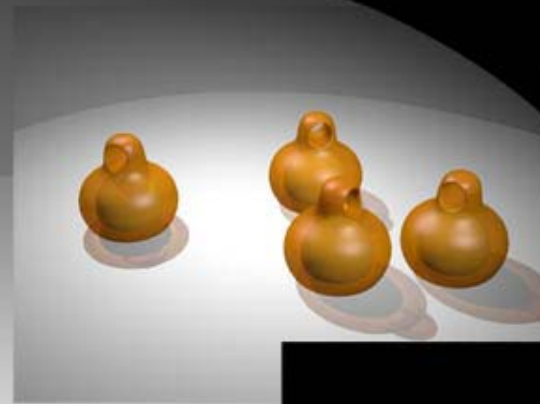
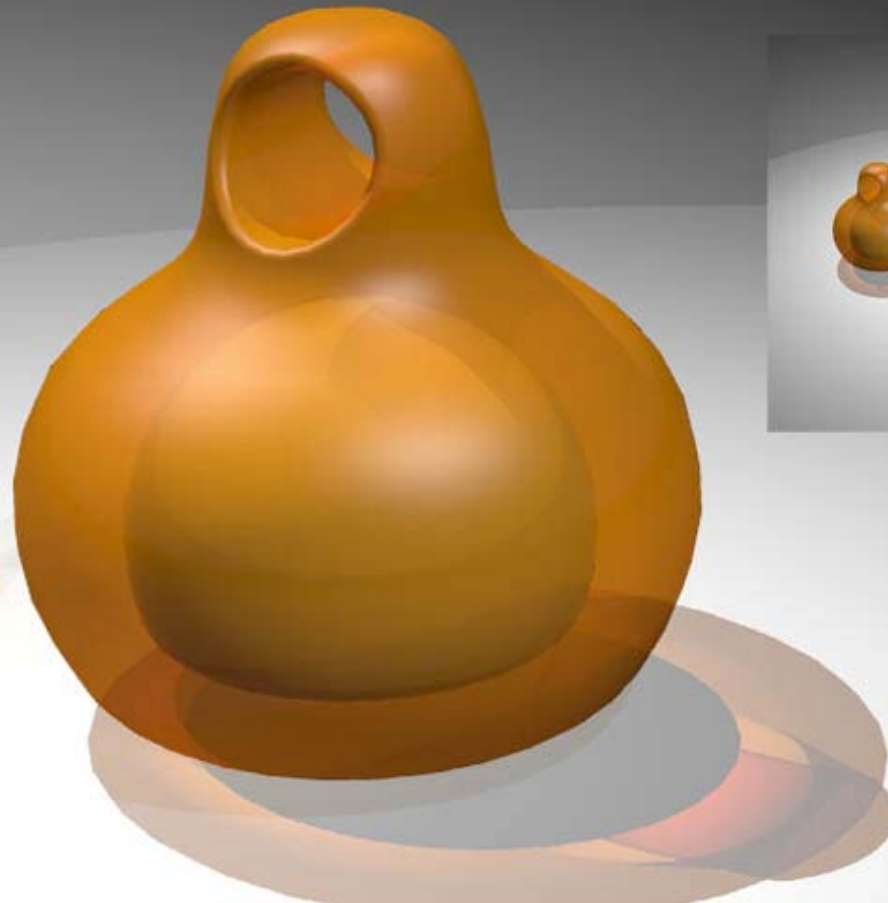
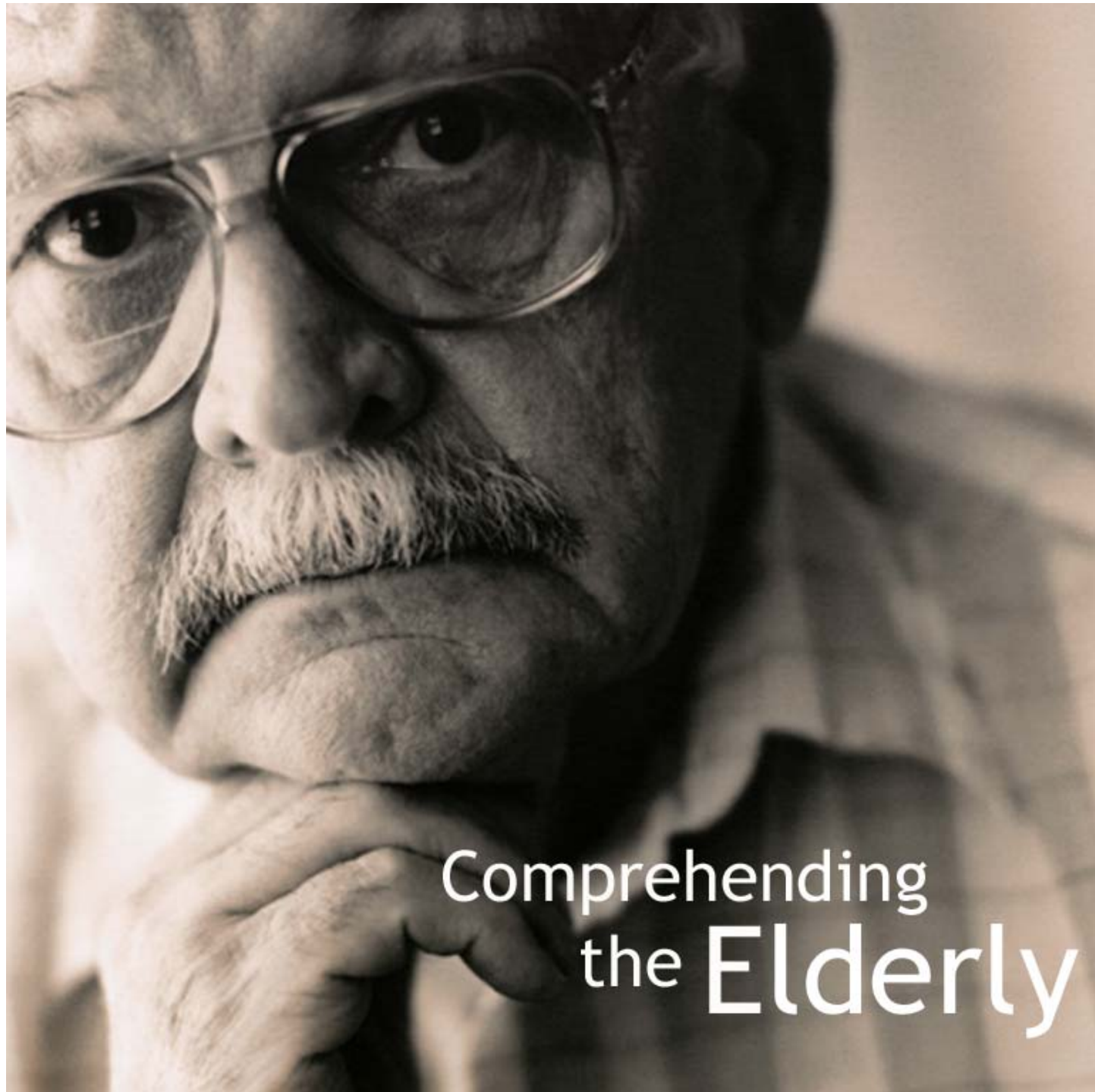


# Smaron

- a communication system for the elderly





Comprehending  
the **Elderly**

# Team



Prabhat Mahapatra  
PD 2004  
B.E (Electronics)

Mooshir Vahanvati  
VC 2004  
B.E (Computer Science)

