





Remote working became reality

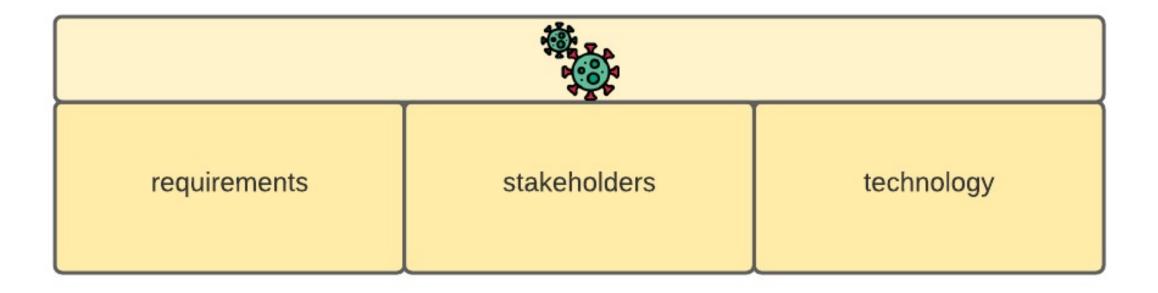




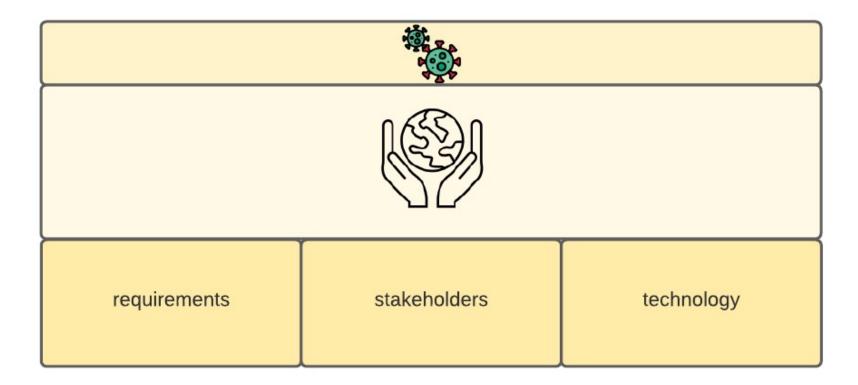
What 2020 really changed

requirements stakehol	lers technology
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What 2020 really changed





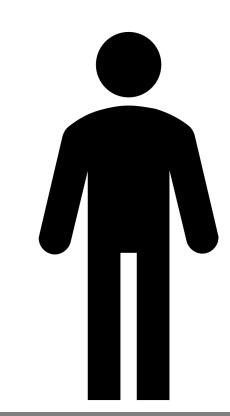


Forbes reported

Forbes reported in 2020 that:

- •45% of us are attending <u>more</u> meetings now, then before the pandemic
- 40% of employees have experienced mental exhaustion from video calls
- 38% of us feel exhausted after a virtual meeting, 30% stressed
- 52% said background noise and/or poor audio quality disrupts focus, while 23% said it leads to miscommunication with stakeholders

What hasn't changed



Stakeholder

What hasn't changed ... and what has





Challenges

- S-T-R-E-S-S
- ISOLATION
- Decreased employee visibility and face time with others
- Decreased work/life balance
- Affected relationships
- Increased distractions

https://www.mseap.com/disadvantages-remote-work/

Switching gears



A business analyst at work remotely

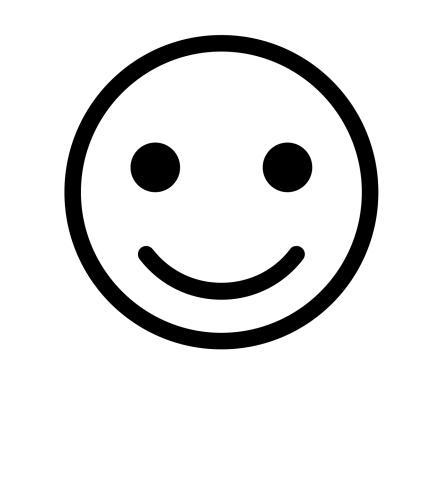
Scenario: A business analyst, working remotely, has been asked to create a process about dropping off prescriptions at a pharmacy.

You will see 2 different demos with different interview approaches: "no tips" and "with tips".

Let's hear from Tarek



<u>1st interview ("no tips")</u> <u>2nd interview ("with tips")</u> <u>3rd interview (stakeholder Tarek's feedback)</u>



Top 10 tips for BAs for remote work

Tip #10: Do a mini-stakeholder analysis

Who?

