



PINPOINT

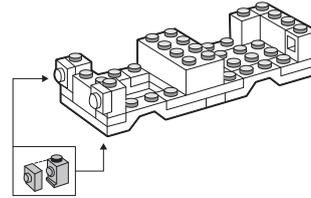


When your learners are new to the content and when your goal is meaningful learning, we have ample evidence for a return-on-investment in relevant graphics.

Ruth Colvin Clark

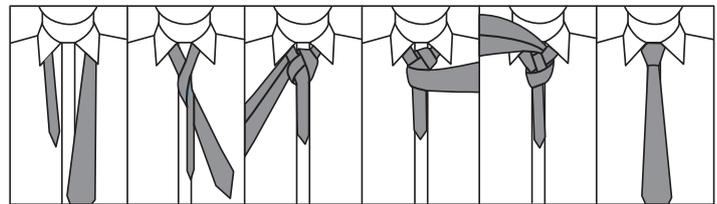
What Are Visual Instructions?

Well, they're nothing new. They've been around since man made marks on caves. The instructions for the assembling of Lego have been helping children for decades. Visual instructions help you understand and take action correctly. They can include words too.



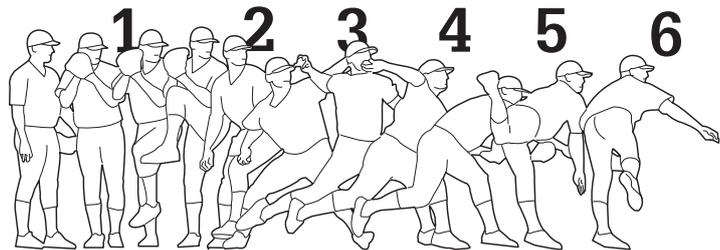
Visual Instruction For Sequence

Here is a simple visual instruction for the sequencing of actions necessary for successfully knotting a tie. In this instance, words could have been added below in case of any possible confusion. As we read left-to-right in the West, numbers were not used to show the order of the actions. But their addition wouldn't have harmed.



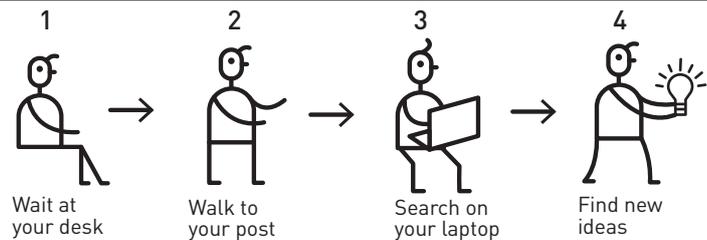
Visual Explanation

There are visuals that look very much like instructions but, in effect, are used more for analysis and explanation. Here, is a typical example used mostly in journalism and sports books. It helps to educate sports viewers about the baseball throw. They are used frequently around the time of the Olympics to explain little-known sports.



A Napkin Sketch Approach For Classrooms

Teachers can create their own visual explanations. As indeed can their students. The most effective method is called Napkin Sketching, now the subject of best-selling business books. Simple matchstick people, with the addition of arrows and numbers make for concise and compelling instructions students really appreciate.



A Graphic Organiser Approach For Classrooms

Equally, Graphic Organisers can be used as Visual Instruction Plans for both the lesson's content as well as the processes you will go through. Content is best represented by Single Bubbles and Processes by Flow Bubbles, an enriched form of a Flow Chart. See the HOW2s for instructions on how to create and use them.



KEY

- Things to be included
- Examples
- Things to think about

Types Of Visual Instruction

According to design experts, Paul Mijksenaar and Piet Westendorp, there are 11 different types of visual instructions: Warnings, Identification, Measurements, Composition, Location and Orientation, Sequences, Movements, Connections, Action, Cause and Effect, and That's What It Should Look Like.



Check, Adjust, Use, Take Out – verbs again.

Mijksenaar, P. & Westendorp

REFERENCES

Moyer, D. (2010) Napkin Sketch Workbook Blurp

Mijksenaar, P. & Westendorp, P. (1999)

Open Here: the Art of Instructional Design, Joost Elfers Books, NY.