

PT@CC Innovative Teaching Symposium

Saturday, 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM, Salon A

Video clips to engage students, apply their knowledge and a tool for assessment

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Video clips can be a good tool to engage students, prime them to apply their knowledge, and a tool for assessing their knowledge of psychology.

There are several ways you can use video in the classroom

(1) As a supplement to your lecture:

- a) After you discuss a topic (e.g. schemas), you can use a video clip to show how schemas affect thinking such as whether people prefer Obamacare or the Affordable Care Act.
- b) Use the video clip as a lead into your topic (e.g. How I Met Your Mother and Naked Man).

(2) An assessment tool:

- c) Show the video clip for several days before class (especially the long clips). Don't talk about the clip. After you talk about the psychological clip, have students identify an example of the psychological clip without being prompted to the video clip shown earlier
- d) After discussing several related psychological concepts (e.g. hypothesis, empirical evidence, or operational definition), have them do a free recall exercise to identify the concept shown in the video
 - o Option 1: Have the students generate possible options
 - o Option 2: Make sure the concepts are written on the board or on a handout so that it becomes a recognition task
 - o Option 3: Once students believe they made the correct identification, systematically evaluate each option and their definition to see how the video clip matches the definition of each option.


Today's video clips

- How I met Your Mother, Season 9, Episode 16 (How Your Mother Met Me)
- Seinfeld, Season 6, Episode 8 (The Soup)
- Scrubs, "West Side Story"
- Family Guy, "Cookie Monster"


Seinfeld (The Soup)

- Hypothesis: A prediction about a relationship between two or more variables.
- Empirical Evidence: The collection of data to assess a claim or hypothesis.
- Operational Definition: A relatively precise description of how a variable or concept will be measured, manipulated or identified.

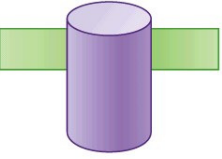
Gestalt Laws and Depth Perception Cues



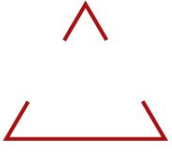
a Proximity
The closer two figures are to each other, the more likely we are to group them and see them as part of the same object. Thus these 16 dots, which are not necessarily part of any group, appear to be grouped as three objects.



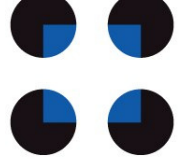
b Similarity
We tend to group figures according to how closely they resemble each other. Thus we see this rectangle as consisting of two locked pieces.



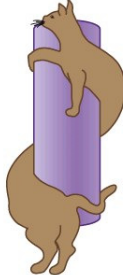
c Good Continuation
We tend to interpret intersecting lines as continuous.



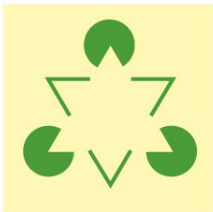
d Closure
We tend to complete figures even when gaps exist.



e Illusory Contours
We tend to perceive contours even when they do not exist.




In this drawing by the vision scientist Peter Tse, two cats appear to be one cat wrapped around the bar. We have the illusion of one continuous cat even though we know a cat is unlikely to be so long.




With some representations, we see cues to depth that are only implied. Here the triangle is an illusion created by our visual system. It also appears brighter than the surrounding area, as would be expected if it were closer to us.


Psychological Science, 4/e Figure 4.27
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(a) Relative size




(b) Interposition




(c) Relative clarity



(d) Texture gradient



(e) Linear perspective



(f) Shadowing

Major Ego Defense Mechanisms

Example			
Source of anxiety	Defense mechanism to reduce anxiety	Name of the defense mechanism	How the defense mechanism works
A young girl was sexually abused by her uncle.	As an adult, she can't remember anything about the traumatic experience.	Repression 	The master defense mechanism; the ego pushes unacceptable impulses out of awareness, back into the unconscious mind.
A college student does not get into the fraternity of his choice.	He says that wasn't that good of a fraternity anyway.	Rationalization 	The ego replaces a less acceptable motive with a more acceptable one.
A woman who fears her sexual urges	becomes a religious zealot	Reaction formation	The ego transforms an unacceptable motive into its opposite.
A man who has a strong desire to have an extramarital affair	accuses his wife of flirting with other men.	Projection 	The ego attributes personal shortcomings, problems, and faults to others.
Every time she and her husband have a big argument	A woman returns home to her mother	Regression 	The ego seeks the security of an earlier developmental period in the face of stress.
A woman can't take her anger out on her boss.	so she goes home and takes it out on her husband	Displacement 	The ego shifts feelings toward an unacceptable object to another more acceptable object.
A woman with strong sexual urges	becomes an artist who paints nudes.	Sublimation 	The ego replaces an unacceptable impulse with a socially acceptable one.
A team of doctors has diagnosed a man with cancer.	but he won't acknowledge that he has cancer	Denial	The ego refuses to acknowledge anxiety producing realities.