

Classroom competitions

# **Solace**

Calmness amongst Chaos



*Fig: 1 – A person reading a book under a tree in solitude - An impression.*

## Premise

**Reading is almost an involuntary action** that any literate person performs, even if it may be as basic as reading the news on your mobile device to read books obsessively. Reading has transformed from analog form to digital to now, even podcasts, with audios that read to you.

While content can be consumed in, either way, **the state of mind in which a reader is, is what determines the effectiveness of the activity**. A preoccupied mind refuses to take in new information and similarly, **outward distractions can hinder the effectiveness of reading** where one can read the same line multiple times with nothing registering in their minds.

For avid readers, hindrances caused by internal or external reasons have the capability to upset their routine and alter their mental health as well. Sources suggest that it might be adaptive or pathological anxiety that pushes people to feel like, once they've lost the habits that used to comfort them, they cannot get back to it.

**How can the stress from not being able to read in a cozy ambiance be alleviated?**



*Fig: 2 – A concept reading pod -*

# Today

Out of the many structures we build for work, most are designed to foster social interaction and team building, and so on, but when it comes to creating private spaces, there is a lack of forethought. **Such spaces are necessary to help clear their mind or have a quiet introspective time, be it for reading, meditating, or even taking a nap.**

The design of such spaces **in work environments or institutions** must be given priority. A general lack of such spaces **discourages people from taking time out to relax, from their busy schedule.** Providing a space for such people, that can be **used when needed and compact enough to be transported or carried with,** would be a lifesaver.

While there have been a few products in the market that are able to facilitate **visual privacy as a temporary means of isolation, they are solutions that fail to cover the audio factor.** The idea of taking required **private time** in our busy schedules each day will be able to gain traction with the availability of products that can help us take this time most conveniently.

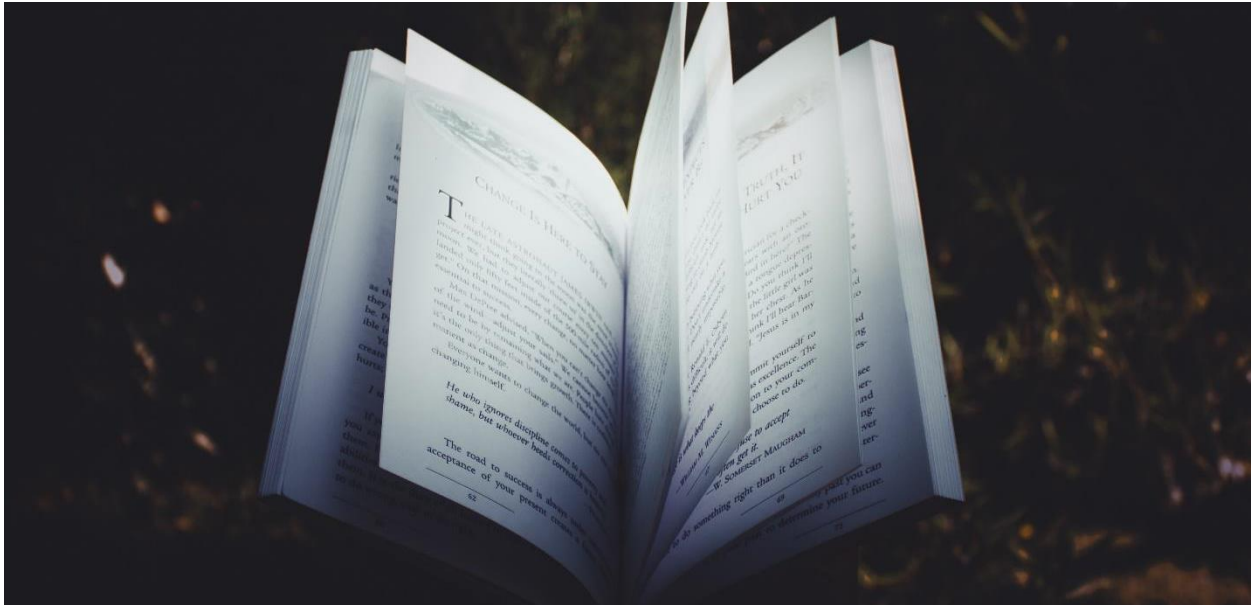


Fig: 3 – Human Pods in Coppa Club, London

## Brief

Human pods are a trend that came up as a move as a living space in highly dense cities. Turning this concept into a modular pod for people to have their private time needs a little tuning in design.

