

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CAPTURING HUMAN OBSERVATIONS

FIELD

This invention relates to a method and system for capturing human observations, simply and quickly, and at scale.

5

BACKGROUND

Human observations comprise a wide range of factual (e.g. symptoms in a hospital patient, an emergency situation), and behavioural (e.g. a learner's reaction to educational content, a respondent's propensity to answer truthfully, an employee's actions) observations. What characterises them as "human" is that they are in part, or wholly, mediated and qualified by the human observer, and therefore cannot be captured by technology alone, such as an ECG graph or air pressure data. Yet in a world where big data plays an increasingly important role in society, facilitating the capture of this information is becoming critical for purposes of understanding people and complex situations.

15

Currently available methods of capturing human observations, and in particular observations of human behaviour, typically consist in designated human observers recording their observations as these events and/or behaviours are happening, or after the fact by taking notes, or completing a questionnaire or survey; or by respondents self-reporting their own behaviour. e.g. by completing a survey. By compiling or tabulating the collected information, and inputting this information into a data system (e.g. a computer), observations are recorded and catalogued in a database. Capturing and recording data in this way is time-consuming and tedious, and may result in inexact reporting, and/or poor compliance. Where observations are required to be entered for many individuals and/or after some time has passed, the observers' or respondents' recollection may be poor, or affected by a variety of cognitive biases, such as selection and confirmation bias, and false consensus. There is therefore a need to provide an effective and user-friendly method and system for the human capture of observations that minimize errors and omissions and reduce time and effort in capturing these observations.

30

SUMMARY

Disclosed is a method and apparatus wherein a software application installed on a computing

device is used to capture human observations, including, but not limited to, observations of human behaviour exhibited by one or more subjects in a particular setting for a particular period of time. Although the method and system may readily be used to capture observed behaviour exhibited by only one subject, the method and system are particularly suited for capturing observed behaviour exhibited by individuals among a group of subjects with minimal time delay between observing the behaviour during the particular period of time to capturing the behaviour in a database. The method and system thus avoid delayed input of human observations, thereby ensuring a more thorough capture of the observations and relying less on observer or respondent subsequent recollection after the particular period of time has passed. Captured human observations (may include micro-observations) are situational and instantaneous, and therefore less susceptible to bias. The ease and speed of observation capture also means that a larger quantum of observations can be captured, thereby increasing the total quantum of data captured, and reducing recollection and availability heuristic issues. The method and system are thus particularly suited for human development applications such as in education or training, by providing a way to record and catalogue behaviours exhibited by individuals that only humans can identify, interpret and describe, with minimum or no interruption, in order to map holistic growth of subjects, review and evaluate educators' or trainers' strategies, and broaden the scope of such education or training, for example.

20

According to a first aspect, there is provided a method of capturing human observations using a computing device provided with an electronic input device and installed with a software application, the method comprising:

- (a) the application showing on a display screen of the computing device a number of predetermined distinct observations;
- (b) a user selecting via the electronic input device a specific observation from among the number of predetermined distinct observations;
- (c) the application showing on the display screen of the computing device a number of predetermined distinct subjects;
- (d) the user selecting via the electronic input device a specific subject from among the number of predetermined distinct subjects;
- (e) the application creating an association of the specific observation with the specific subject, wherein the association includes at least the specific observation, the specific

subject and a date and time stamp of at least one of: performance of step (b) and performance of step (d); and

(f) the application transmitting the association from the computing device to a database stored on at least one of: the computing device and a server.

5

Step (e) may be automatically performed after steps (a) to (d) have been completed, and step (f) may be automatically performed after step (e) has been completed.

Step (a) and step (c) may be mutually exclusive.

10

Step (c) and step (d) may be performed after step (a) and step (b).

Step (a) and step (c) may be simultaneously performed by showing the predetermined distinct observations and the predetermined distinct subjects simultaneously on the display screen.

