

Effective presentation design: Tips and Tricks

Tim Vincent

Senior Learning Technologist, BSMS

Effective presentation design: Tips and Tricks

Presentation
software

Presentation
design

Getting
practical



Software

Design

Practical

Presentation
software

PowerPoint slideshow keyboard tips

F5	Start the slide show from the beginning	B, period	Toggle black screen
Shift+F5	Start the slide show from the slide you are viewing	W, comma	Toggle white screen
N, Enter, arrows, Spacebar, mouse	Advance slide/animation	Ctrl+P	Pen
P, arrows, Backspace	Previous slide/animation	Ctrl+A	Arrow pointer
number+Enter	Go to slide number	Ctrl+M	Toggle markup
A, =	Show or hide arrow pointer	E	Erase markup
Esc, Ctrl+Break, hyphen	End a slide show	Ctrl+T	Show task bar
		Ctrl+S	All Slides dialog box
		Shift+F10, right-click	Display the shortcut menu

There are a growing number of slideware design e.g...



Which one to pick?! <https://www.customshow.com/best-powerpoint-alternatives-presentation-programs/>

Software

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Presentation design

Common advice about how to design 'good' presentation slides

"Watch spelling"

"Clear abbreviations"

"Do not read your slides"

"Do not animate"

"Do not use Clip Art"

"Rule of five"

Why?

"Be consistent"

"Keep to the point"

"Same size for title"

"Same size for text"

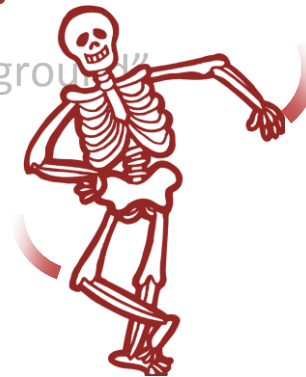
"Plain background"



Memory



Recall



Behaviour

“Less is more”

Less cognitive clutter

- Too many words
- Unhelpful graphics

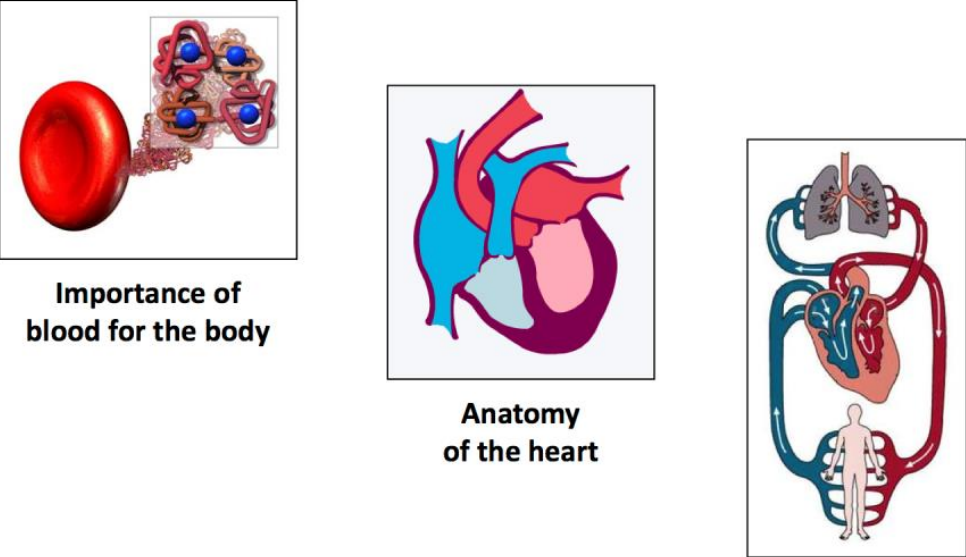
More memorable content

- Effective words (on screen)
- Meaningful graphics

See work of Richard Mayer and Ruth Clark on **dual coding theory, multimedia design principles, multimedia learning theory** and the work of **Edward Tufte** including ‘The Cognitive Style of PowerPoint’

The Assertion-Evidence theory recommends a full assertion followed by illustration of evidence

This talk focuses on the importance of the heart, its anatomy, and how blood flows through the heart and body



The diagram consists of three separate illustrations. The first illustration on the left shows a single red blood cell on the left and a network of capillaries on the right, with a small inset showing a magnified view of the capillary network. The second illustration in the middle shows a cross-section of the heart, highlighting the four chambers (right and left atria and ventricles) and the major blood vessels entering and exiting. The third illustration on the right shows a human silhouette with a circulatory system overlaid, using red and blue lines to represent oxygenated and deoxygenated blood flow, including the lungs and the heart.

