

W·A·C·K design

USABILITY TESTING

To gain a better understanding of how our final project is perceived, WACK designs held a series of usability tests to randomly selected subjects. The assignment was for the subjects to read a selected part of the report. While reading the excerpt, subjects were instructed to think aloud, blurting their comments as they came to their mind. While doing this, our group members were writing down each response that the subjects gave. After they were finished with the article, pre-formulated questions were asked, depending on which excerpt the subject had read. Each response was again recorded. After all of our testing, the results were tabulated and corrections and revisions to our final project were done. The following information was collected from the usability testing:

Subject 1-

Male from Greenwood, SC

20 yrs. of age

Reading Tested- "The Life Pod"

Comments:

- The refrigerator idea is good
- The article made sense
- Had a good understanding of a safe room after reading excerpt
- The pictures helped a lot
- Maybe add a caption to some of the pictures to help explain what they are

Subject 2-

Female from Charleston, SC

20 years of age

Reading Tested- "Why is a safety room needed?" "Why now?"

Comments:

- Good format- you can see the writing very well, it stands out and catches your eye making it easier to read
- Need to add more details about the Sept. 11 events; right now you just mention the date. Maybe talk about it more than one sentence
- The excerpt clearly defines why there is a need for a safety room
- The parallel between the natural and unnatural disasters was very well done

Subject 3-

Male from Greenville, SC

21 yrs. of age

Reading Tested- "The Subterranean Fortress"

Comments:

- Need to explain the secret passageways; it is vague
- Good flow to it, it goes from step to step
- Need pictures, it would explain how the components are laid out

Subject 4-

Male from Myrtle Beach, SC

20 yrs. of age

Reading Tested- "The Safe Room"

Comments:

- Need to add more types of disasters at the beginning
- Need to explain what built and un-built homes are
- Need to explain the duration of time to be spent in the safe room
- Need to explain some of the pictures
- Needs to be formatted in the same way
- Overall, the reading made sense
- The idea of "The Safe Room" is understood by reading the passage

Subject 5-

Female from Spartanburg, SC

21 yrs. of age

Reading Tested- "The Safe Room"

Comments:

- Need to explain what built and un-built homes are
- Needs to be formatted in the same way
- Good charts and pictures
- The reading was understood and the idea of the safe room made sense

Subject 6-

Male from Greenville, SC

21 yrs. of age

Reading Tested- "The Subterranean Fortress"

Comments:

- What are EMP's? Need to explain what they are
- Need to specify the Mortgage Insurance policy
- What kinds of disasters can this hold up against?
- Everything makes sense other than the Mortgage Insurance
- The idea of a safe room is understood by reading the descriptions

Subject 7

38 year old Female from Wisconsin

Reading Tested- "The Safe Room"

Comments:

- Need to explain what built and un-built homes are
- Need to format the reading in the same way
- Need to change the subjects around to go along with each other
- Need to explain in more detail the disasters that the room can resist
- Need to add a disclaimer about the disasters that the room cannot resist
- Need to describe the charts and pictures
- Need to explain the Mortgage Insurance policy