

SERIOUS PLAY: PRE-CONCEPTUAL SCHEMAS IN ACTION

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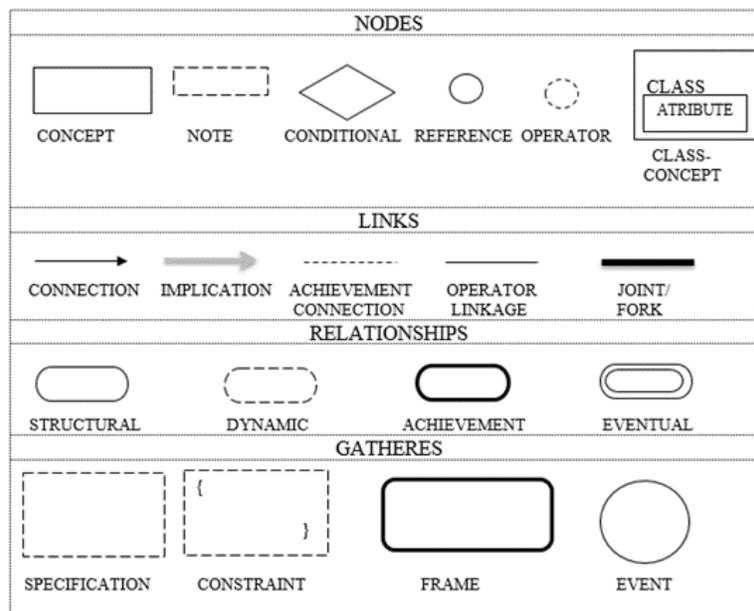
ABSTRACT

Pre-conceptual schemas are knowledge representations of any domain. Since such schemas are close to the natural language of the stakeholders and translatable to source code, we propose in this serious play an experience for creating a pre-conceptual schema in a 90-minute classroom and then generating the alpha version of a software application based on such schema.

INTRODUCTION

Zapata *et al.* (2006) create the pre-conceptual schemas as modeling tools for representing knowledge related to any domain. In fact, pre-conceptual schemas can be used for gathering information related to such domains in order to be understood and then translated into software applications. Such information comes from the stakeholder discourse and can be represented by using the basic elements depicted in Exhibit 1.

EXHIBIT 1 BASIC SYMBOLS OF PRE-CONCEPTUAL SCHEMAS (SOURCE: ADAPTED FROM ZAPATA, 2012)

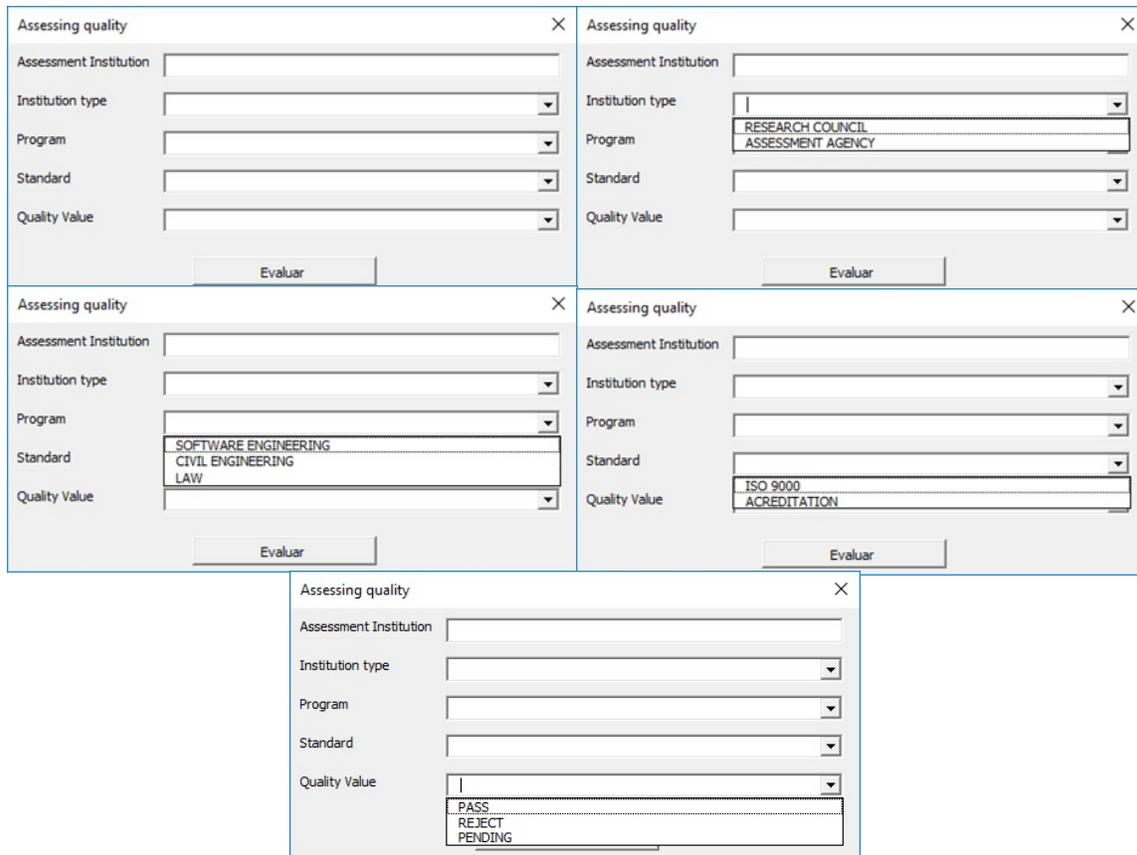


Some descriptions of such elements are:

- Concepts: nouns and noun phrases
- Structural relationships: verbs “is” and “has”
- Dynamic relationships: activity verbs
- Connections: arrows for linking concepts to relationships
- Implications: arrows for expressing cause-and-effect relationships

EXHIBIT 3

GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE BASED ON EXHIBIT 2 (SOURCE: THE AUTHORS)



REFERENCES

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