15

The method may further comprise, after step (d) and before step (e):

(i) the application showing on the display screen a user interface configured to accept input of further observations of the specific subject;

20

(ii) the user entering at least one further observation on the specific subject via the user interface and the application including the at least one further observation in the association in step (e).

The further observations may include observed intensity of the specific observation.

25

The further observations may include optional remarks originating from the user.

Step (ii) may include the user entering text via the user interface.

30

Step (d) may comprise the user selecting via the electronic input device multiple specific subjects, step (e) may comprise the application creating an association of the specific observation with each of the multiple specific subjects thereby creating multiple associations,

and step (f) may include the user activating the application to transmit the multiple associations to the database.

5 The method may further comprise a report generator software module generating a report from the associations in the database at a predetermined time, the report comprising at least one of: the specific observations associated with a specific subject within a specific time period for all the number of distinct subjects, and the specific subjects associated with a specific observation within a specific time period for all the number of distinct observations.

10 The predetermined time may comprise periodic intervals.

The method may further comprise the report generator software module generating a special report from the associations in the database when called on by the user, the specific report comprising at least one of: the specific observations associated with a specific subject within
15 a specific time period, and the specific subjects associated with a specific observation within a specific time period.

The method may further comprise, before step (a), the application showing on the display screen a number of predetermined distinct groups of subjects, and the user selecting via the
20 electronic input device a specific group of subjects from among the number of predetermined distinct groups of subjects, wherein the specific group of subjects may comprise the number of predetermined distinct subjects.

The electronic input device may comprise a touchscreen and wherein the display screen may comprise the touchscreen, wherein step (a) may comprise showing the distinct observations
25 as distinct observation hyperlinks on the touchscreen, wherein step (b) may comprise the user tapping on one of the distinct observation hyperlinks shown on the touchscreen to select the specific observation, wherein step (c) may comprise showing the distinct subjects as distinct subject hyperlinks on the touchscreen, and wherein step (d) may comprise the user tapping on one of the distinct subject hyperlinks shown on the touchscreen to select the
30 specific subject.

The method may further comprise, before step (a), the application showing on the touchscreen a two-tap option and a three-tap option, and the user making a selection of one

of: the top-tap option and the three-tap option, wherein selection of the two-step option eliminates performance of all steps related to input of further observations of the specific subject.

- 5 The two-step option and the three-step option may be presented as options selectable by the user via a toggle icon shown on the touchscreen.

According to a second aspect, there is provided a system for capturing human observations, the system comprising: a computing device provided with an electronic input device; a
10 software application installed on the computing device, the application configured to:
show on a display screen of the computing device a number of predetermined distinct observations;
show on the display screen of the computing device a number of predetermined distinct subjects;
15 register selection by a user via the electronic input device of a specific observation from among the number of predetermined distinct observations;
register selection by the user via the electronic input device of a specific subject from among the number of predetermined distinct subjects;
create an association of the specific observation with the specific subject, wherein the
20 association may include the specific observation, the specific subject and a date and time stamp of at least one of: when the user selected the specific observation and when the user selected the specific subject; and
a database stored on at least one of: the computing device and a server, wherein the application may be further configured to transmit the association from the computing device
25 to the database.

The application may be configured to automatically create the association and to transmit the association after the user has selected the specific observation and selected the specific
30 subject.

The application may be configured to show the number of predetermined distinct observations on a first user interface and to show the number of predetermined distinct subject on a second user interface.

The application may be configured to show the number of predetermined distinct observations and the number of predetermined distinct subject on a same user interface.

- 5 The application may be further configured: to show on the display screen a user interface configured to allow the user to enter at least one further observation on the specific subject and to may include the at least one further observation in the association transmitted to the database.

- 10 The further observations may include observed intensity of the specific observation.

The further observations may include optional remarks originating from the user.

- 15 The application may be configured to allow the user to enter the at least one further observation by entering text via the user interface.

- 20 The application may be further configured to allow selection of multiple specific subjects by the user via the electronic input device, to create multiple associations wherein each of the multiple associations may comprise an association of the specific observation with each of the multiple specific subjects, and to transmit the multiple associations to the database when activated by the user.