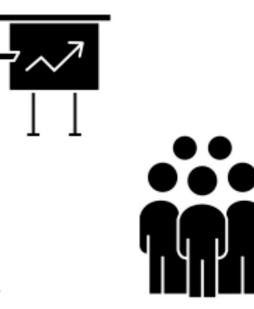
Level of interest?

Level of influence?

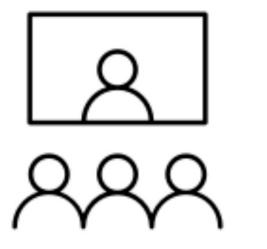
Impacted by change?

Attitudes or beliefs?

What do they want or need?



Tip #9: Incorporate learning styles



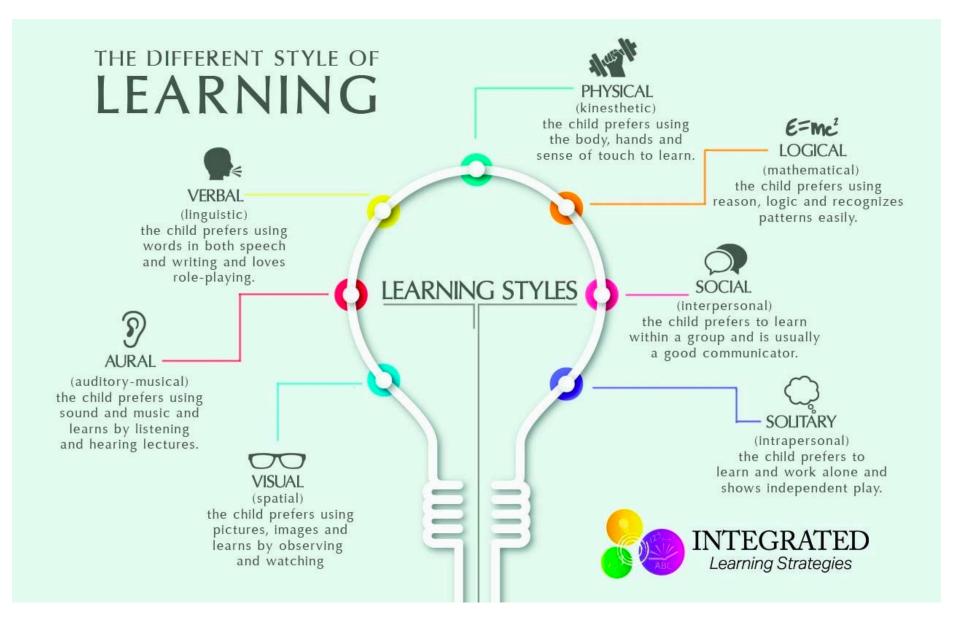


DIFFERENT LEARNING STYLES

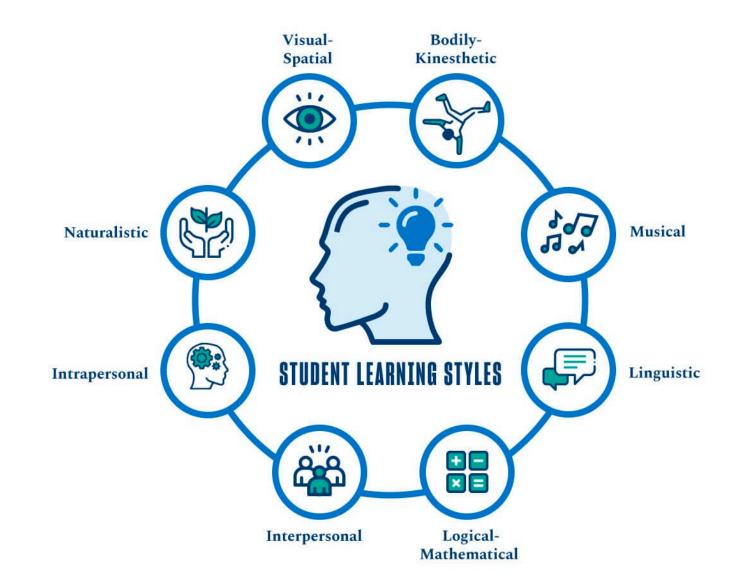
& tips for teaching



https://www.pinterest.com/pin/283586107771162180/

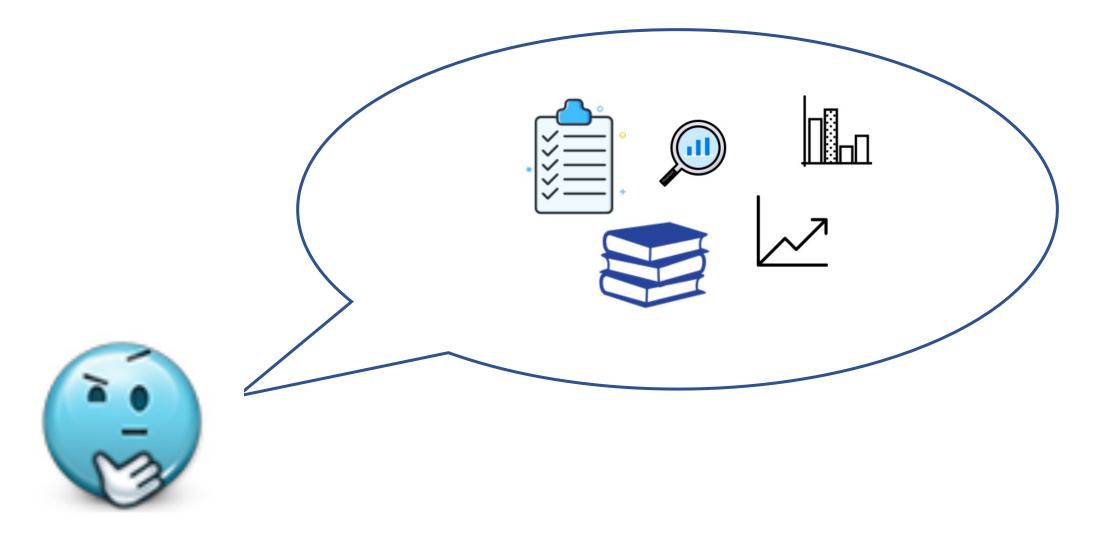


https://www.writeabout.com/2018/12/9721041-howto-remember-information-using-learning-styles/



https://onlinedegrees.sandiego.edu/teaching-to-everystudents-unique-learning-style/

Tip #8: Come to meetings prepared



Tip #7 Practice ahead of time





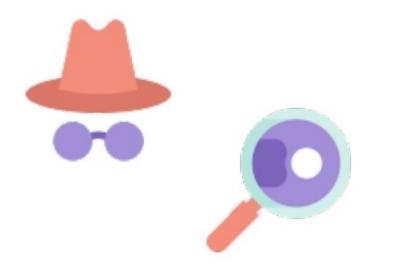




Know workshop structure Prepare for risks/mitigations

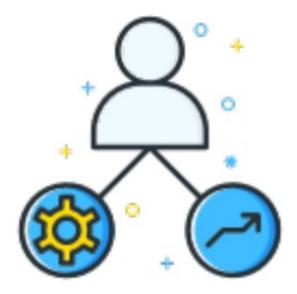
Recognize that online environments add complexity