Parul Bande  
PD 2004  
B.Arch

# Problem Definition







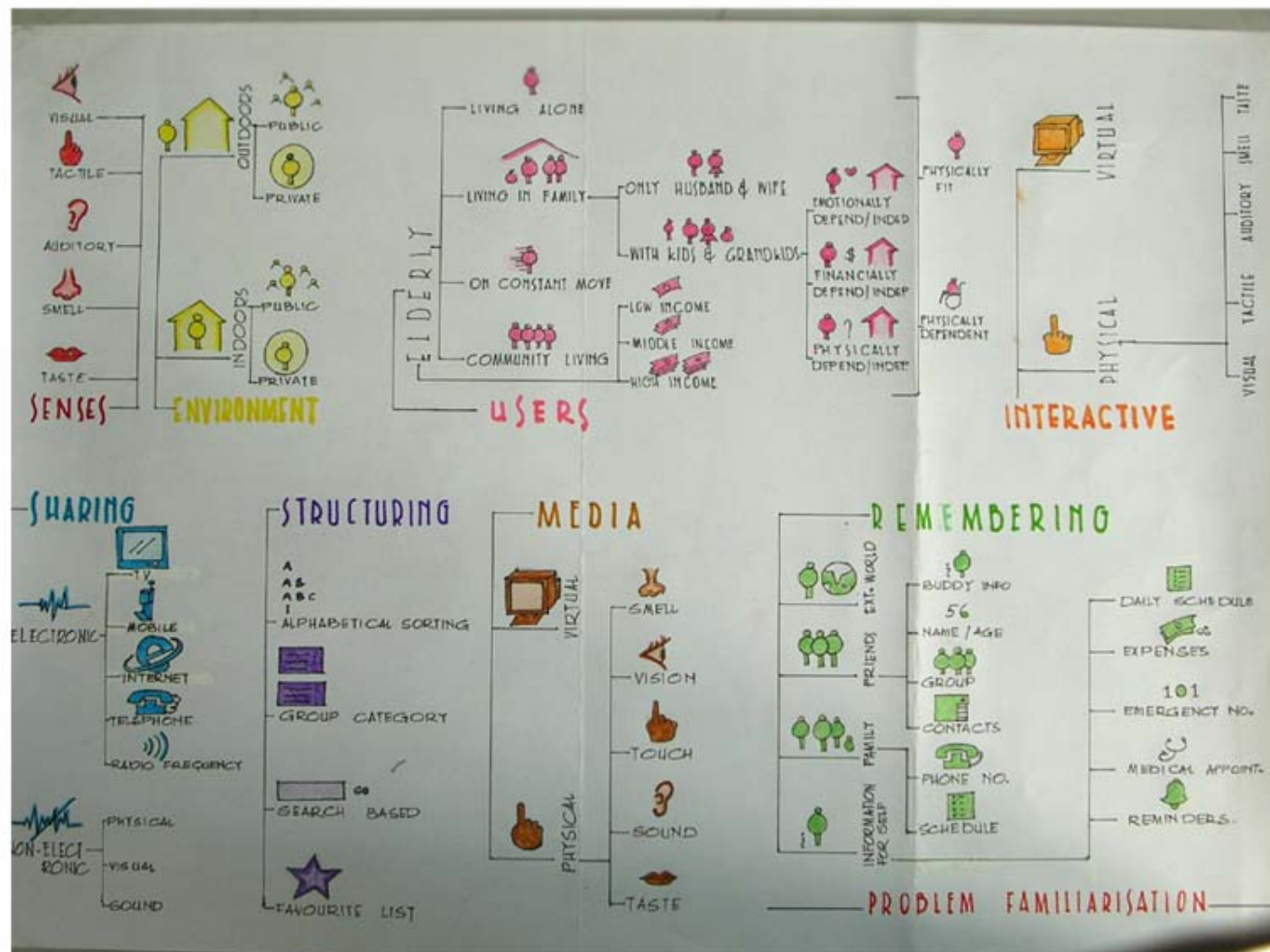
# Elderly

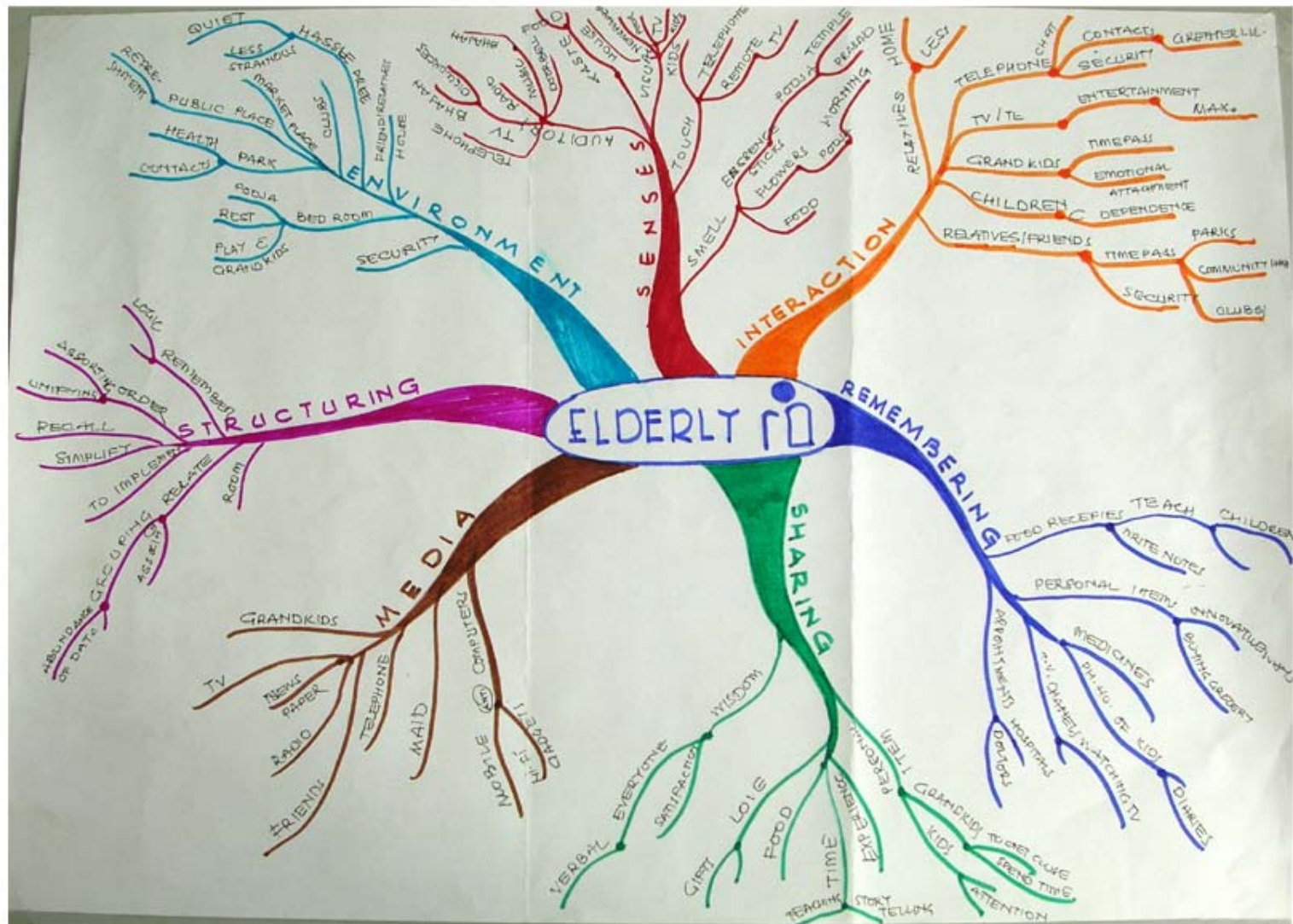
Why ?

- Closest to heart, as we could easily relate to them
- Are deprived of new technological advances



# Structuring Information



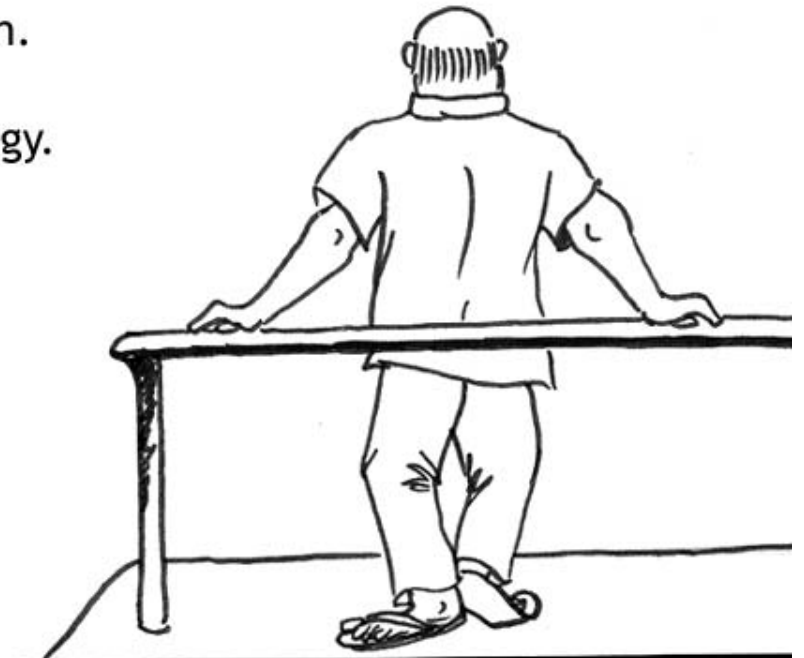






# Focus Group

- Elderly people in the age group of 60+.
- Middle class family.
- Physical functionality low but mentally active.
- May or may not be with their children.
- Reasonably conversant with technology.







# User Study

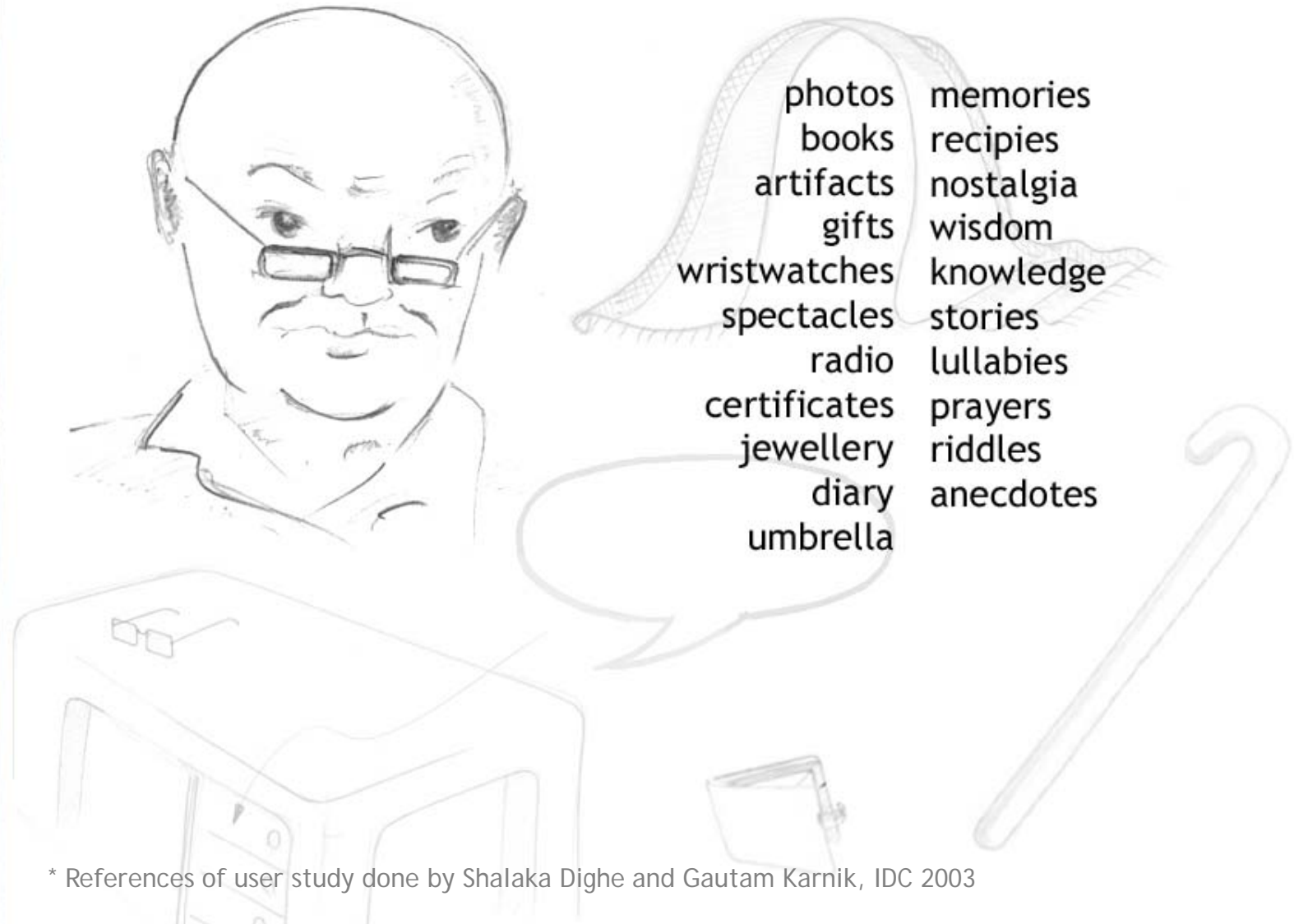


# Inferences from user Study

- Communication with family members is of utmost importance.
- Like to share their experiences.
- Looking for ways to utilise time effectively.
- Often look for common and like minded people.
- Have an urge to help out others.
- Familiar with technology like TV, mobiles etc.
- Find learning computers difficult.



# User Environment



\* References of user study done by Shalaka Dighe and Gautam Karnik, IDC 2003



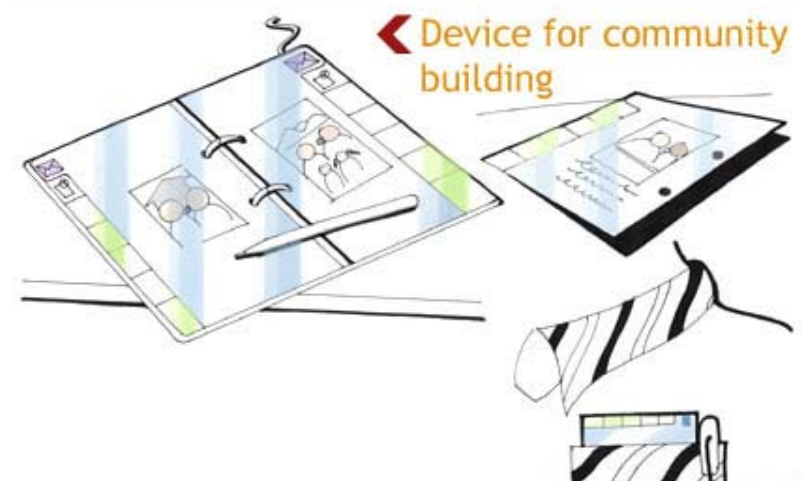
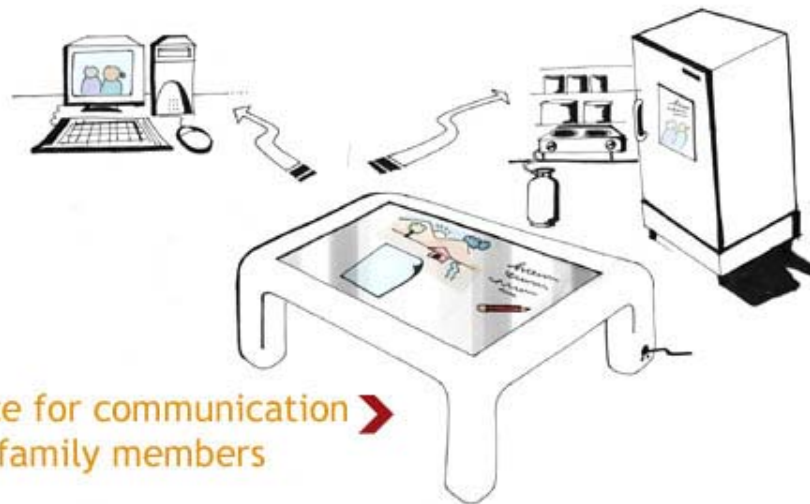
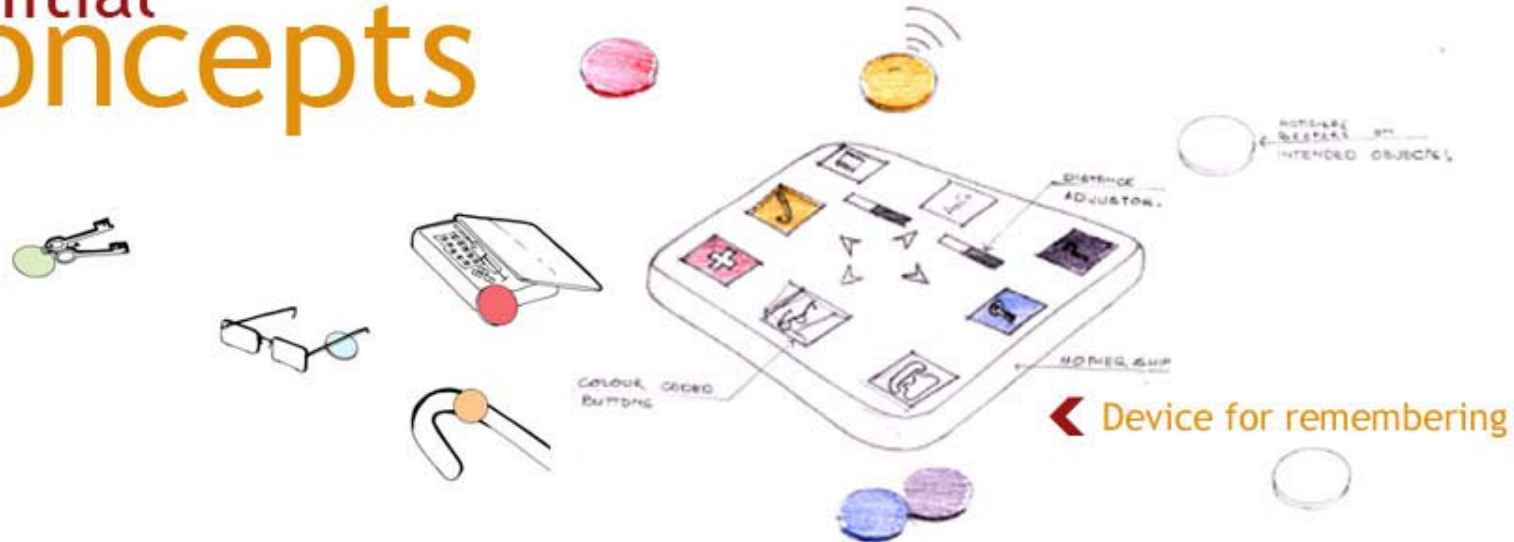