**Design a pod that can be used to create a silent and isolated environment for individuals to spend time in it by reading, working, or sleeping.**

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The product must be **easy to operate and occupy minimal space**. While designing such a product, one often concentrates on the space restraint, when the real focus must be on **optimizing this space**, keeping in mind the functions it caters to.

The concept of this pod must be inventive and unique that would **make it relevant** to every background, with little room given to the user for customization. Amenities that might be needed by the user inside must be designed.

**Privacy is the topmost priority**. Any digital intervention or automation to the product might also be made as long as it serves the purpose of disconnecting the user from the outside world.

# Objectives

**Compact** - the pod must be designed to be lightweight, with a simple and modular design so that it can be replicated.

**Portable** - the pod must be easy to move with the mechanism provided for its installation

**Function** - the experience inside the pod must be comfortable and safe.

**Privacy** - the pod must enable an ambiance of silence and no disturbance

# Site

The pod must be within the dimensions of **2m x 1.5m x 2m**. The Pod must have a **comfortable seating space, a storage nook, charging station, and sufficient lighting**.

# How to submit?

Read all the competition rules and details from the sidebar, and hit **register**. You can pay the entry fee and book your registration right away. The additional resources directly unlock as soon as you register on your dashboard. Once you are ready with your project - begin uploading from the dashboard and follow this tutorial to submit. You can add your team members to your project while submitting it.

Discover the full submission tutorial here: <https://to.uni.xyz/uploadtutorial>

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# Submission Requirements

You have to deliver a product design outcome on the following site, based on the given outlines.

1. Recommended number of sheets/presentation images/boards:  
**3 (Three) of size [2800px x 3500px] in portrait digital format (JPEG only).**
2. Minimum 3 (Three) & No maximum sheet limit. Each image should be less than 15MB.  
(Do not submit PNG format)
3. Minimum requisite submissions are sheets/boards + Cover image containing:
  - a. 1 x Key concept section
  - b. 3D views x 4
  - c. Additional cover image of 2000px x 1000px
  - d. Write an article/story in the Journal section# of the project (of about 700-1000 words) answering the questions given in the guide pdf.

#Journal Section appears midway in the project submission portal. More instructions in the additional resources.

## Additional Resources

This competition contains additional resources that contain a set of files useful to complete the competition submission. This folder is made available on your profile dashboard automatically as soon as you register.

This additional resource folder of this competition contains:

**Submission Format files in PSD | AI | InDD & Guide to Journal Section + Questions**

Learn more on: <https://uni.xyz/competitions/solace/info/about>

<https://uni.xyz/competitions>

# Base Rules

- + The competitions are open for students and professionals from all the disciplines of design.
- + The team limit for this competition is 4 members maximum per team.
- + You can register more than one team but they have to be registered separately.
- + Ensure that the final sheets submitted do not include your name or any other mark of identification.
- + Your submission is linked to your UNI user account which stands as your identification, we do not have any identification codes.
- + This is a design idea challenge only. There is no built commission/realization associated with the problem.
- + In case of publication in the yearbook we will reach out separately for selected entries.

# Pro Tips

- + Use exploded views to discuss multi-leveled conceptual models better.
- + Mention sheet number on the corner of every sheet.
- + Plagiarism of any idea/form/design/image will be disqualified with a notice.
- + All the sheets or images will be viewed on a digital device. e.g. Laptop screen or projector. Uploaded sheets or images will not be physically printed for evaluation. The submission hence should be prepared for digital viewing only.
- + Submit JPEG images only. (PNG will not function)

# Judging Criteria

The entries will be judged by an international jury of the competition on the following criteria:

**Presentation:** The fundamental to a good entry is a visual delivery of ideas.

**Concept/Idea:** Quality of thought and intent in the pre-design phase.

**Program/Spaces:** How the spaces are conceived along with the program.

**Design Outcome** The final architectural outcome of the solution.

The judging panel can also add other criteria based on their internal discussions - which will be in line with the problem statement. Participants are advised to fulfill the above-given criteria first in their design. Names of the jury panel will be announced soon.

# Disqualification

The competition is protected by our [disqualification policy](#) to support fair play in a competitive environment like UNI. Participants are requested to stick to the details in the brief and connect with the curatorial committee on [contact@uni.xyz](mailto:contact@uni.xyz) in case of doubts or revisions.

Please check the link above for details. Failure to adherence may lead to soft or hard disqualification based on the violation.

# Prizes / Deadlines / Registration

For complete information on active prizes and details on the entry fee, visit the Awards & Fees section of the competition here: - [Awards&Fees](#)

Learn more about this competition here: <https://uni.xyz/competitions/solace/info/about>

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