Importance of blood for the body

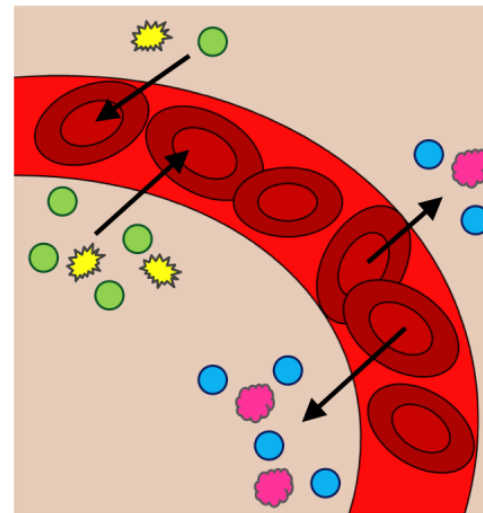
Anatomy of the heart

Blood flow through the heart and body

Michael Alley, Virginia Tech: The Craft of Scientific Presentations, 2003, Springer-Verlag, New York, USA

The Assertion-Evidence theory recommends a full assertion followed by illustration of evidence

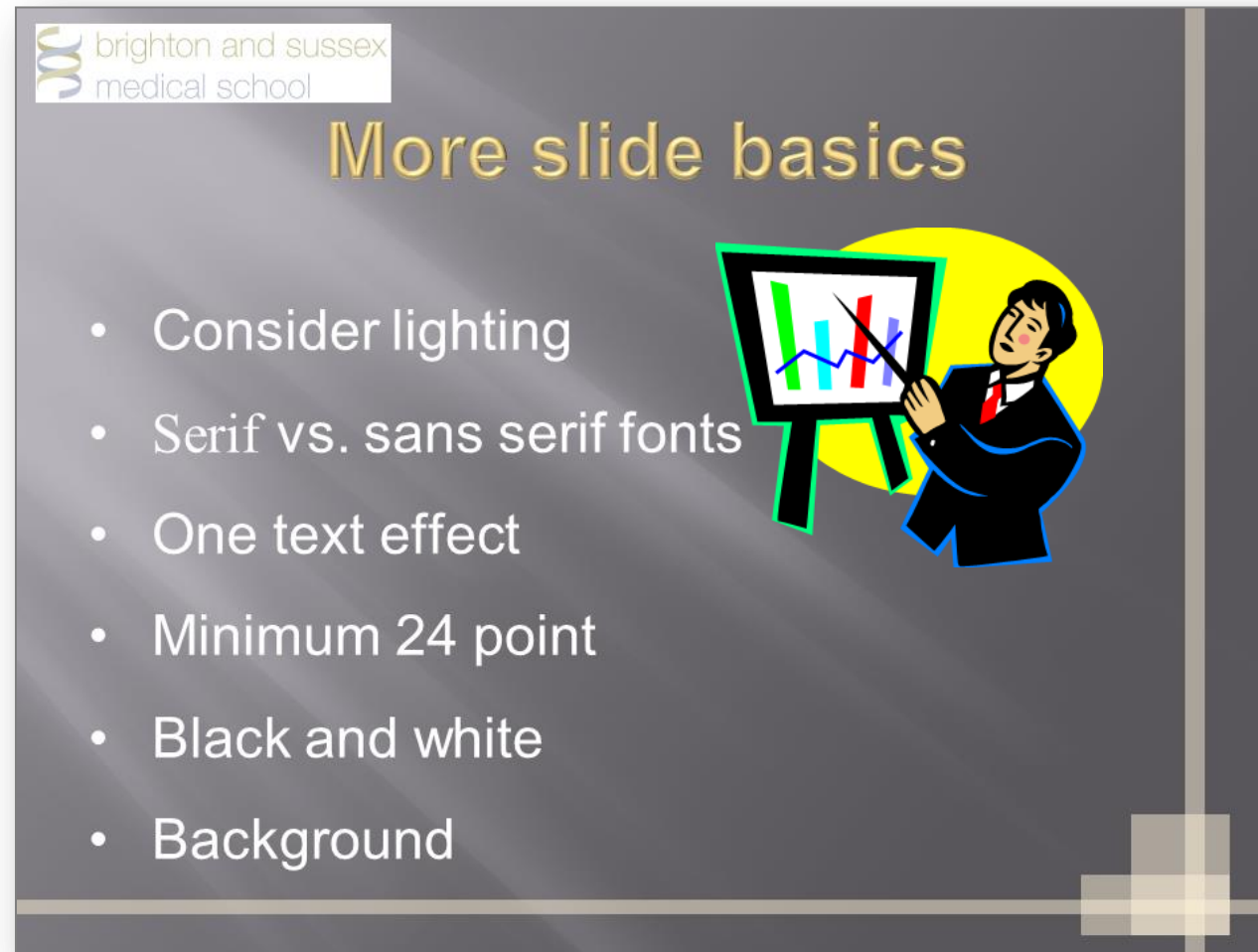
The heart functions to pump blood to all parts of the body in order to supply oxygen to cells