# Cultural Contextualisation

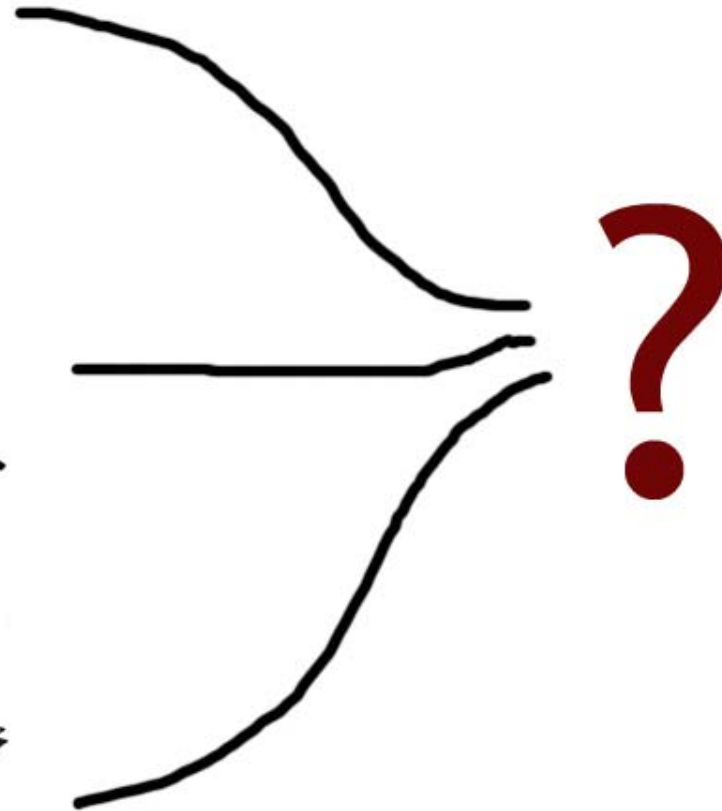
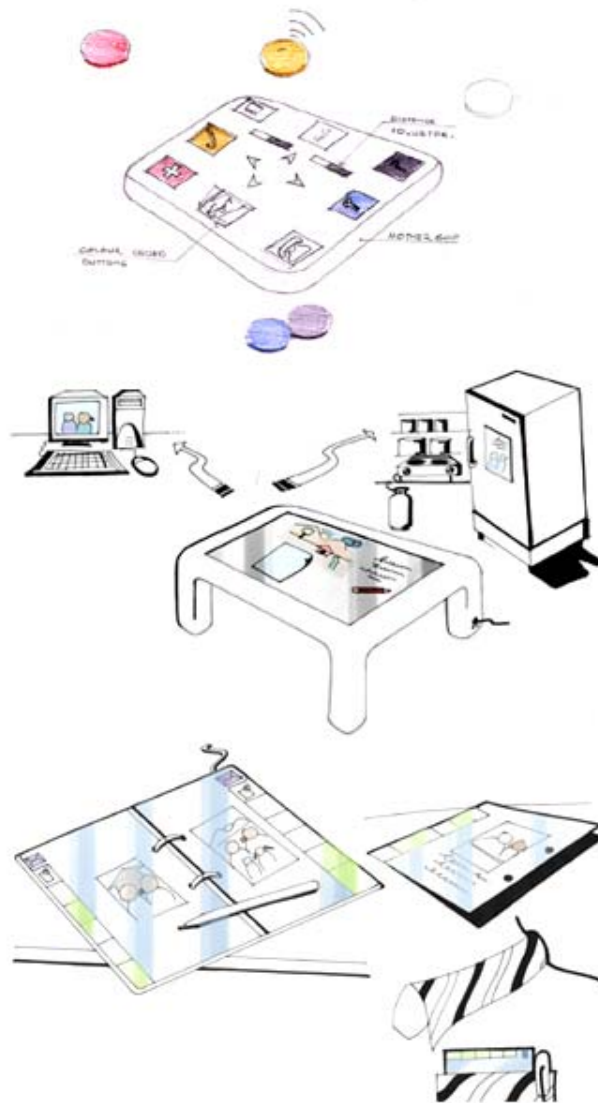
- Elders in Indian context are looked upon for wisdom, knowledge and sharing experiences.
- Respect towards elders is shown by touching their feet.
- Family bonds are strong and obligations are deeply rooted.
- Frankness is expected from the younger generation, but is not true visa versa.
- Elders look forward to growing old.



# Initial Concepts



# Feedback



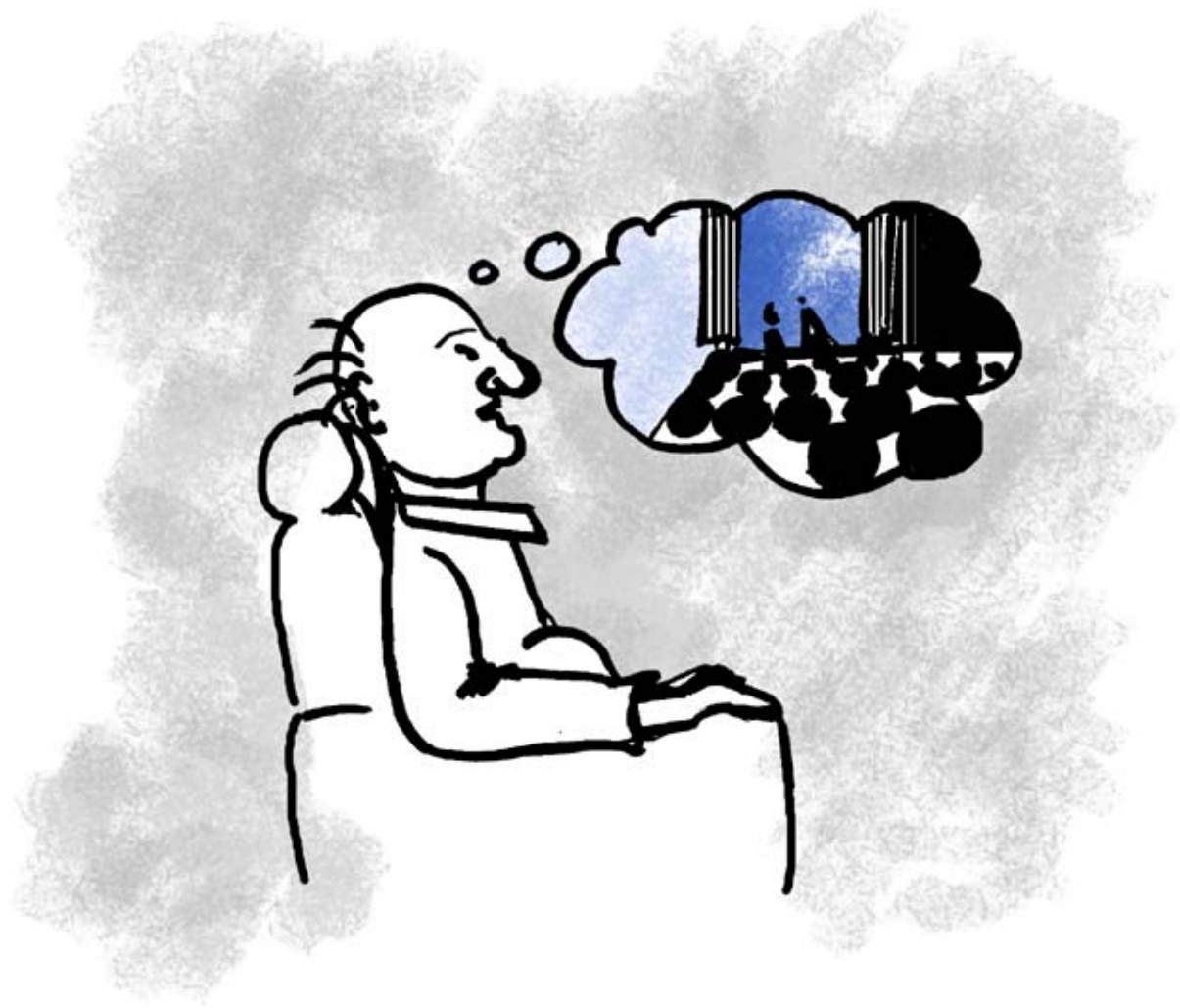


# Concept

Finalisation (Function)







"Ah! Let's see what's playing at Natya mandir tonight??"





"Oh! I have again misplaced my glasses today. I need them to read the news paper."

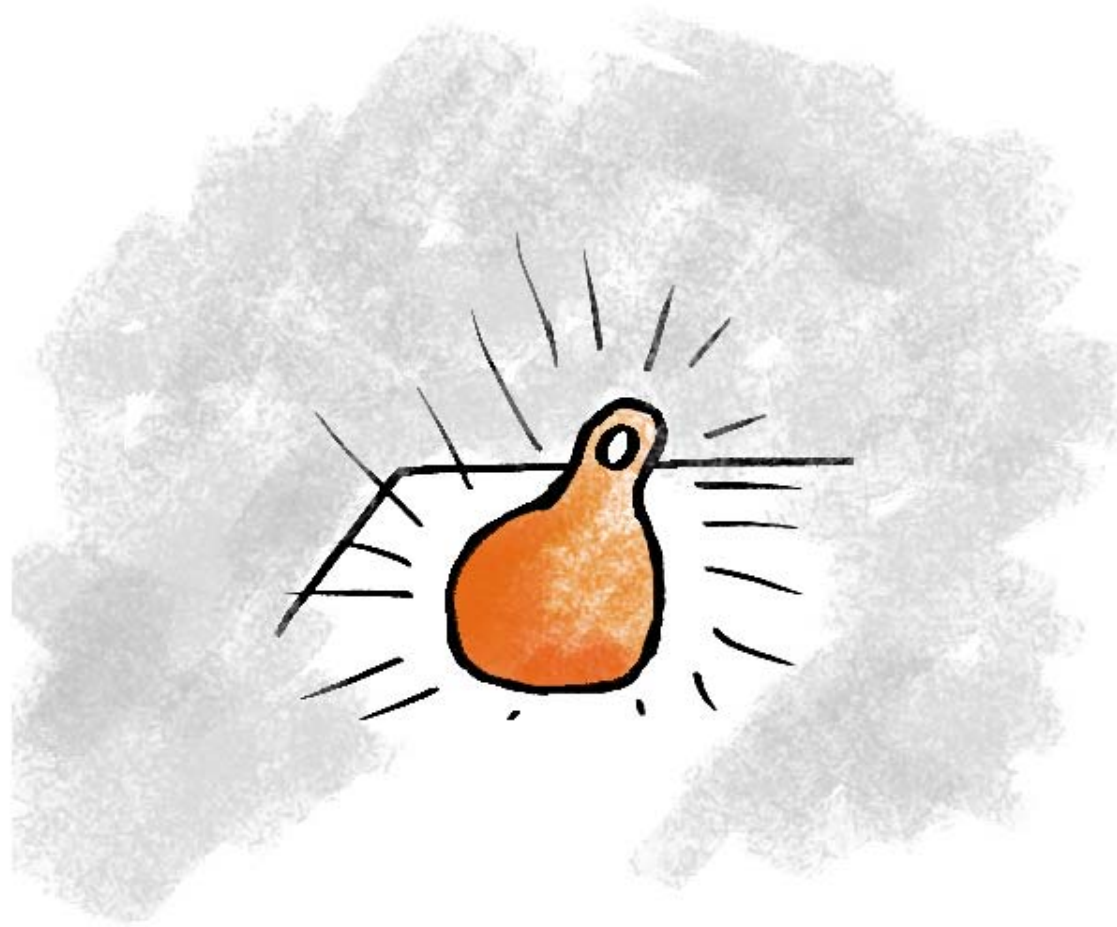


"Grandpa, you misplaced your glasses again, didn't you??"