- 25 The system may further comprise a report generator software module configured to generate a report from the associations in the database at a predetermined time, the report comprising at least one of: the specific observations associated with a specific subject within a specific time period for all subjects represented by the number of subject hyperlinks, and the specific subjects associated with a specific observation within a specific time period for all observations represented by the observation hyperlinks.

- 30 The predetermined time may comprise periodic intervals.

The generator software module may be further configured to generate a special report from the associations in the database when called on by the user, the specific report comprising at

least one of: the specific observations associated with a specific subject within a specific time period, and the specific subjects associated with a specific observation within a specific time period.

- 5 The application may be further configured to show on the display screen a number of predetermined distinct groups of subjects prior to showing the predetermined distinct observations and predetermined distinct subjects, and receive selection by the user via the electronic input device of a specific group of subjects from among the number of predetermined distinct groups of subjects, wherein the specific group of subjects may
10 comprise the number of predetermined distinct subjects.

The electronic input device may comprise a touchscreen wherein any selection by the user via the electronic input device may comprise tapping on the touchscreen by the user, and wherein the display screen may comprise the touchscreen, wherein the application may be
15 configured to show the distinct observations on the touchscreen as distinct observation hyperlinks that each register as selection of the specific observation when tapped on by the user, and wherein the application may be configured to show the distinct subjects on the touchscreen as distinct subject hyperlinks that each register as selection of the specific subject when tapped on by the user.

20

The application may be configured to show on the display screen a two-tap option and a three-tap option and to suppress possibility of the user entering the at least one further observation when the user selects the two-tap option.

- 25 The two-step option and the three-step option may be presented as options selectable by the user via a toggle icon shown on the display screen.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF FIGURES

In order that the invention may be fully understood and readily put into practical effect there shall now be described by way of non-limitative example only exemplary embodiments of
30 the present invention, the description being with reference to the accompanying illustrative drawings.

FIG. 1 is a flowchart of an exemplary method of capturing human observations.

FIG. 2 is a schematic architectural diagram of an exemplary system for capturing human observations.

FIG. 3 is a schematic illustration of an exemplary user interface showing a number of distinct observation hyperlinks.

5 FIG. 4 is a schematic illustration of an exemplary user interface showing a number of distinct subject hyperlinks.

FIG. 5 is a schematic illustration of a first exemplary user interface to allow entering at least one further observation on a specific subject.

10 FIG. 6 is a schematic illustration of a second exemplary user interface to allow entering at least one further observation on a specific subject.

FIG. 7 is a schematic illustration of an exemplary user interface allowing multiple selections of specific subjects.

15 DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Exemplary embodiments of a method 100 and system 200 for capturing human observations will be described below with reference to FIGS. 1 and 2, where the same reference numerals refer to the same or similar / equivalent parts.

20 In general, the method 100 comprises a user (not shown) using a system 200 comprising a software application 210 installed on a computing device 290 to capture specific observations of specific subjects. A “subject” may comprise anything visible, including a person, an animal, a plant, a building and so on. An “observation” refers to any form of observation made by a human observer of information that can only be described and/or
25 interpreted by the human observer (as opposed to quantifiably measurable data that can be obtained by sensors and other instruments). Throughout this application, the user is understood to be the human observer who makes the specific observations of specific subjects that are captured by the method 100 and the system 200. The computing device 290 may be any appropriate electronic equipment controlled by a central processing unit (CPU),
30 including smartphones, tablets, laptop and desktop computers, personal digital assistants and the like.

