1. Alessi and Trollip have identified important elements that need to be included in a good project plan. Do you agree with these? Why are they important and what do you consider the consequences of not doing all these elements prior to project development. Give an example of a project where one of more of these steps were eliminated from project planning-- what was the result?

Actually, doing all of this planning stuff is relatively new to me. I am familiar with most of the concepts, in fact I taught project planning for a number of years, but most of the projects I've ever done, I've done solo and so I find what works best for me is to open up a design tool like Photoshop or Flash, or an IDE like Dreamweaver or Flex and start capturing my ideas as inspiration strikes me using one or more design or development tool. To write it all out in advance in some other medium seems to me to be extra work and not only does time mean money, time is also something I have to manage very judiciously these days. So if you want an example of where one or more steps were eliminated in a project I was involved in, I would say just about every step in just about every project I have ever worked on; and I've done a lot of project work. Graphic design and printing projects for twenty years, tons of Web sites and Flash projects for various clients, online tutorials and lots more. In almost all cases I never did any of the planning steps written up in Alessi & Trollip.

2. Brainstorming is a key to setting the foundation of development. Give an example of how a brainstorming session can be constructed? And give an example from you work place where you implemented that method?

Even though I haven't worked with other people on development projects, I have been a committee member and a member of several advisory boards where brainstorming ideas was a task I participated in. Mind mapping is the process I like most when it comes to brainstorming. In my experience, in order for mind mapping to work well all interested parties need to be gathered in a room with a whiteboard and a moderator. The moderator starts the process by writing the topic in the center of the board. Then the rest of the participants should, in an orderly and respectful fashion, begin sharing ideas and tangents related to the topic. As each item is discussed the moderator and/or group will try to summarize it in as few keywords as possible and then write the keywords onto the board as a branch off of the main topic or as a subtopic of one of the previously written keyword(s). I imagine this could be done virtually as well using an electronic whiteboard, like the one in Blackboard. I've never tried it that way or seen it done that way, but it seems plausible.