"Don't worry Chintu, you won't have to look for them today. "



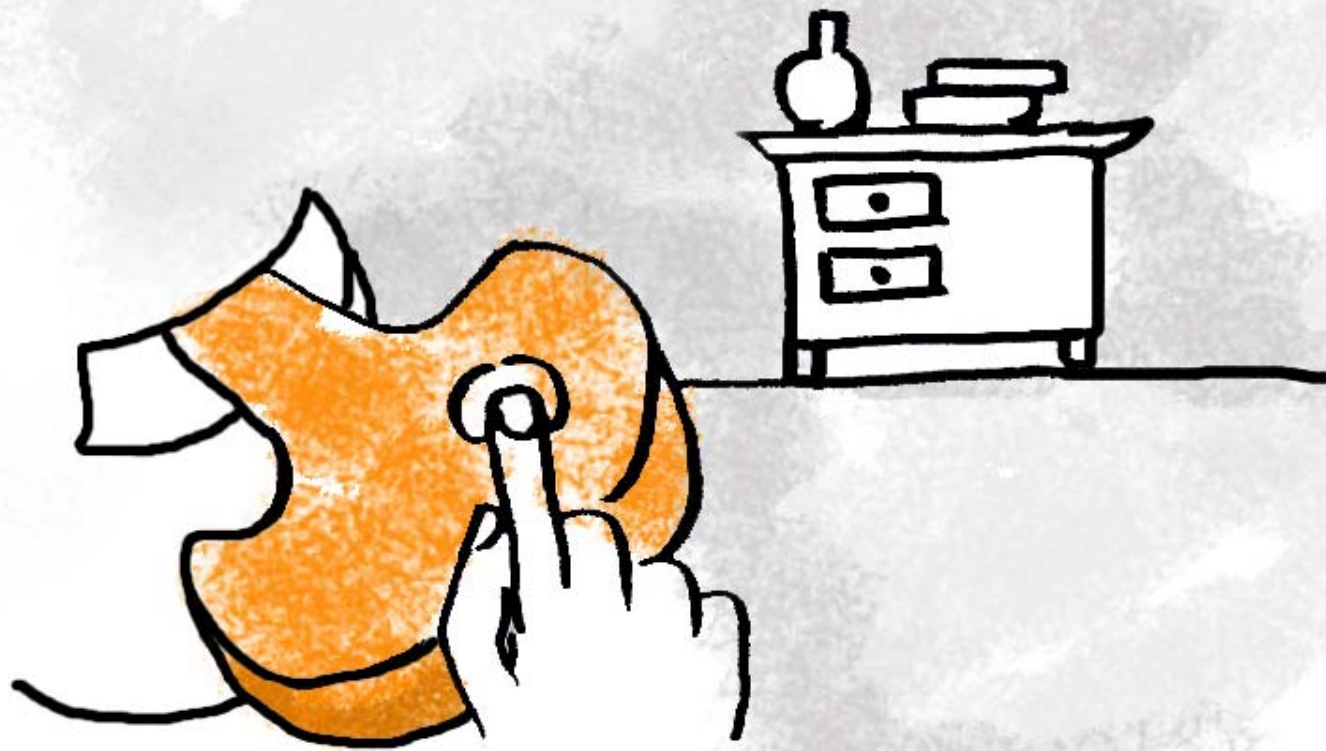


"See what I have got here!!"

(Mr. Prabhakar takes out his 'Smaran' )

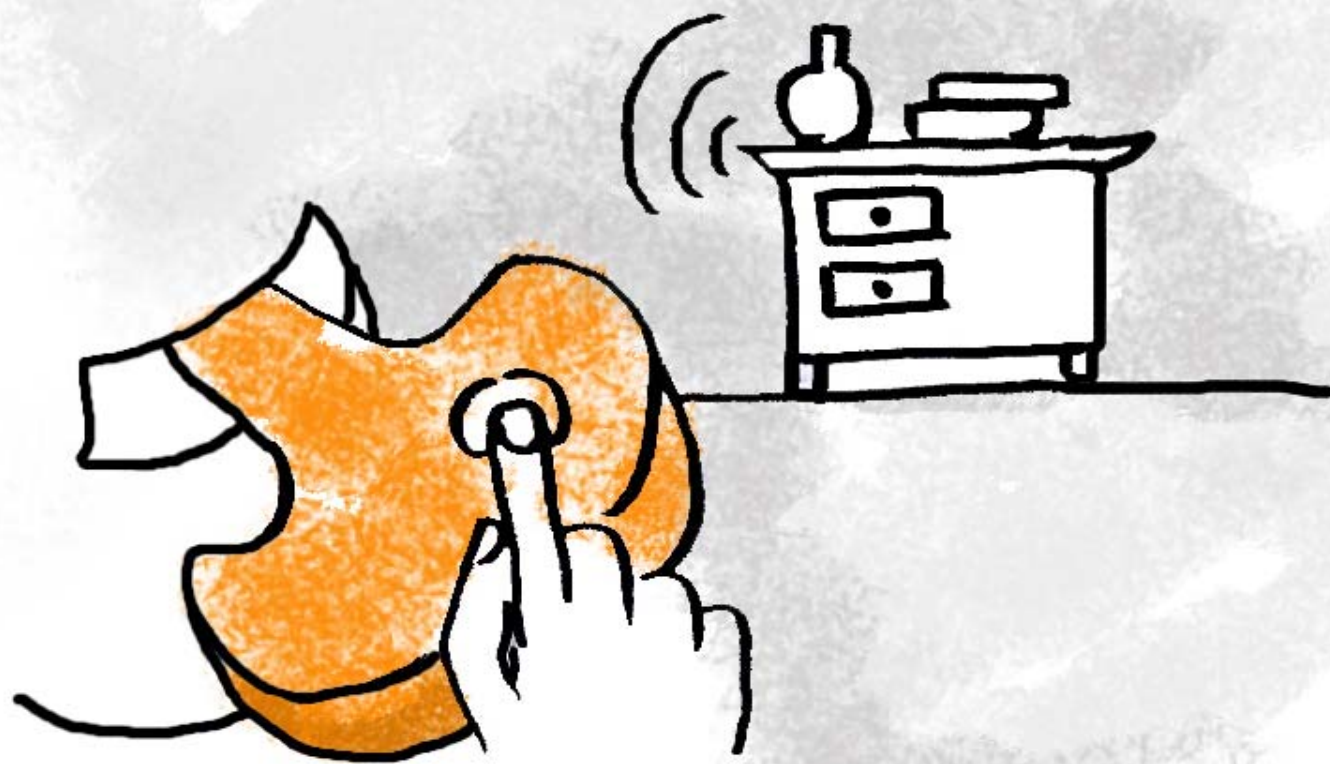


"What is this cool thing grandpa??"



"This is Smaran Chintu, Its gonna help me remember things."

(Mr. Prabhakar presses a button on the smaran)



(Chintu hears the beep and runs to find the glasses)



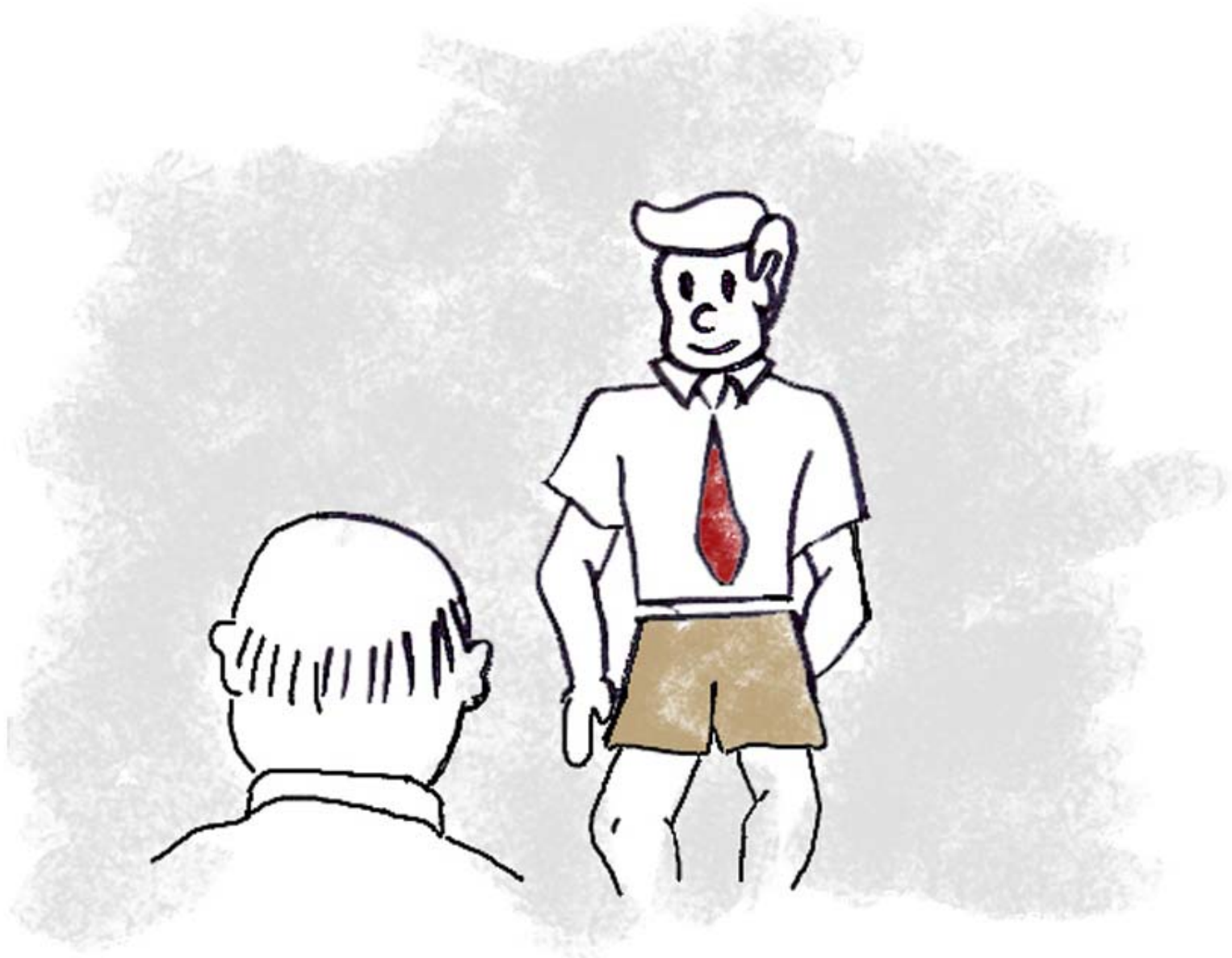


"Now I will never have to go hunting for my misplaced items"



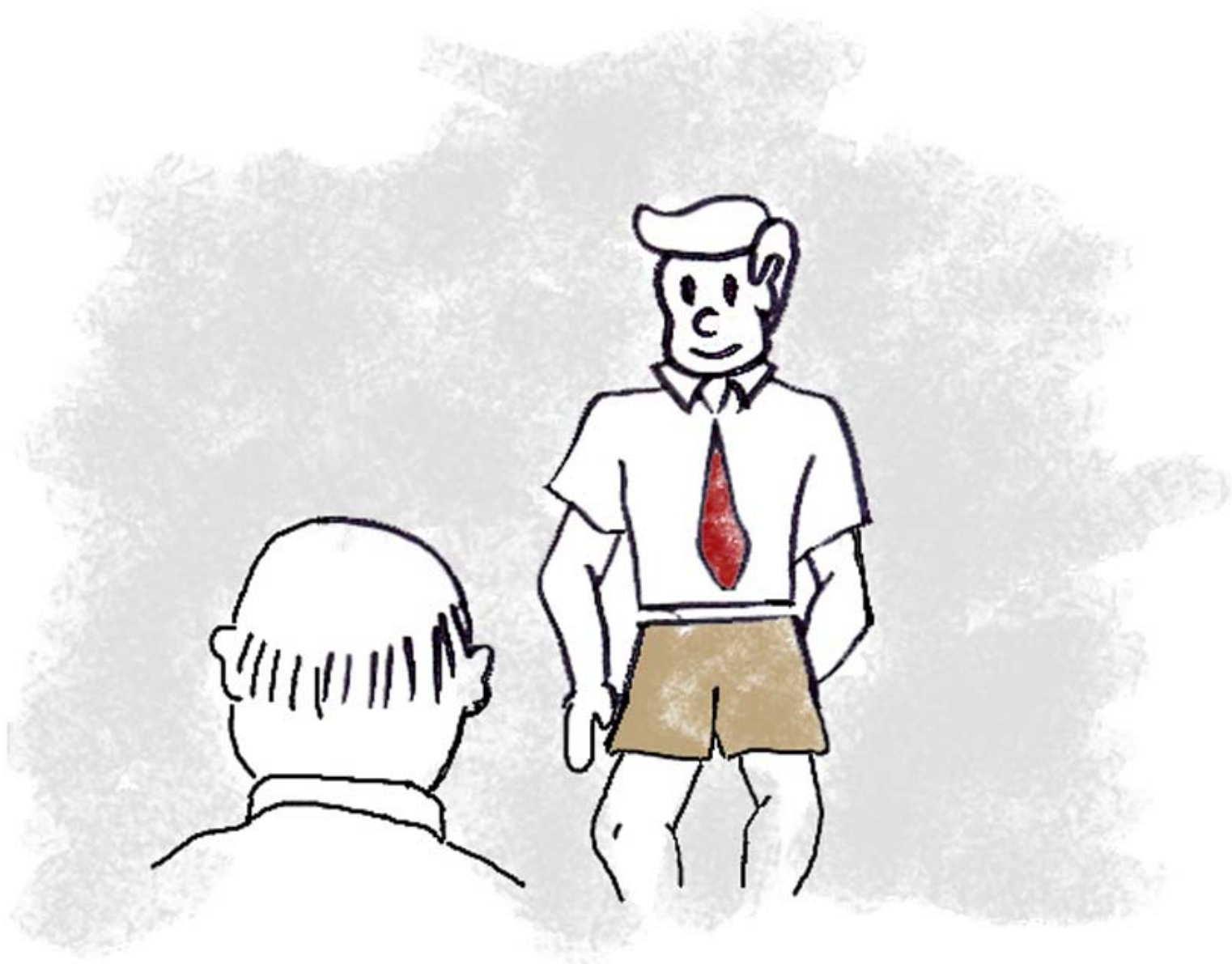
(Mr Prabhakar finds out that "Natrajan" is playing at natya mandir)

"But who will go out with me for the play ??"