To exemplify, an observation may comprise a form of behaviour or phenomenon exhibited

by one or more subjects in a particular setting at a particular period of time as observed by the user. Such subjects may include students in a classroom, soldiers in a platoon, employees in a meeting, workers on a factory floor, patients in a hospital ward, inmates in a prison, participants in a sports event, animals in an enclosure or a natural environment, and any other conceivable situation where one or more subjects are present in a specific situation, for example. Although the method 100 and system 200 may readily be used to capture observations of behaviour exhibited by only one subject, the method 100 and system 200 are particularly suited for capturing observations of behaviour exhibited by individuals among a large group of subjects, especially in human development applications such as in education or training, by providing a way to record and catalogue humanly observable behaviours exhibited by individuals with minimum or no interruption, in order to map the holistic growth of subjects, review and evaluate strategies of educators or trainers, and broaden the scope of such education or training, for example. Appreciably, in the method 100, more than one user may each use a separate computing device 290 of the system 200 to capture specific observations of one or more specific subjects in a same setting. For example, specific subjects may comprise students in a class and the more than one users may comprise a teacher and a teaching assistant who each capture specific observations of individual students in the class using their own computing devices 290.

Observations may also include the degree of injury/damage suffered by a subject (e.g. a person, a building, a bridge) as visually assessed by the user in an emergency situation such as an accident/terrorist attack scene, medical emergency/triage, health diagnostic situation, and any other situation where technology is insufficient to capture actionable or useful information. The method 100 and system 200 may thus be configured to allow any type of conceivable information of specific subjects that is made through human observation to be captured by appropriate configuration of the system 200 to receive relevant input from the user.

Notably, the system 200 is configured to provide only a number of predetermined distinct observations and only a number of predetermined distinct subjects from which the user may select specific observations of specific subjects to be captured. This is to allow capture of human observations of subjects to be quick, easy and in large quantities, while also allowing the captured information to be readily machine-sortable according to observation or subject,

without requiring further manual data entry and sorting to make sense of the captured information.

Any appropriate electronic input device may be provided in the system 200 and method 100
5 for the user to select specific observations and specific subjections from the number of
predetermined distinct observations and predetermined distinct subjects provided by the
system 200. For example, the electronic input device may comprise a touchscreen, a display
screen working with a pointing device such as a mouse or pointing stick or touch pad or
trackball, a microphone to accept voice commands, a keyboard, a camera recognising
10 gestures or body movements, and so on, wherein the electronic input device works together
with the computing device 290 to allow capture of the specific observations of the specific
subjects as selected by the user. In many embodiments, the electronic input device may be
integral with the computing device 290, for example, the computing device 290 may
comprise a smartphone or tablet with a touchscreen and/or a built-in microphone.

15

Using the electronic input device provided in the system 200, the user selects specific
observations of specific subjects from a number of predetermined distinct observations and
predetermined distinct subjects that are shown on a display screen 292 of the computing
device 290. The application 210 then creates an association of the specific observation with
20 the specific subject. The association includes the specific observation, the specific subject
and a date and time stamp of when the user selected the specific observation or the specific
subject. If the device provides such a function (that is, it is equipped with a GPS module or
its equivalent), the association may also include the specific geolocation of the observation.
The association is then transmitted, immediately or when circumstances allow, via a wired
25 connection or wirelessly, by the application 210 from the computing device 290 to a database
250. The database 250 may be stored on the computing device 290 itself or additionally or
alternatively stored on a server (not shown).

In an exemplary embodiment, referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the display screen 292 of the
30 computing device 290 and the electronic input device are integrally provided as a
touchscreen 292. In this embodiment, the method 100 comprises the application 210
showing 110 on the display screen 292 a number of distinct observation hyperlinks 300
representing a corresponding number of predetermined distinct observations on a user

interface 390. The observation hyperlinks 300 may preferably comprise graphical icons 300 with or without text, or may alternatively comprise purely text hyperlinks 300. Appreciably, the predetermined distinct observations will be those observations that are considered important to be captured in a particular application of use of the method 100 and system 200.

