

Key answers for mid-term

7 questions, 10 points each, for a total of 70 points

1) the best answer will include:

- Door a is asymmetrical so one know on which side to push
- Door a mechanism can only be pushed
- Door b mechanism is symmetrical
- Door b mechanism can be push or pulled

2) The best answer should include:

Working memory can contain 7 ± 2 items and decay rapidly.

One good example: The US phone system uses 7 digits phone numbers so that phone numbers can fit in working memory. Other examples pointing out the limited capacity of working memory were also acceptable.

3) the best answer will include:

- Because of skill acquisition design a will sooner or later be memorized and people will destroy components by mistake
- Because the user has to read the screen for design b the skill acquisition cannot take place

4) A good example is toys:

While designing toys, designers must please parents (who will be buying toys) as well as kids (final users of the toy). Similar examples are acceptable as long as they are making clear that the same product must address the concern of several players in one product instance life.

5) Possible examples include: interviewing, direct observation, diary and logging.

6) the best answer will include

- either repeated actions on several object
 - or series of action on one object (like in your answer)
- (In class I gave changing the name of all the files in a directory by adding .old at the end)

7) The best answer should include:

design A is difficult to read and messy. Design B improved the layout by:

- Using alignment to create a strong vertical axis for the primary fields and a subordinate axis for the secondary fields
- Using better grouping,
- Using negative space more efficiently.