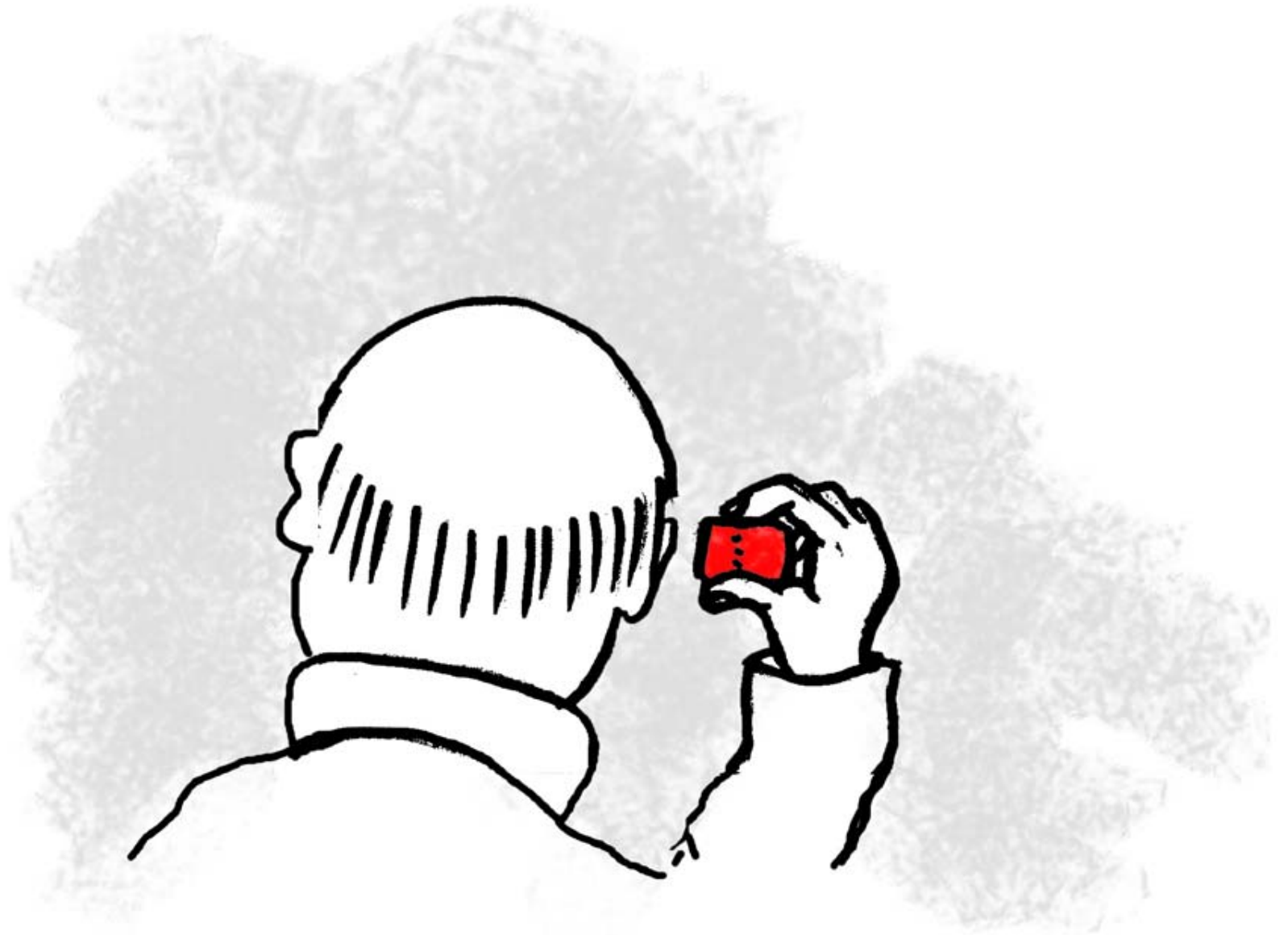
(It's noon and time for Chintu to go to the School)

"Grandpa, I am ready for school, will you come with me to the bus stop today??"

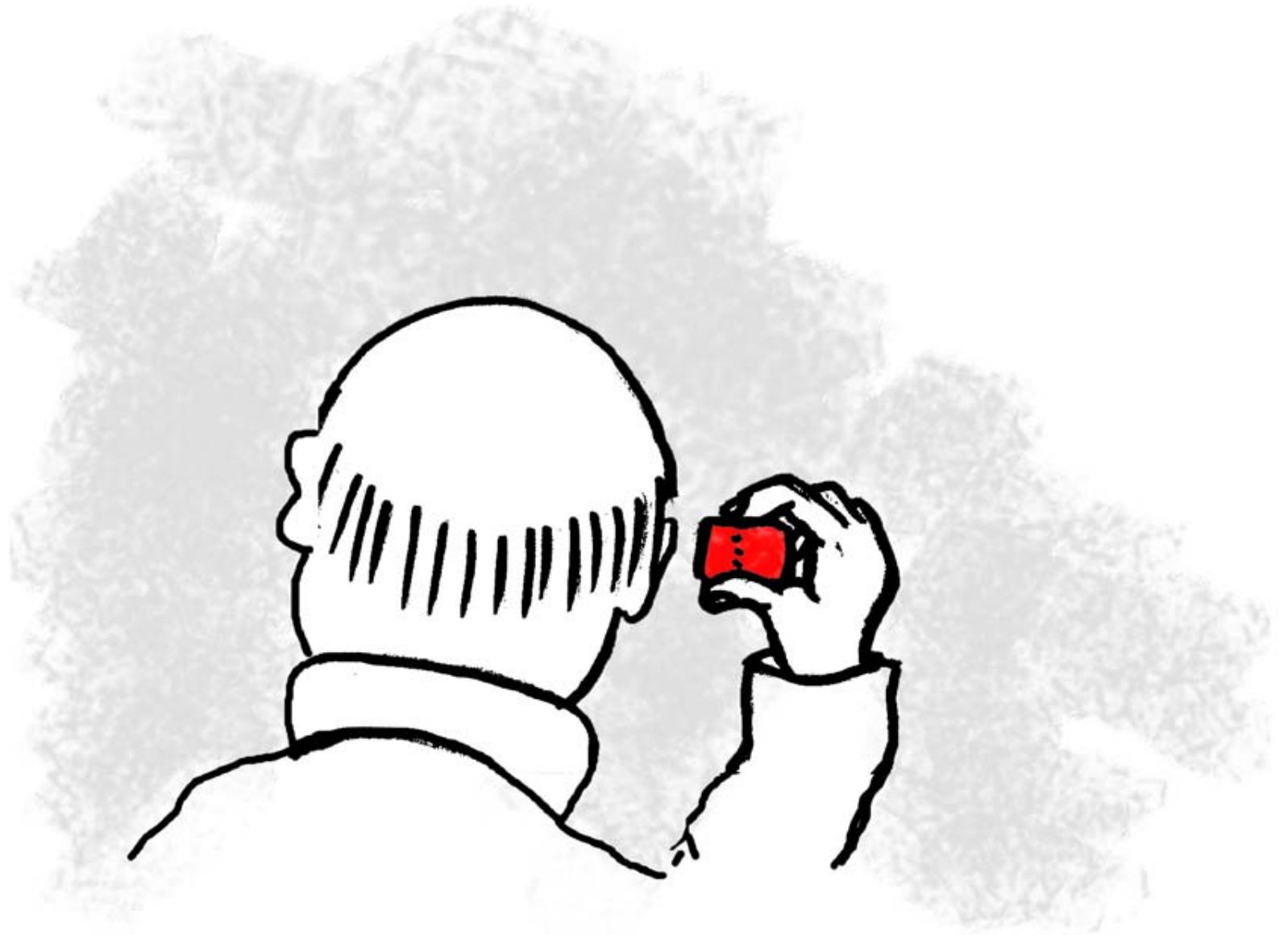


"Sure Chintu, I also have to leave a message on the community board."

