A collection of historical artifacts is arranged on a light-colored surface. In the top left, a portion of a wooden chessboard with a checkered pattern and several chess pieces is visible. Below the chessboard, there are two medals: one with a red ribbon and a white star, and another with a blue ribbon and a white star. A pair of round, dark-rimmed glasses with thin temples lies diagonally across the center. In the bottom left corner, a circular compass with a white face and black markings is partially visible.

English Conversation Learning Guide John Chen

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Introduction

- ◆ Key to successful English learning is in conversations
- ◆ Many non-native learners of English don't get this practice
- ◆ Adaptive learning guide can fill in this gap



Target Users

- ◆ Non-native learners of English
- ◆ 25 to 35 years old
- ◆ Lack opportunities to practice their English with native speakers



Design Goals

- ◆ To help the users gain more confidence in communicating in English
- ◆ To expand their knowledge of American culture
- ◆ To improve their conversational and social interaction skills with Americans through conversations with the learning guide



Creative Focus

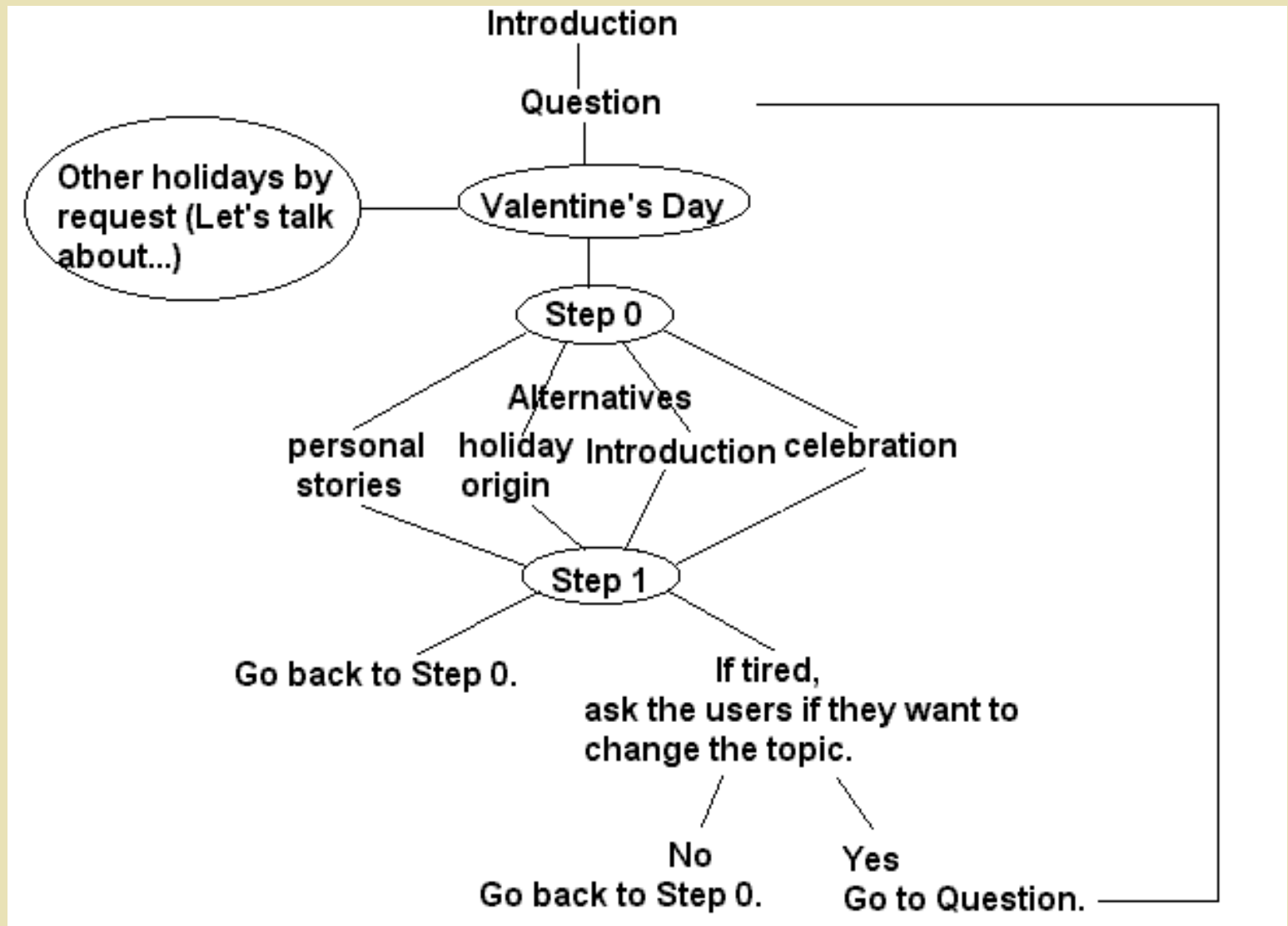
- ◆ Focus on curriculum and backstory
 - Varied and interesting conversations
 - Substantial conversations
 - Natural conversations
 - Personal feel
- ◆ Our own animated character



Design Experience

- ◆ The creation of the guide
 - Native speaker VS. Non-native speaker
 - The problems of the original character
 - The change of the persona
- ◆ The structure of the curriculum

The Basic Design Structure



Character Design





Strengths and Weaknesses

◆ Strengths

- Structured framework and broad content materials
 - 10 holidays to discuss
- Various questions to invite conversations
 - Questions about users' experience with these holidays
- Interesting persona to create fun conversations
 - Sense of humor and interesting stories



Strengths and Weaknesses

◆ Weaknesses

- Limited adaptivity
 - 8 second delay and vocabulary
- Limited interactive style
 - the nature of the conversation can only reach a certain level
- Limited responsiveness
 - Number of keywords



Possible Extensions

- ◆ Creating another 2 or 3 versions of dialogs to adapt users' English levels
- ◆ Adding more keywords to improve the guide's responsiveness
- ◆ Adding an On-line dictionary to help users learn vocabulary

Thank you!

