

Brooke Poyhonen
CS 5760
Robert Pastel, Ph.D.
Assignment #2: User Goals Document

App Idea – The proposed application will give users a walkthrough of the premortem 5-step process. This app will also give users the capabilities to facilitate the premortem in real time remotely or in-person. The main purpose of this app is to give users an evaluative tool that supports the premortem process.

During the first step of the premortem process will see the facilitator enter the group project name or plan#. The second step of the process is where the facilitator will be given a script that instructs them to tell the group that they need to imagine that their proposed plan has failed spectacularly and now they are tasked with generating as many specific reasons for the failure as possible within a 2 minute time frame. Users will be able to enter their reasons for failure within the app. The app will also have a built-in timer function that would be controlled by the designated facilitator. The third step of the premortem process is where the facilitator consolidates all of the reasons for failure that were generated by the users. These reasons will also be prioritized by how many other users had the same reason on their list. The facilitator will ask the users to repeat what they did for step two of the process but now they need to think of potential solutions for the failures identified in step two. The facilitator will also have access to the timer. The app should allow users access to the failures list as to help the solution though process. Finally, with step five of the process the facilitator will again repeat the same process as they did for step 3 but now asking for solutions and prioritizing them by the number of same responses.

After all five steps of the premortem are complete, the facilitator will be able to review the results and have the option to save and/or export the premortem results to the rest of their team, stakeholders or others via sources like pdf.

Possible reach of the app in the future is that it could enter the mindfulness sector of app development as the premortem process encourages strategic thinking that can be used for not only groups, projects, and businesses but also individuals.

Users – The beauty of a premortem is that it can be completed by almost any type of user, student teams, individuals who are about to make an important decision, business partners, independent facilitator, project groups, and disaster response teams are all potential users of the app.

Almost all users will have the same end goal in mind as they are looking to raise awareness of possible failures, and ruminate on the potential consequences of those failures, and incorporate the generated solutions, all of which, in the end will lead to better planning. However, a hired independent facilitator may not have the same emotional investment in the premortem's results as a facilitator within the same team or company would.

Anyone should be able to use the application without any prior experience with the technology or the premortem technique as it will give instructions and prompts throughout the process.

User Goal Table

User	Goal
Student team (18+)	Help inform better planning by identifying reasons for failure and generating an arsenal of possible solutions that can be incorporated into the final plan design and before the plan is carried out. -Team bonding
Individual (15+)	Help inform better planning by identifying reasons for failure and generating an arsenal of possible solutions that can be incorporated into the final plan design or decision before the plan or decision is carried out. -Peace of mind -Confident decision making
Business Partners (21+)	Help inform better planning by identifying reasons for failure and generating an arsenal of possible solutions that can be incorporated into the final plan design and before the plan is carried out. -ROI
Hired Independent Facilitator (25+)	Completing the premortem process within its scheduled time period. -Getting paid -Remote work possibility
Project Team (21+)	Help inform better planning by identifying reasons for failure and generating an arsenal of possible solutions that can be incorporated into the final plan design and before the plan is carried out. -Team bonding -ROI
Disaster Response Team (25+)	Help inform better planning by identifying reasons for failure and generating an arsenal of possible solutions that can be incorporated into the final plan design and before the plan is carried out. -Team cohesion and bonding