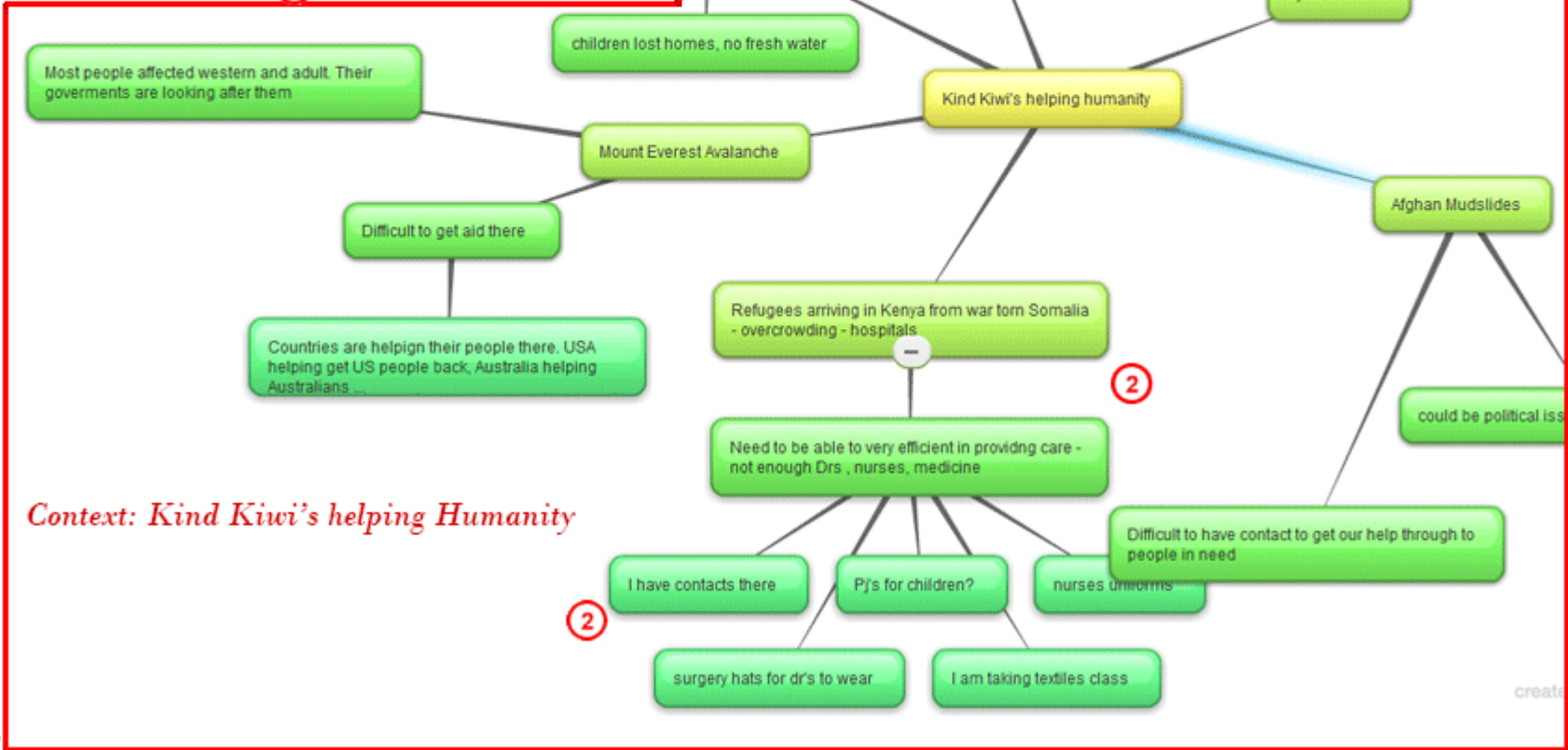


Student 4: High Achieved
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Issue:
 Through my contacts, I found that Kenyatta national hospital in Kenya was in need of a new nurses uniform that meets the requirements for female nurses and patients but provides comfort for their work. **1**

Nursing is a profession that focuses on the care of individuals, families, and communities so they may attain, maintain, or recover optimal health. Nurses need to carry equipment's such as, stethoscope, a calculator, a pair of scissors, pens, notebook to make it easier while handling patients. They also need a uniform that is suitable for different African body shapes, African weather and it relates to African culture. **3**



Cotton vs other fibres

I have chosen cotton unlike polyester which was used in the old uniform. This is because cotton is durable and can withstand high temperatures in Kenya, where there is a tropical climate. In such areas cotton is an excellent material for unlike polyester because it absorbs the moisture during perspiration of the body by permitting movement of air from the skin through the fabric. It is thus ideal for the hot Kenyan weather. Cotton is also easy to clean, absorbs moisture well keeping the skin dry unlike polyester which holds body heat and therefore is not suitable for a tropical regions. It is also easy to wash which will make it easy for the nurses to maintain cleanliness. This is important because nurses have to look presentable around the patients and public. (5)

When buying fabric 75% of shoppers said durability was the most important factor in their purchase. Proof of the strength of cotton can be found the great number of uses it has, for instance, it has been used for active wear, as work clothes, in upholstery, draperies, rugs, towels, and bedding. Cotton can withstand heat as it can be boiled or sterilized, making it ideal for hospitals.

I have sketched some initial design ideas and got stakeholder feedback. These ideas came from the inspiration from my research and my design specifications. (4)

Recycling Cotton

Cotton also provides a comfortable, natural choice for clothing and other textile uses and is highly sustainable. This fabric can also be recycled, which means one can convert existing material for a new one. Cotton recycling prevents unneeded wastage and can be a more sustainable option to disposal. For example, recycled cotton can be used in industrial settings as polishing and wiper cloth or can be sold as recycled yarn for consumers to create their own items. This means if the nurses uniform I am designing is changed again the nurses can create something new with the uniform. Recycling cotton cuts down on the harsh process of creating brand new cotton products. As a natural fibre cotton is a renewable and natural because its energy is self sustaining and long lasting, because it uses sunlight and doesn't require much energy to manufacture. This shows how sustainable cotton is so this is why I have chosen it to design the nurses uniform. (5)

Stakeholder Feedback

I like the idea of the African themed pattern. It makes the uniform look original, but the design of the uniform is not original. I like how the pockets are wide, which is great for the equipment that we use. Unlike what we have at the moment. (4)

... The stakeholder and I also discussed if I am on track with design the perfect uniform for the hospital. She says I have highlighted all the ideas and specifications but just need to develop my ideas further. To do this, my stakeholder wants me to talk to an expert at Kenya nurses uniform association on how I can improve these ideas and any important requirements or specifications that I missed out or have been introduced for me to analyse. The Expert said that my ideas are on track because I have highlighted all the requirements for nurses except one. Nurses need to be easily identified by patients. So this will make changes to my design ideas because the nurses where comfortable with just having badges with the (4)