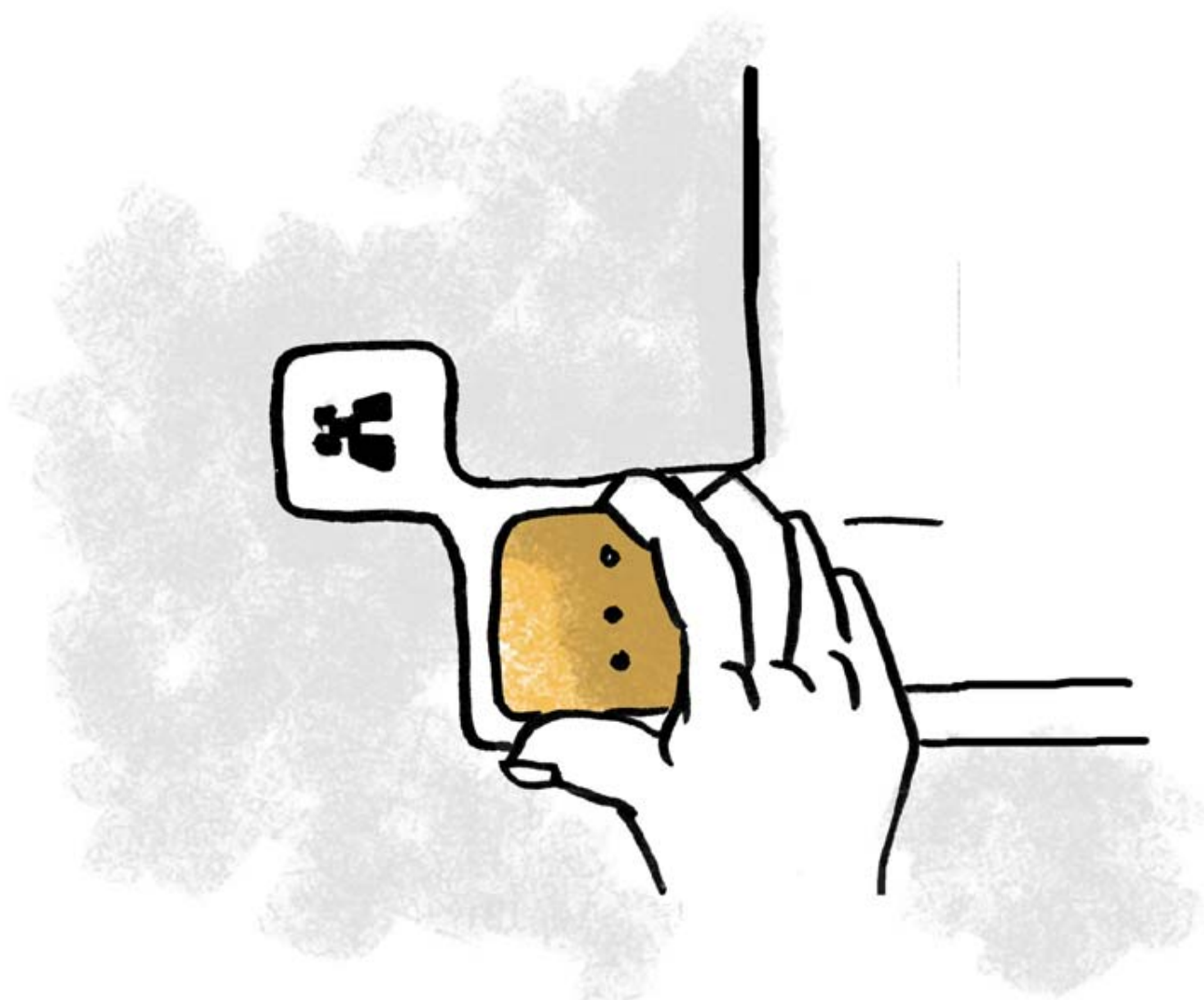




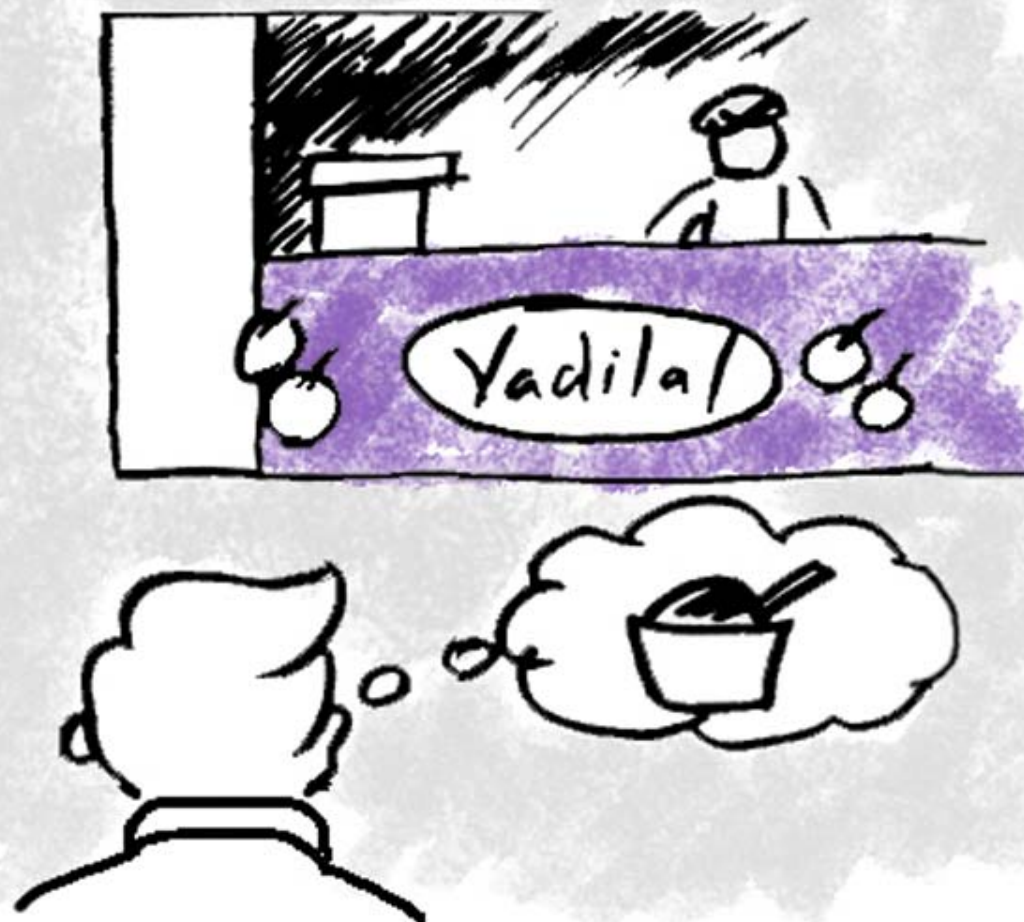
(On the way to the bus stop, they stop at the 'smaran' community board and to Chintu's surprise Mr Prabhakar takes out an object from his pocket and starts speaking into it)



"Looking for someone to accompany me to the play at Natya Mandir tonight.  
You can call me on 9892011223 - Mr. Prabhakar"

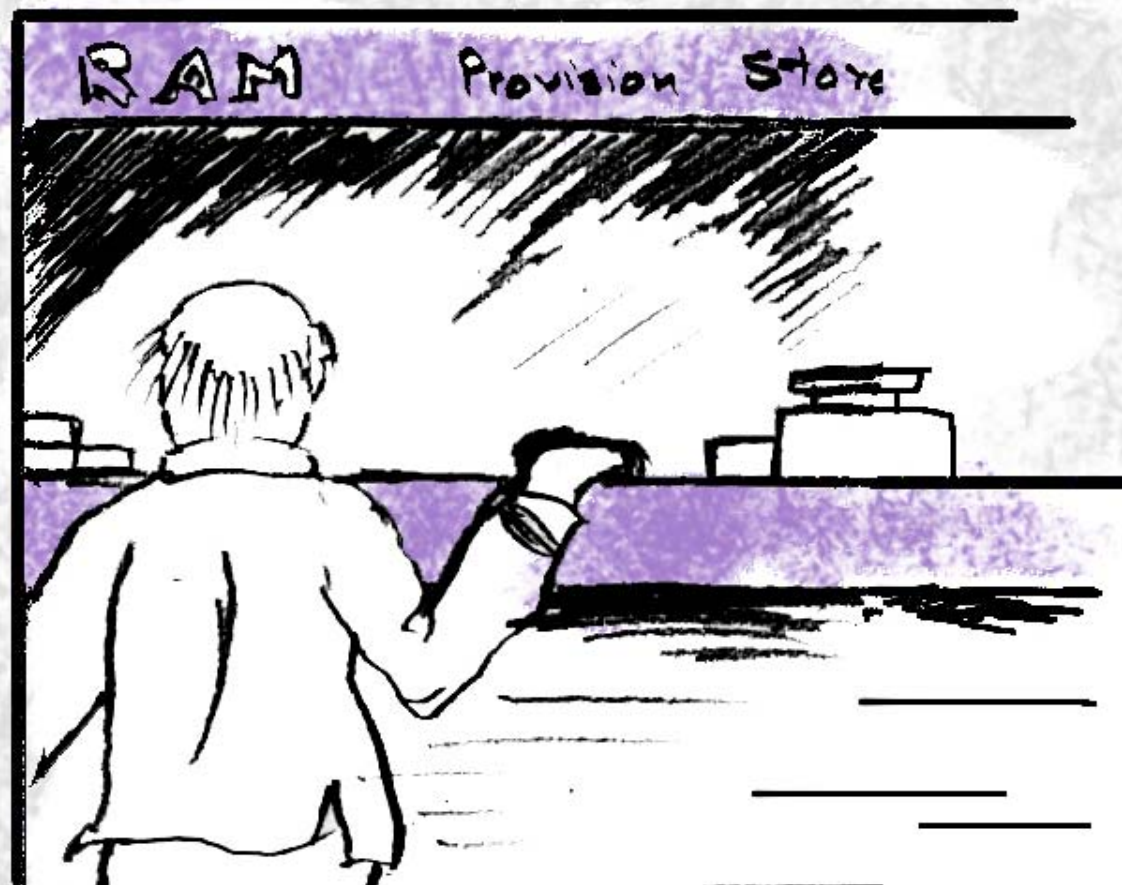


(He plugs it into the slot in the message board, Transfers his message on the board as an icon and puts it back in his pocket.)



"Grandpa, could I please have an ice-cream?? I promise I wont ask for it again"





"Sure Chintu, I could have one myself."



"Greetings Grandpa! How are you and little Chintu??"

"I am not little anymore"

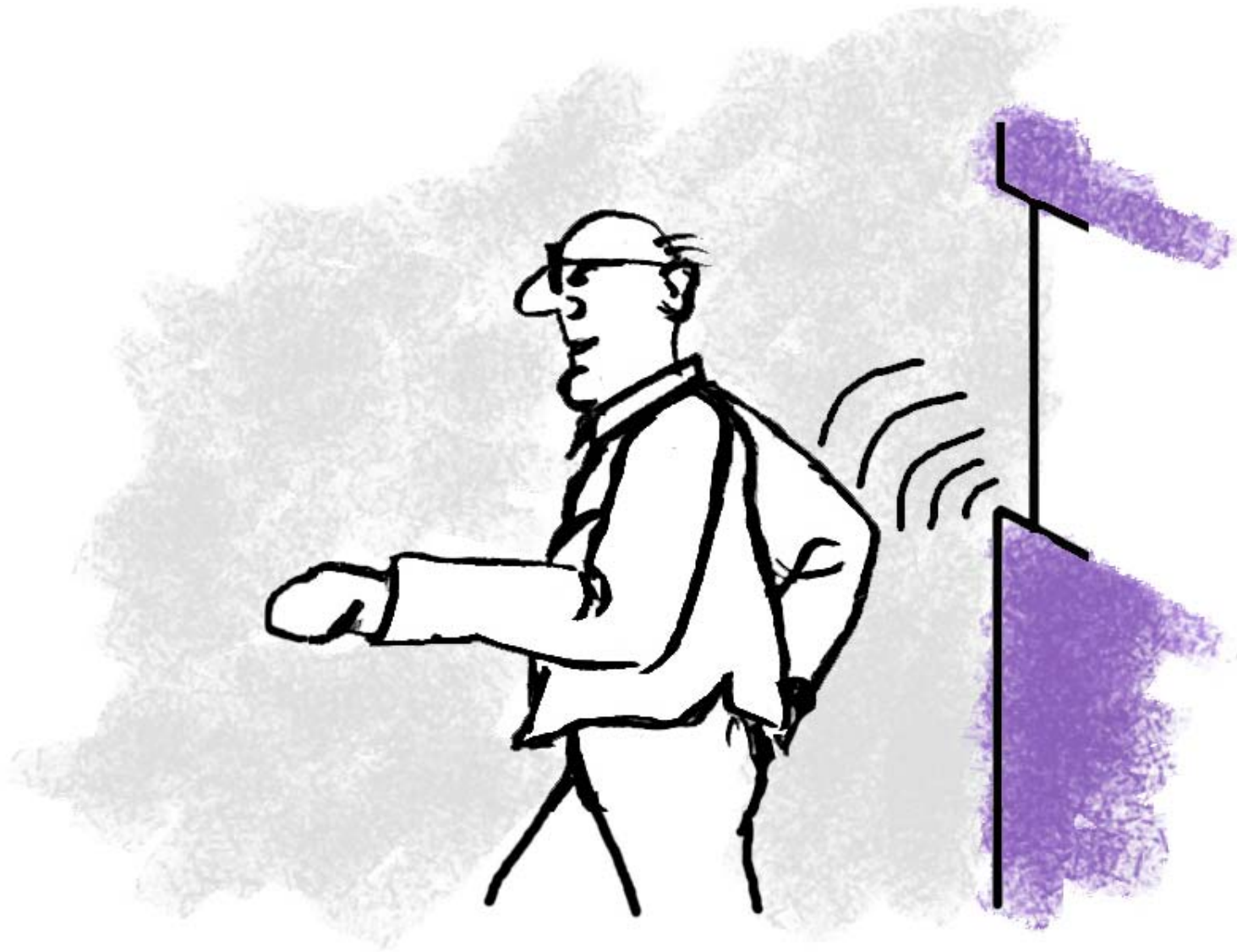


"yeah yeah you're not , so, what flavours will it be?"

"One Vanila & one chocolate"

"why chocolate, I want a strawberry....."



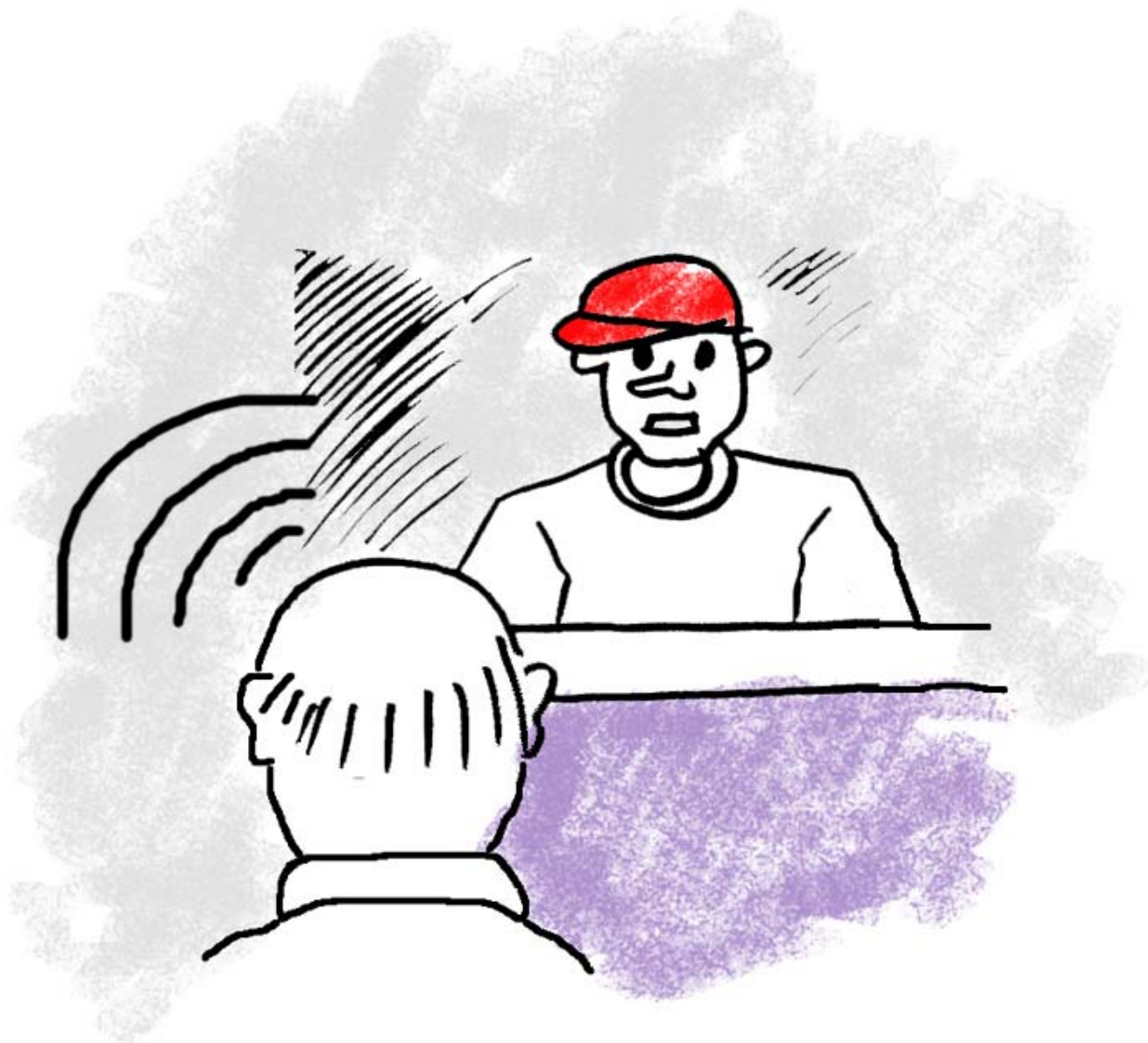


(as soon as Mr.Prabhakar steps out of the shop, there's a buzzing sound at the counter)





"Granpa, your wallets ringing. Is there a phone in it???"



