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Game Mechanics for Virality



AGENDA

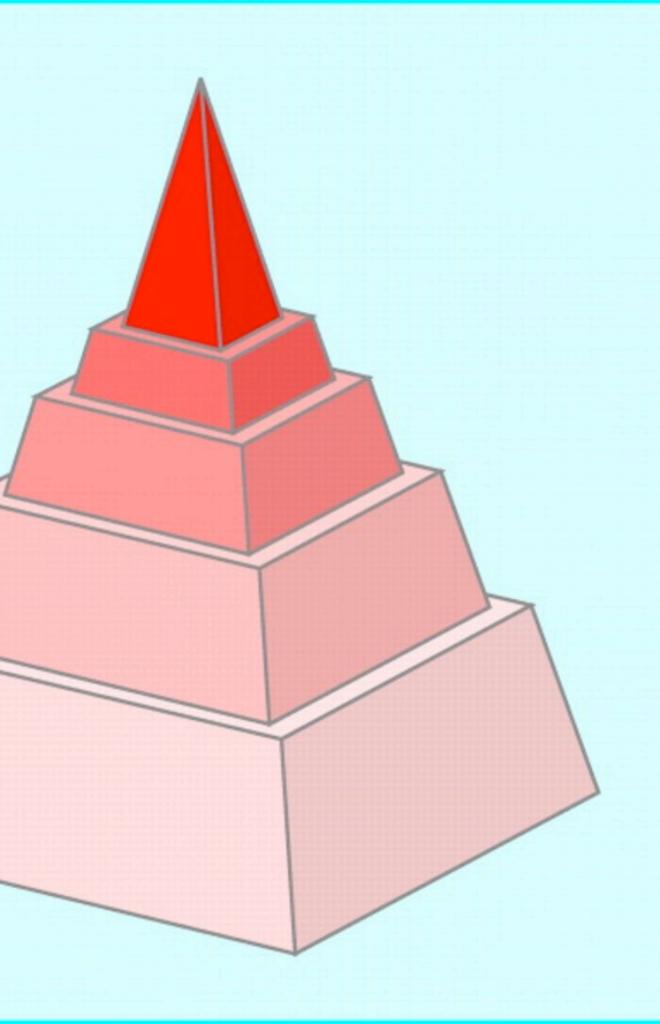
- Life as a Game
- Game Mechanics
- Virality



Life as a Game

Just not an efficient one





Game Layer to satisfy Social Needs

- Self actualisation
- Self esteem
- Belonging
- Safety
- Physiological needs











There can be no **Prestige** without mystery

- Charles De Gaulle (French General)



- Ranks
- Pins
- Ribbons
- Medals
- Stars





Game Mechanics

Simples Game Construct Rules



Achievement

A virtual or physical representation of having accomplished something. These are often viewed as rewards in and of themselves.

Example: a badge, a level, a reward, points, really anything defined as a reward can be a reward.



Appointment Dynamic

A dynamic in which to succeed, one must return at a predefined time to take some action. Appointment dynamics are often deeply related to interval based reward schedules or avoidance dynamics.

Example: Cafe World and Farmville where if you return at a set time to do something you get something good, and if you don't something bad happens.



Loss Avoidance

The act of inducing player behaviour not by giving a reward, but by not instituting a punishment. Produces consistent level of activity, timed around the schedule.

Example: Press a lever every 30 seconds to not get shocked.



Cascading Information Theory

The theory that information should be released in the minimum possible snippets to gain the appropriate level of understanding at each point during a game narrative.

Example: showing basic actions first, unlocking more as you progress through levels. Making building on SCVNGR a simple but staged process to avoid information overload.



Blissful Productivity

The idea that playing in a game makes you happier working hard, than you would be relaxing. Essentially, we're optimized as human beings by working hard, and doing meaningful and rewarding work.

Example: World of Warcraft players play on average 22 hours / week (a part time job), often after a full days work. They're willing to work hard, perhaps harder than in real life, because of their blissful productivity in the game world.



Platform-agnostic Gaming

Games that can be played across multiple platforms

Example: Games that be played on iPhone, Facebook, XBox with completely seamless cross platform gameplay.



Endless-ness

Games that do not have an explicit end. Most applicable to casual games that can refresh their content or games where a static (but positive) state is a reward of its own.

Example: Farmville (static state is its own victory), SCVNGR (challenges constantly are being built by the community to refresh content)



Envy

The desire to have what others have. In order for this to be effective seeing what other people have (voyeurism) must be employed.

Example: my friend has this item and I want it!



Free Lunch

A dynamic in which a player feels that they are getting something for free due to someone else having done work. It's critical that work is perceived to have been done (just not by the player in question) to avoid breaching trust in the scenario. The player must feel that they've "lucked" into something.

Example: Groupon. By virtue of 100 other people having bought the deal, you get it for cheap. There is no sketchiness b/c you recognize work has been done (100 people are spending money) but you yourself didn't have to do it.



Micro Leader-boards

The rankings of all individuals in a micro-set. Often great for distributed game dynamics where you want many micro-competitions or desire to induce loyalty.

Example: Be the top scorers at Joe's bar this week and get a free appetiser.



Progression

A dynamic in which success is granularly displayed and measured through the process of completing itemized tasks.

Example: a progress bar for activity completion like in LinkedIn



Social Mechanics

A game element that requires multiple people to play (or that can be played better with multiple people)

Example: Farmville making you more successful in the game if you invite your friends, the social check-in.



