Visual Communication: Rich Pictures, Mind Maps and Schemas

Phil Robinson



Drowning in a Deluge of Words

- Internet
 - 3.6 billion web pages
 - 89 billion emails sent each day
- Print
 - 130 million books currently exist
 - 15 million new books published per year
 - 395 million newspapers each day



The Education System

- Schools still emphasise the three R's
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - 'Rithmetic
- They assume pupils already know how to listen and talk
- Drawing is something you are either "good at" or not!
- Collaboration is called "cheating"



The Business World

- In the past industry needed clerks...
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - 'Rithmetic
- Now the business world needs collaboration...
 - Listening
 - Talking
 - Drawing



Rich Pictures





Common Cave Painting Themes Across the World



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Mayan

004

13

k'al

(twenty)

k'awil (spirit)

k'in

(sun)

iwal

("and then")

k'uk'

(quetzal)















chan (snake)



balam

(jaguar)



(sky)

111







hoy (to bless,

make proper)

CTB

hun

(headband)



iiiii

ha'

(water)











bak (bone, captive)



hun (one)



0 0

0

0 0





k'ak' (fire)











(seat, center)



C.M

11°.

tz'am

(throne)

9200 A

nal

(place)

hok'

(to take office)

kah



winik





WIZ





(to be seated) (mountain)

 \odot



nik (flower)











tok' (flint)

Cy

C

tun

(stone)

S B

na (house)

600

wak (six)





















































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Fast Forward to 2013... The "Box and Arrow" Diagram!





Fast Forward to 2013... The "Box and Arrow" Diagram!





Building a Visual Vocabulary



Taxi Management System





Mind Maps



Mind Maps



Mind Maps

Provide a "Visual Grammar" for Words



Mind Maps More Compact Than Lists





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Compared to the written language, visual communication receives scant attention in the education curriculum. And yet, as as it begins to feel like we are drowning in a deluge of words, pictures and diagrams start to become the better prospect for getting our message across.

This session explores the role of visual communication in the business world offering some ideas about how we can improve our skills and communicate more clearly.

Mind Maps Great For Collaboration







www.biggerplate.com/philrobinson





- Navigable
 - Topics can be read randomly rather than sequentially
 - Not necessary to sequence topics
 - Easier to jump from one topic to the next
 - Easier to backtrack to a previous topic
- Zoomable
 - Presents the "big picture"
 - With the ability to "zoom" in on detail
- Holistic
 - Topics are can be seen in their context
 - Relationship between topics are easily visible
 - Encourages insight
- Compact
 - More Compact Than Text
 - Easier to Restructure and Change

htm sual enter -Z www.mind о К О К О 7 mapping. Thinking



Schemas



Schemas

- Schematic
 - Represents the elements of a system using abstract, graphic <u>symbols</u> rather than realistic pictures
- Symbol
 - An object that represents, stands for, or suggests an idea, visual image, belief, action, or material entity





Visual Literacy

- Visual literacy is an important requirement for engineers
- In contrast, many IT professionals are visually illiterate!

Teardown

Unified Modelling Language (UML)



Visual Vocabulary



UML Class Diagrams

Table				Chair
responsibilities Provide social organisation Support objects	organises	Arranged around		responsibilities Indicate status Support people
	01	{at any instant in time}	0*	
constraints {height >= 50 cm} {height <= 1.2 m} {must be stable}	organises	Arranged around		constraints {height >= 40 cm} {height <= 85 cm} {must be stable} {must be comfortable}
	1*	{over time}	0*	



http://www.zicomi.com



Questions