"No son, This sound is coming from my wallet. Smaran never lets me forget my wallet anywhere"



"You are cool Grandpa, I wish I had something like that."





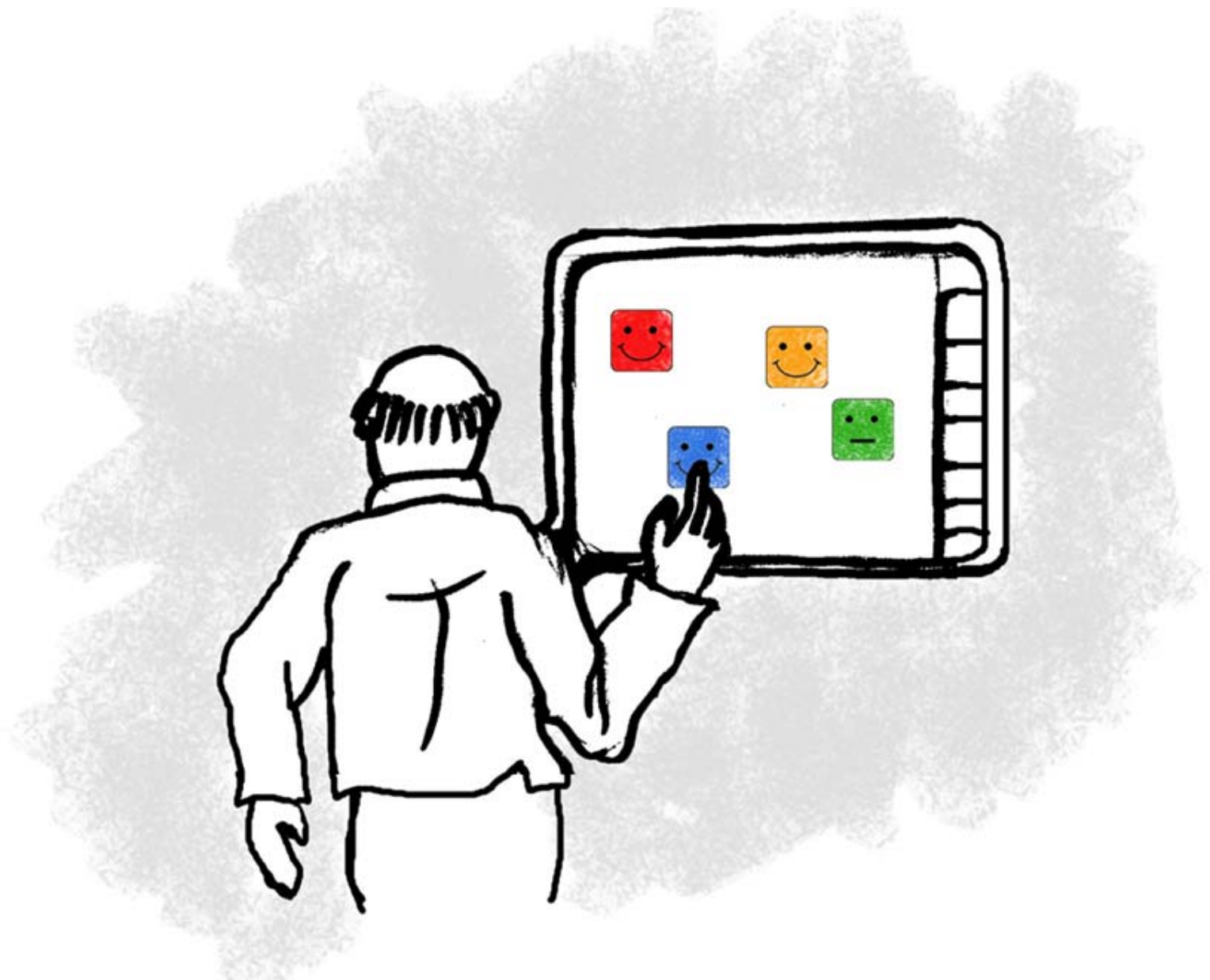
(Grandpa and Chintu move to the bus stop)

"I'll see you in the evening grandpa, you're the best"





(While passing by the community board, he glances at it to find a response to his message. And voila, Mrs. Pramila from the neighboring township has agreed to accompany him to the play.)



"God bless the kids from IDC who installed this community board here its so much easier to find friends now"



(He goes back to the house smiling & finds the phone ringing)



"Hello, Mr.Prabhakar, Pramila here, when do we start for the play?  
Will you meet me at the Community Park or at the venue directly?"





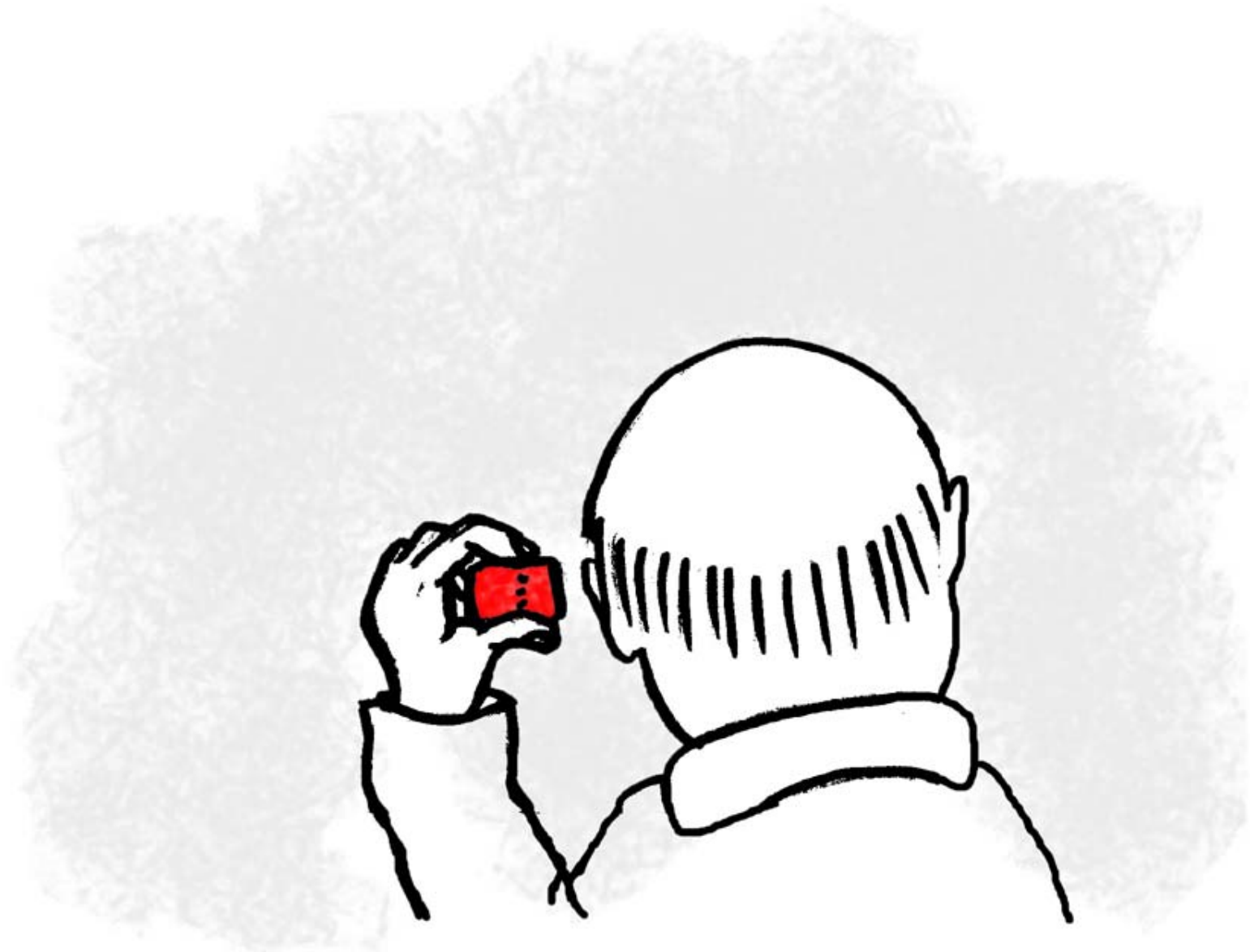
"I think we'll meet at the park, will meet you there at 4 pm"



"I should call and inform my son that I would be late for dinner tonight"



(Tries calling his son but sanjay has left for a site visit and is not reachable.)

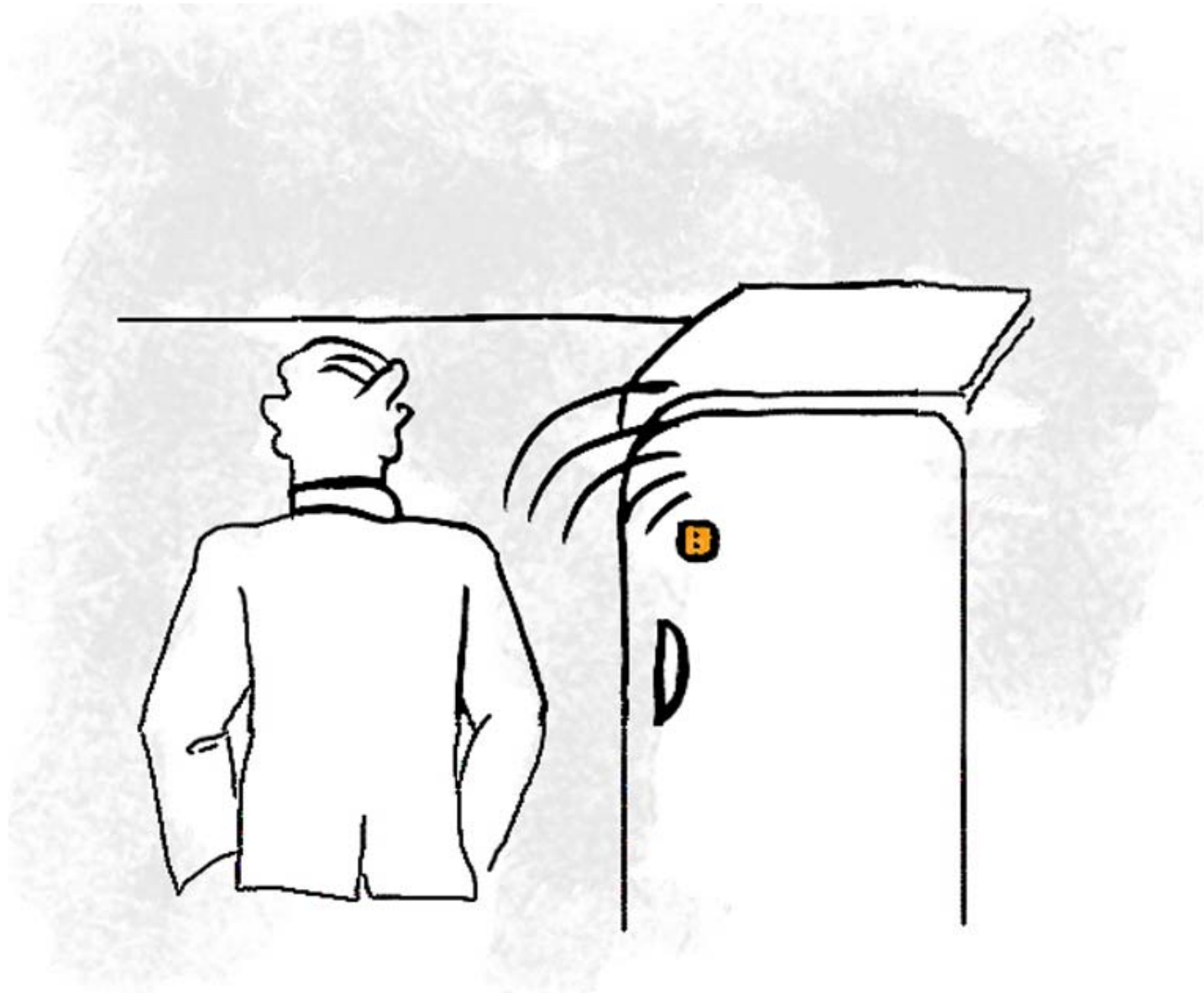


"Hey, I almost forgot, I can leave a message on smaran"





(He speaks into an object and sticks it to the refrigerator door, where it is clearly visible.)