Communal Discovery

The game dynamic wherein an entire community is rallied to work together to solve a riddle, a problem or a challenge. Immensely viral and very fun.

Example: DARPA balloon challenge.



Virality Spreading the Geme







Pitch

We're giving \$2000 per balloon to the first person to send us the correct coordinates, but that's not all; we're also giving \$1000 to the person who invited them. Then we're giving \$500 whoever invited the inviter, and \$250 to whoever invited them, and the remaining \$250 goes to charity.







Case Study Air France





+ 250,000 likes in 10 days! (early March 2011)



A real incentive to click the 'Like' button





Inspiring prizes matching Air France's business





Monday 28 February DUBAI

They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice





Sunday 27 February MADRID

They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice







Saturday 26 February TOKYO

They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice







Friday 25 February NIZZA

They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice





Monday 07 March

SAN FRANCISCO They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice





Sunday 06 March

PARIS

They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice







Saturday 05 March

ROMA

They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice





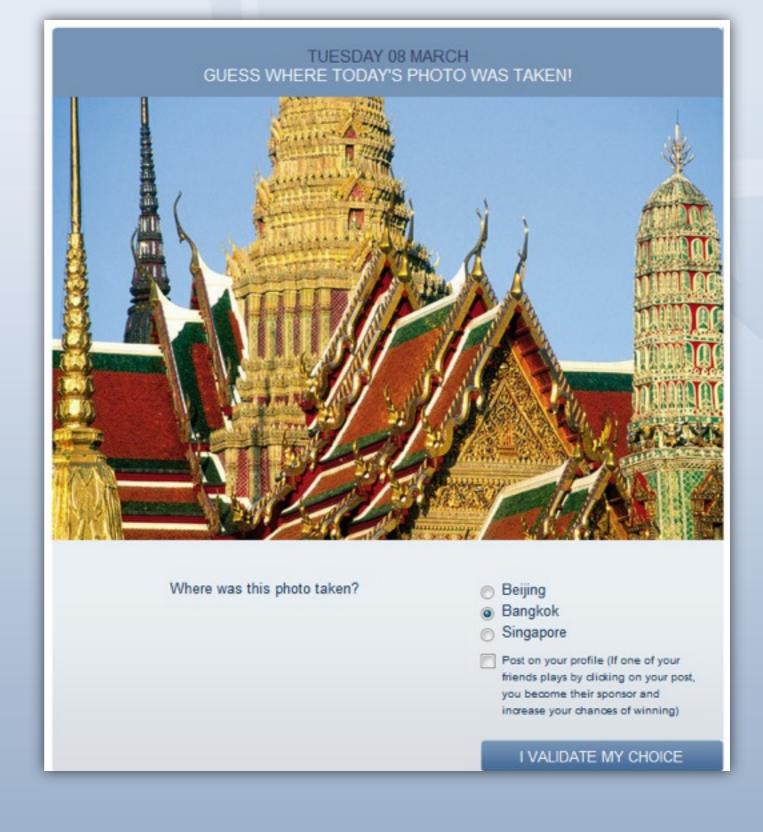
Friday 04 March MEXICO

They have won: 2 tickets to an Air France destination of their choice





Taking part is Simple and Fun





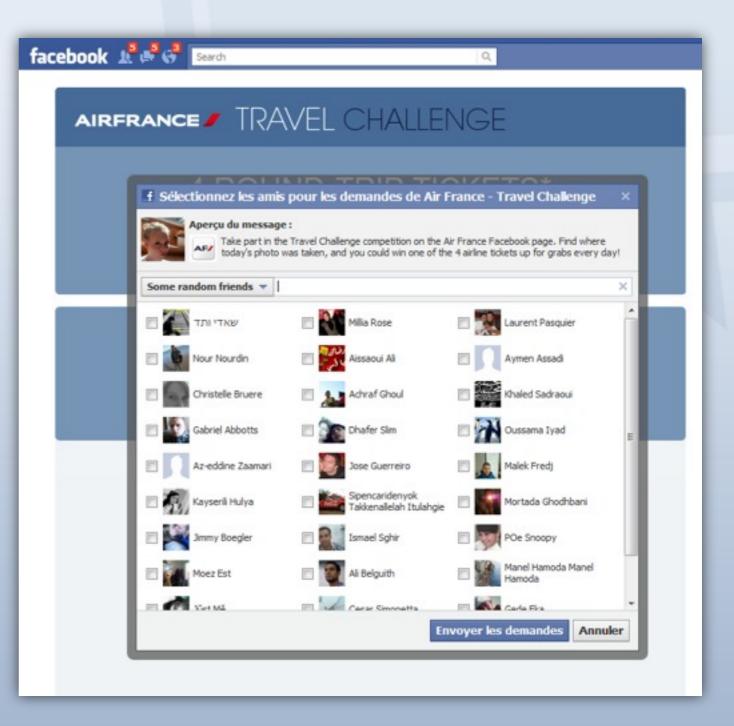
A real incentive to share

Invite all your friends to play. If one of them wins, you automatically win too!

Results posted in 09:03

INVITE MY FRIENDS









To Wrap Up!

- KRDS is a 100% Facebook Agency, No. 1 in France with an ever growing expertise throughout Europe and India.
- KRDS is recommended to advertisers by Facebook (Preferred Developer Consultant) and is Facebook India's top partner.
- KRDS has experienced teams in Design, Development and Project Management to offer world class applications to clients with an active presence on Facebook.



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