Test Plan for The Weather Channel Application

John Drogalis, Elizabeth Keyes, Lisa Dhyani

Objectives

1. To evaluate The Weather Channel mobile application in terms of the user experience it creates and to answer the following questions:
   a. Do users understand how to navigate the application?
   b. Are users able to complete key tasks on their own (add weather for a city)?
   c. Is the user satisfied with their experience using the app?
   d. Do users find the content to be useful and easy to understand?
2. To identify any usability issues with the application and areas for improvement.
   a. Identify usability issues
   b. Prioritize the areas
   c. Provide recommendations

Stimuli

We will be evaluating The Weather Channel v 5.1.0 mobile application on the Android because it is a well-known weather provider.

Participants

We will be recruiting 6 participants for this study.
Participants' profile:

- Ages 23 to 35 years old
- Mixture of males and females
- Most at least college educated
- Experience with using an android-based mobile phone

Procedure

Each participant will be invited to a 30 minute session with a moderator. Each session will consist of the following:

Introduction

- Participant will be asked to sign an informed consent form
- Moderator will introduce participant to the topic
- Moderator will answer any questions the participant has

Tasks on the application

Participant will be asked to perform a few tasks on The Weather Channel application. Participant will be given a test phone with the application loaded and asked to do the following tasks.

- Set a location different from the current location
- Check the current hourly weather
- Check the weekly forecast
- Check the weather in New York City
- Create a witness weather account
- Set up the pollen alert on their app
- Turn off the pollen alert notification on the app

Qualitative Measures

- Usability issues
- Participant comments

Quantitative Measures

- Success/failure for task completion
  - Success – participant completes task without any issues.
  - Partial Success – participant completes task with issues.
  - Failure – participant does not complete the task or completes the task incorrectly.
- Time on task
  - The participant will be timed on how long they take to complete each task.
- Ease of use rating
  - At the end of each task the participant will rate the ease of use of the application for the task (1= difficult, 5=easy)

Logistics

Testing will take place in 2 locations: Santa Ana, CA and Madison, WI.

Week 1: Create test plan

Week 2: Recruit Participants, create moderator's guide, iterate test plan

Week 3: Testing, iterate moderators guide

Week 4: Analyze Data

Week 5: Create final report