The following is a summary of the Wants & Needs Analysis exercise we performed on Wednesday, April 16th, 2008 in class. The participants had no domain knowledge, so we constructed a question that was general enough to be understood, but which might apply to our project.

This question was posed:

In an ideal world, what[1] would you want or need to organize 500 terms in a meaningful way?

terms = words, concepts

1. Sort terms by whatever parameter

    a. alphabetical, geographically, time, etc.

2. Familiar/more common terms on top

    a. # of hits

3. Associate other terms with them

    a. a given term

    b. a concept (TAGS)

4. Link to more information

5. Advanced searching to combine

    a. Facets / pivot table

6. Left to right, directional

7. Apply own view or context to the terms

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[1] Partway through the process, a note was added referring to **software**, to help focus the responses.