5

The method 100 next comprises the user (for example a teacher in a classroom, not shown) tapping 130 (with a finger or stylus for example) on one of the observation hyperlinks 300 shown on the display screen 292 to select a specific observation from among the number of predetermined distinct observations when the user observes the specific observation being exhibited by a specific subject. Notably, each specific observation may comprise a single observation item or may comprise an observation cluster that may contain further observable observation sub-items. For example, in an educational or school setting, observations may comprise observed behaviours, and the observed behaviours may be grouped under different behaviour clusters such as: personal effectiveness, inquiring, empathy, being, principles, knowing. Each behaviour cluster may be considered a specific observation that can be represented by a distinct observation hyperlink 300 in the method 100 and system 200.

The application 210 also shows 120 on the display screen 292 of the computing device 290 a number of distinct subject hyperlinks 400 representing a corresponding number of predetermined distinct subjects. Similarly, the subject hyperlinks 40 may preferably comprise graphical icons 400 with or without text, or may alternatively comprise purely text hyperlinks 400. In the method 100, the user also taps 140 on one of the subject hyperlinks 400 shown on the display screen 292 to select the specific subject from among the number of predetermined distinct subjects whom the user has observed to have exhibited the selected observation mentioned above.

The application 210 then creates an association (not shown) of the specific observation with the specific subject 150. The association includes the specific observation, the specific subject and a date and time stamp of either the user tapping on the observation hyperlink 300 or the user tapping on the subject hyperlink 400. In a preferred embodiment, the date and time stamp is the date and time of occurrence of the latter of the user tapping on the observation hyperlink 300 and the user tapping on the subject hyperlink 400. The application 210 then transmits the association 160 from the computing device 290 to a database 250

stored locally on the computing device 290, or remotely on a server (not shown). The application 210 then resets the display screen to allow the method 100 to be repeated, for example, by showing once more the number of observation hyperlinks 300 on the display screen 292.

5

In what will be referred to as a 2-tap embodiment, the application 210 automatically creates the association once the user has tapped 130, 140 on both an observation hyperlink 300 and a subject hyperlink 400, followed by the application 200 automatically transmitting the association to the database 250. In this way, the method 100 and system 200 allow observed
10 specific observation to be captured for a specific subject by the user performing only two taps on the screen 292 of the computing device 290: one tap to capture the specific observation and another tap to capture the specific subject who exhibited the specific observation.

15 In a preferred embodiment, the application 210 is configured to show the observation hyperlinks 300 on a first user interface 281 as an “at-rest” display (FIG. 3) that the application 210 returns to after a specific observation has been captured for a specific subject. In this embodiment, the subject hyperlinks 400 are shown on a second user interface 282 (FIG. 4) only after a specific observation has been selected by the user tapping on one of the
20 observation hyperlinks 300. An advantage of showing the observation hyperlinks 300 as the “at-rest” display is reminding the user to be watchful for the specific observations that should be captured when observed since the observation hyperlinks 300 are continually visible on the display screen 292. In an alternative embodiment, the application 210 may be configured to show the subject hyperlinks 400 as the “at-rest” display that the application 210 returns to
25 after a specific observation has been captured for a specific subject, if such is desired for a particular application of use of the method 100 and system 200.

In a further alternative embodiment (not shown), the application 210 may be configured to show both the observation hyperlinks 300 and the subject hyperlinks 400 simultaneously on
30 the display screen 292, if space permits on the display screen 292. In such an embodiment, the user thus has a choice of whether to tap first on an observation hyperlink 300 or on a subject hyperlink 400, as opposed to the application 210 directing the sequence of taps by showing either the observation hyperlinks 300 first or the subject hyperlinks 400 first.

The system 200 is preferably configured to allow input of further observations of the specific subject already selected by the user earlier tapping 140 on one of the subject hyperlinks 400, by configuring the application 210 to show on the display screen 292 a further user interface 5 283 configured to allow the user to enter at least one further observation on the specific subject (FIGS. 5 and 6). Using the further user interface, the user enters the at least one further observation, and the application 210 then includes the at least one further observation in the association that is to be transmitted to the database 250. The application 210 further shows a submit hyperlink 260 on the display screen 292 that, when tapped by the user, 10 triggers the application 210 to transmit the association to the database 250. In this way, more detailed observations can also be captured. Examples of the further observation include a perceived level of intensity of the specific observation exhibited by the specific subject, optional remarks originating from the user, and so on.