Tip #6: Interview like a pro



- LISTEN AND CLARIFY
- SLOW IT DOWN
- BE DETAILED

Tip #5: Take notes well



Good interviewing needs good notetaking Create your own shorthand

Snippet with stakeholder in online shorthand:

req wkps w b main source of info for proj

Dan fu with Mike re dead and fut req

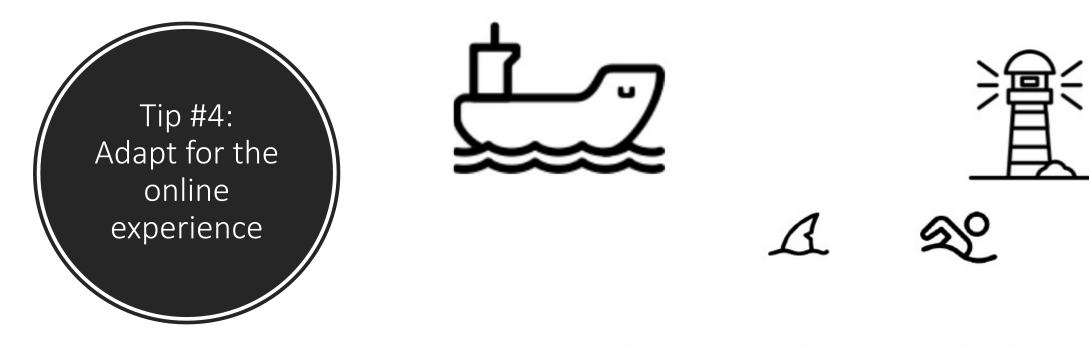
Linda has e.g. of soln s/w

R&R table - Pam do

Dis re if need mgmt approval. TBD

Online Shorthand Examples

ACT = action needed (by somebody) ·dead = deadline ·dep = depends or dependency \cdot diff = different ·dis = discussion occurring $\cdot eg = for example$ ·F = functional requirement ·fu = follow-up \cdot fut = future IT = IT department or person in room $\cdot NB = important$ ·NF = non-functional requirement ·proj = project $\cdot R = risk$ req = requirement \cdot sol = solution $\cdot U = you$ ·UR = you are