(Sanjay returns home in the evening with his wife and son and does not find grandpa at home. As he enters the kitchen he notices the smaran on the fridge and presses it gently)



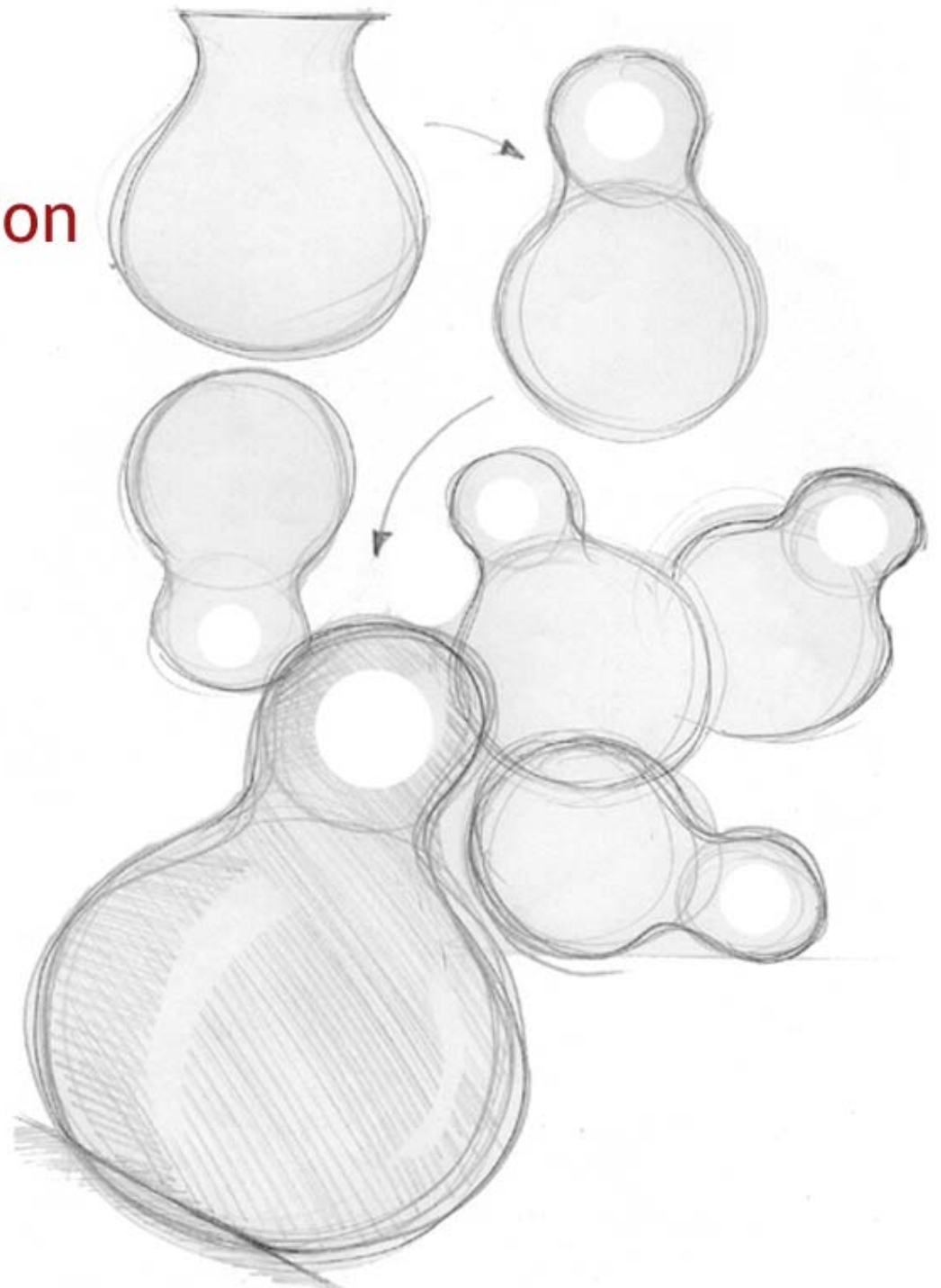
"Son, I am going for the play at Natya Mandir with Mrs.Pramila, and would be back at nine o'clock"

"I'm so relieved papa has smaran"



# Form

## Finalisation







- EXCLUDED
- PHYSICAL ITEMS 1-
1. TRADITIONAL
  2. JEWELRY
  3. RING
  4. UMBRELLA
  5. SPECTACLES
  6. WALKING STICK
  - 7.
- SPIRITUAL ITEMS
1. KNOWLEDGE
  2. EXPERIENCE
  3. CULTURE & TRADITIONS
  4. RELIGIOUS ITEMS (J)
  5. OLD METHODS (MEDICINES)
  6. RELIGION
  - 7.

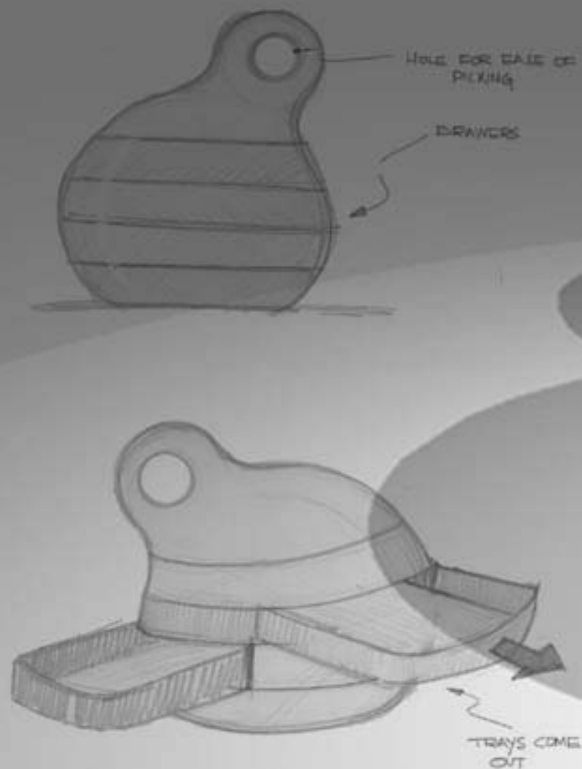
# Final Concept

Smaron

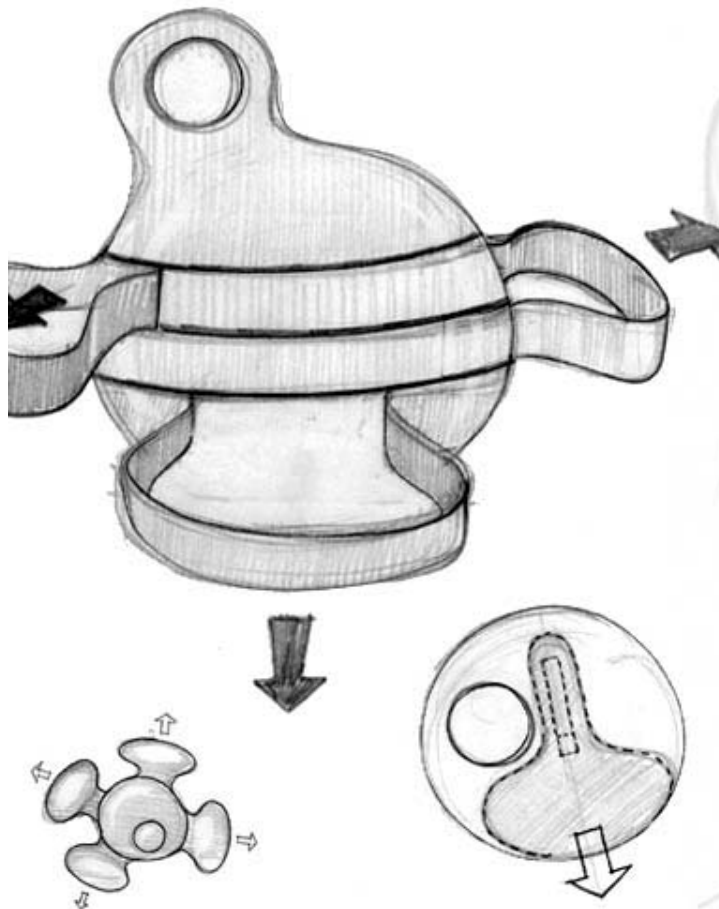


# Final Concept

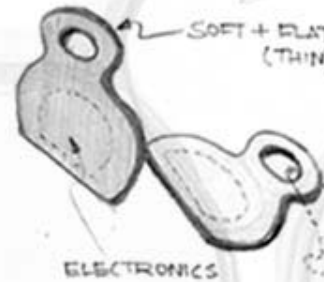
◀ Mother device to hold the dollops



# Final Concept (With Form)



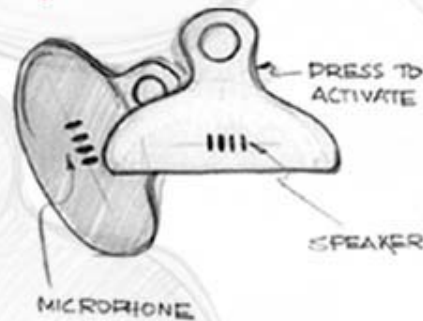
Dollop 1 : For proximity detection when outside the house



Dollop 2 : For finding objects within the house



Dollop 3 : For intra family communication



Dollop 4 : For the community board





# Final Concept

**'Messengers' :** ➤  
For intra family  
communication

➤ **'Forget me not' :**  
To find things  
around the house

**'Proximity sensors' :** ➤  
To keep track of objects  
outside the house

**'Community connectors' :** ➤  
For building community

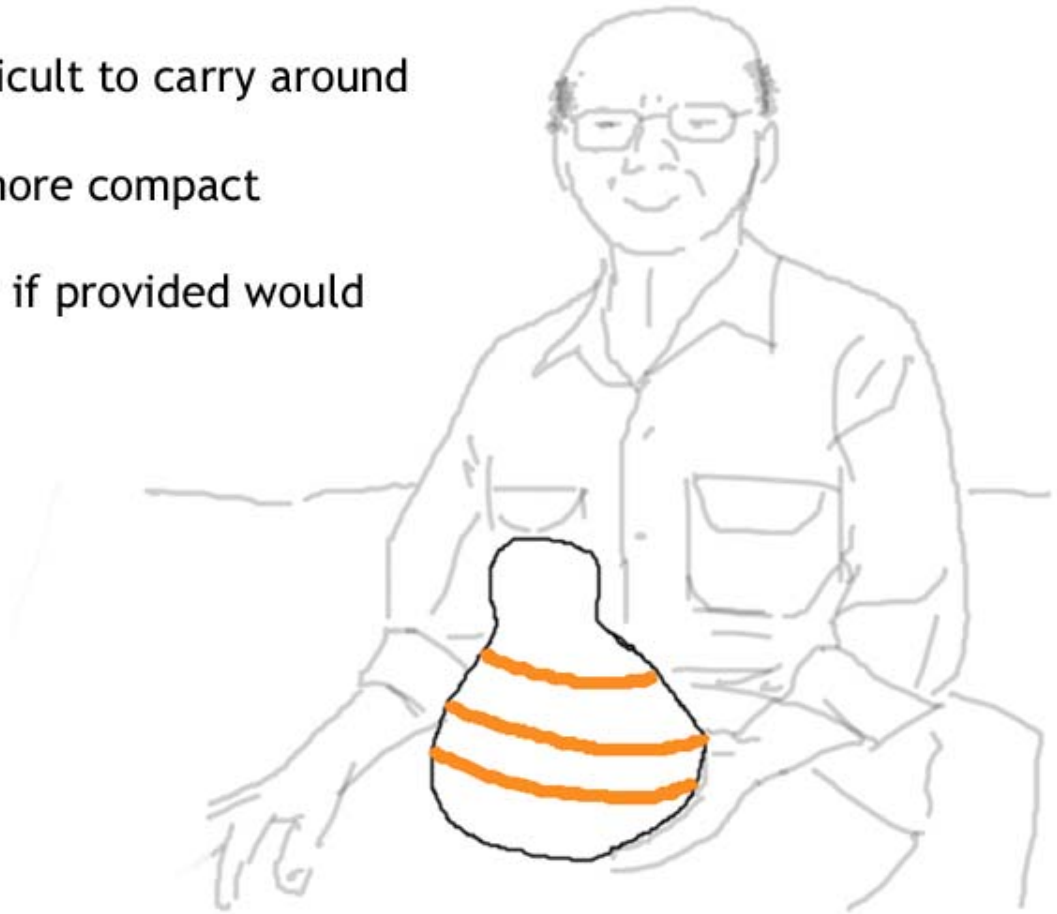






# Feedback

- Form a little difficult to carry around
- Could be made more compact
- Personal security if provided would be appreciated





# Future Prospects

- Can be extended for other user groups
- Could be made more compact
- Can create a new community interaction
- Different forms could be explored for differing user groups



