Scenarios

• Express proposed or imagined situations.

• Used throughout the design process in various ways:
  – To inform the design.
  – To provide a “scene” for user evaluation of prototypes.
  – To make concrete the tasks the design supports.
  – To communicate the nature of the design across professional boundaries.
Example Scenario (a short one)

Who
Joanne, 21, suffered a skiing accident. In the hospital, Joanne is introduced to a new device called “ART” that will help her regain her upper-limb mobility. The device glows with a warm blue light when Joanne approaches it. Intrigued, and encouraged by her physical therapist, Joanne rests her elbow in the device’s soft surface. The device

What situation
[...]

What it is

What it does

How it does it

When it does it

What reaction

More about it
Example Scenario (a long one)

from communIT paper linked from our webpage:

ex from communIT

… In response to George Floyd's death, Jasmin’s group was seeking community channels to protest racial discrimination. Sam, a librarian at the downtown public library, invited Jasmin’s group to co-create and exhibit an interactive exhibition using communIT, a large-scale artifact recently installed in the library’s ample entry space. As encouraged by the librarian, six members of the group arrive at the library with a laptop filled with images, video, and texts that would form the core content of the exhibit. Upon arrival, the group encounters communIT for the first time, a free-standing, billboard-sized wall of hinged panels. […]
Example Scenario (a long one)

Continued…

… The group members advance their work (Figure 1, b): one member starts by scribbling notes on a panel’s surface, another member marks panels for the sequence of images they’d display, while still another member connects the laptop with to communIT. […]

Figure 1: (a) Jasmin’s group configuring communIT; (b) Jasmin’s group using communIT to create and share content; (c) Mariana and Mathew interacting with communIT.
Example Scenario (a long one)

Continued…

… Among visitors to the library in the days that follow, Mariana, an immigrant from South America, and Mathew, a young gay man who works as an editor at a nearby publisher, are intrigued by the presence of communIT—its display of images, sounds, videos, and… Mariana and Mathew feel empathic to the group's challenges—problems not unfamiliar to them and the subgroups they identify with. […] After experiencing the exhibit, might they respond to members of that group in a more understanding way? (Figure 1.c). […] In the days that follow, the impression of the exhibit stays with them.