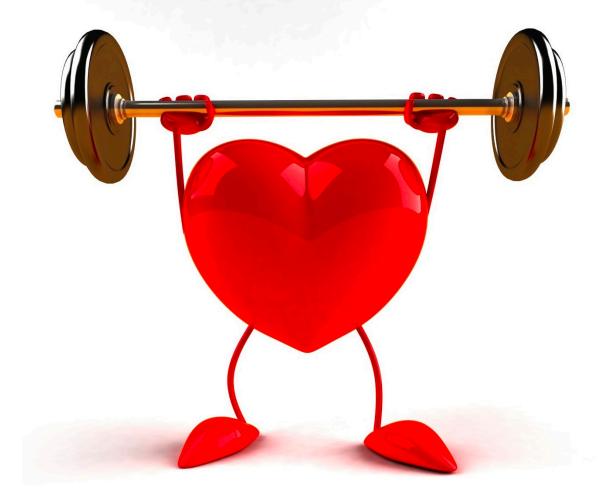
NAVIGATE YOUR STAKEHOLDERS ONLINE

Tip #3: Make stakeholders' lives easier

EASIER FOR THEM = EASIER FOR US



Tip #2: Take care of yourself



https://sites.psu.edu/siowfa13/2013/09/20/its-timeto-get-heart-healthy/

Tip #1: Be kind

KINDNESS IS FREE SPRINKLE THAT STUFF EVERYWHERE

Questions?

Resources

* **5 Ways** To Stop Negative Thoughts*



Notice thoughts that are ruminating, increasing distressed and/or feel out of control.



Challenge the thought.

This is your reality check.

- Are you using words like never, always, all, or none?
- Are you over generalizing or exaggerating?
- Are you replaying a negative thought from your past?



STOP Stop the thought. It may sound odd, but say stop LOUDLY in your head or out loud. Another way to do this is to picture a stop sign, Heisman

hand - whatever works.

O

- Change the thought.
- Make certain it's realistic. Often these dysfunctional thoughts escalate out of control.
- Replace a dysfunctional thought with one that is realistic and empowering.
- Listen to music, meditate, etc.
 Find a part of your fear that you can problemsolve to increase feeling in control.

Source: "Stop Negative Thoughts: Getting Started," Michigan Medicine - University of Michigan, https://www.uofmhealth.org/health-library/uf993



Find more wellness resources at: members.asra.com/pain-resource/wellness/

Health Tips

American Academy of Opthalmology:

- Avoid eye strain
- Eyes have to work harder to see close up, so try to keep screen arm's length away
- Practice 20-20-20 rule: Take a break every 20 minutes by looking at an object 20 feet away for 20 seconds
- Increased screen time linked to increased inactivity

https://www.aao.org/newsroom/news-releases/detail/protect-youreyes-from-too-much-screen-time

American Society of Regional Anessthersia and Pain Medicine (ASRA)

https://www.asra.com/page/2915/take-care-of-yourself-duringcovid



Resources/Links

- <u>https://www.camh.ca/en/health-info/mental-health-and-covid-19/coping-with-stress-and-anxiety</u>
- https://www.camh.ca/en/health-info/mental-health-and-covid-19/coping-with-covid-19
- <u>https://www.asra.com/page/2915/take-care-of-yourself-during-covid</u>
- <u>https://www.yalemedicine.org/news/mindfulness-covid</u>
- <u>https://www.aao.org/newsroom/news-releases/detail/protect-your-eyes-from-too-much-screen-time</u>
- <u>https://www.camh.ca/en/health-info/mental-health-and-covid-19/coping-with-covid-19</u>
- <u>https://www.forbes.com/sites/hvmacarthur/2019/04/22/nice-people-finish-first-how-being-kind-is-a-recipe-for-success-in-business/?sh=72a0ff444540</u>
- <u>https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/251025</u>
- https://www.camh.ca/en/health-info/mental-health-and-covid-19/coping-with-covid-19

Products (referred to but not endorsed)

- Exercise ball chair—any brand
- Bamboo adjustable desk laptop stand-JIIKOOAI Store on Amazon
- Air filter-Levoit brand on Amazon
- Sound-deadening door—solid core not hollow
- Sacral cushion-Everlasting Comfort brand (for coccyx and tailbone pain relief) on Amazon
- Recliner/beach chair
- Free timer app-called "Be Focused"



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