15 In what may be referred to as a 3-tap embodiment, the submit hyperlink 260 may comprise any one of a number of distinct further observation hyperlinks 260 that each represent a distinct further observation. For example, as shown in FIG. 5, where the specific observation is an observed behaviour of “consideration for others”, the further observation may be one of “low”, “medium”, or “high” intensity. In another exemplary embodiment (not shown), 20 where the specific observations comprise behaviour clusters as described above, the at least one further observation can comprise a behaviour that is included in the selected behaviour cluster. For example, under a behaviour cluster of “empathy”, a further observation may be “actively listening to others”. Each further observation hyperlink 260 is configured to register selection of a specific further observation when tapped by the user such that when 25 the user taps on any one of the further observation hyperlinks 260, the application 210 automatically includes the specific further observation in the association and automatically transmits the association to the database 250. In this way, the method 100 and system 200 allow observed specific observation as well as further observations to be captured for a specific subject by the user performing only three taps on the screen 292 of the computing 30 device 290: the first tap “capturing” the observation, the second tap “capturing” the subject who exhibited the “captured observation”, and the third tap “capturing” at least one further observation on the specific subject.

In an alternative embodiment, as shown in FIG. 6, the at least one further specific observation may instead be entered by the user as text in the further user interface 283. This may be achieved by configuring the application 210 to show a text entry field 284 in the further user interface 283, followed by the user tapping on the submit hyperlink 260 also shown in the further user interface 283 to trigger the application 210 to include the entered further observation in the association and automatically transmit the association to the database 250. The embodiment described with reference to FIG. 6 may thus be considered a 3-tap configuration with additional text entry.

10 In a further exemplary embodiment, as shown in FIG. 7, the system 200 may be configured to allow capturing of multiple specific subjects who were observed to have exhibited a same specific observation when using the method 100. Accordingly, the application 210 may be configured to allow selection of multiple specific subjects by the user tapping on multiple subject hyperlinks 400 when using the method 100, either subsequent to or before the user taps on one of the observation hyperlinks 300. In this embodiment, the application 210 is further configured to create multiple associations wherein each of the multiple associations comprises an association of the specific observation with each of the multiple specific subjects when a subject hyperlink 400 is tapped. Preferably, the application 210 shows a submit hyperlink 260 on the display screen 292, and transmits the multiple associations to the database 250 when the submit hyperlink 260 is tapped by the user.

The system 200 may also further comprise a report generator software module 270 configured to generate reports 271 from the associations in the database at a predetermined time. For example, a generated report 271 may comprise the specific observations associated with a specific subject within a specific time period, or a generated may comprise the specific subjects associated with a specific observation within a specific time period. The report generator software module 270 may generate such reports 271 for each specific subject or each specific observation at periodic intervals. The report generator software module 270 is preferably also configured to generate special reports when called on by the use, allowing the user to specify the specific subject or subjects, specific observation, and a specific time period in which the observation took place. Subject to being authorised to do so, the user may also use the report generator software module 270 to produce reports that at least partially include or omit other users' captured observations of the same subject.

In applications where the method 100 and system 200 may be used by the user to observe more than one group of subjects, the application 210 may be further configured to show on the display screen 292 a number of distinct group hyperlinks each representing a distinct group of subjects (not shown), prior to showing the observation hyperlinks and the subject hyperlinks on the display screen 292. In this way, the user may first tap on one of the group hyperlinks to select a specific group of subjects, so that subsequently, the distinct subjects represented by the number of distinct subject hyperlinks 400 that are shown on the display screen 292 are specific subjects comprised in the specific group of subjects. In an exemplary embodiment, the user may be a teacher who teaches more than one class in a school and uses the method 100 and system 200 to capture behaviour observed for students in the different classes, such that the distinct groups of subjects are the different classes taught by the teacher, and the teacher can select the class in the application 210 by tapping on one of a number of class hyperlinks so that the application 210 subsequently displays the subject hyperlinks 400 that represent the students in that class for selecting by the teacher.

The application is preferably configured to allow the predetermined distinct observations and the predetermined distinct subjects that are shown on the display screen 292 to be preselected by an administrator, for example using a spreadsheet that is accessed by the application 400 when creating the display of the predetermined distinct observations and the predetermined distinct subjects on the display screen 292. The distinct groups of subjects preferably can also be preselected by an administrator in a similar way.

While the above examples describe the selection of specific observations and subjects being made by the user tapping on observation hyperlinks and subject hyperlinks provided in the application 210 respectively, it should be noted that tapping on hyperlinks is not the only way by which selections may be made. For example, the application 210 may additionally or alternatively be configured to accept voice input so that the user may select specific observations and/or specific subjects by saying aloud names of the specific observations and/or specific subjects. In another embodiment, the application may be configured to accept gestures, such as sign or body language, facial expressions, or eye movements for selecting the specific observations and/or specific subjects.

From the above description of the various embodiments, it can be appreciated that the disclosed method 100 and system 200 allow for “on-the-fly” capture of observations that are almost instantaneously saved and stored. This is particularly useful for education or training settings where increasing emphasis is being placed on non-cognitive learning and seeing
5 students as individuals to be holistically nurtured, so that observed behaviours are seen to be important for personal evaluation in addition to test and examination performance scores. In such settings, the method 100 and system 200 provide an efficient, non-intrusive and non-interruptive way for teachers and trainers to capture observed behaviour during progress of the class or session, without requiring additional manpower to independently observe and
10 record observations of exhibited behaviours apart from the teaching staff. For example, by keeping the application 210 always open on the computing device 290, with just a few taps of the finger (as little as only two), an educator can readily capture observations of behaviour exhibited by any student at the instant that it is observed in class, without having to keep in mind the observation until the end of class to make a record, and without having to stop the
15 class to make the record before carrying on with the lesson or the lecture.

As mentioned above, the method 100 and system 200 can be configured for use in any conceivable setting where there is interest to capture observations of subjects, and particularly for large groups of subjects, as specific observations of specific subjects can be
20 quickly selected, associated and saved. In the above described embodiments where the electronic input device comprises a touchscreen, selection of specific observations of specific subjects can be achieved merely by the user tapping with his or her finger on the display of predetermined observation hyperlinks and subject hyperlinks. In other embodiments, as mentioned earlier, the selection of specific observations and specific
25 subjects from among a number of predetermined distinct observations and predetermined distinct subjects that are shown on a display screen of the computing device may be achieved by voice activation through a microphone, use of a mouse or other pointing device, via a keyboard, via a camera recognising gestures or body movements, or any other appropriate electronic input device provided in the system 200.

30

Besides use in educational and training settings where the observations are observed behaviours and the subjects are students or trainees, the disclosed method 100 and system 200 may also be used in other setting such as healthcare or emergency situations, where it

may be desirable to capture observed conditions (observations) of a group of patients (subjects), observed conditions (observations) of a particular number of persons (subjects), or observed damage (observations) of specific infrastructure (subjects) such as buildings, roads and bridges , and so on. Thus, it will be appreciated that by configuring the method
5 100 and system 200 to show a predetermined set of selectable observations and selectable subjects (e.g. persons, numbers, things) for a particular desired setting or context, within the predetermined range of observations and subjects shown by the method 100 and system 200, capturing specific human observations for specific subjects can be as simple and swift as merely tapping on one of the shown observations hyperlinks and tapping on one of the shown
10 subject hyperlinks on the part of the user.

Whilst there has been described in the foregoing description exemplary embodiments of the present invention, it will be understood by those skilled in the technology concerned that many variations and combination in details of design, construction and/or operation may be
15 made without departing from the present invention.