● = CO₂ ● = O₂
★ = Wastes ★ = Nutrients

Michael Alley, Virginia Tech: The Craft of Scientific Presentations, 2003, Springer-Verlag, New York, USA

This is an example of less effective slide design



brighton and sussex
medical school

More slide basics

- Consider lighting
- Serif vs. sans serif fonts
- One text effect
- Minimum 24 point
- Black and white
- Background

Here is the same information as the previous slide but with evidence-based design considerations

Evidence suggests that these design principles aid readability of your slides

Sans-serif fonts

Sans-serif fonts (e.g. Arial) are easier to read than serif fonts (e.g. Times)

High-contrast design

e.g. black text on white background

Readable font size

Appropriate for the room size (18-24pt) but not too big

Simple background

Background graphics and/or art elements are likely to primarily distract

Text emphasis sparingly

Too much effected text **LOSES** its desired effectiveness -> distraction

Clear structure in the slides

Use colour and design to denote sections and sub-sections to aid navigation and cognitive mapping



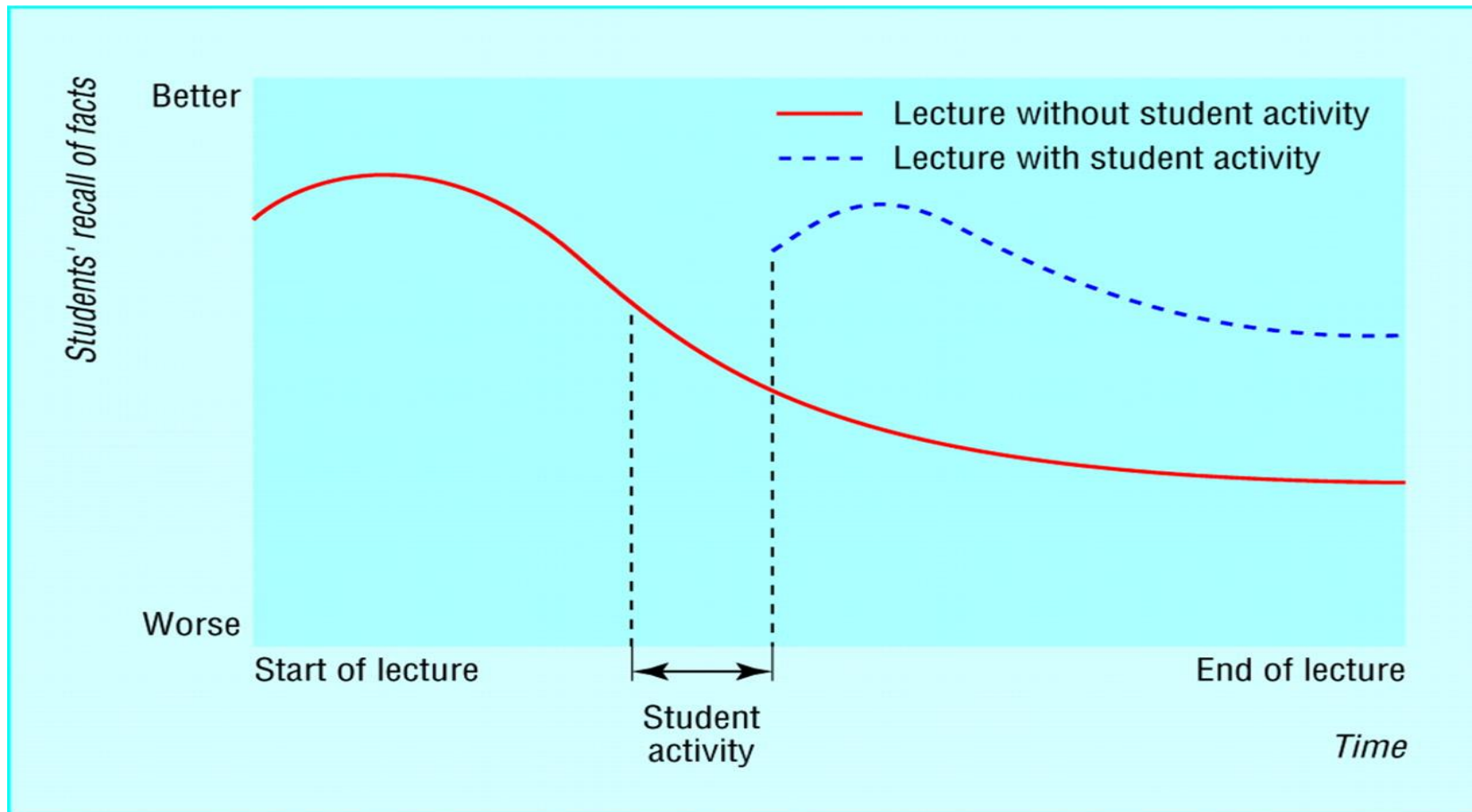
5 THINGS
YOU NEED TO
KNOW
ABOUT



Flipped classroom

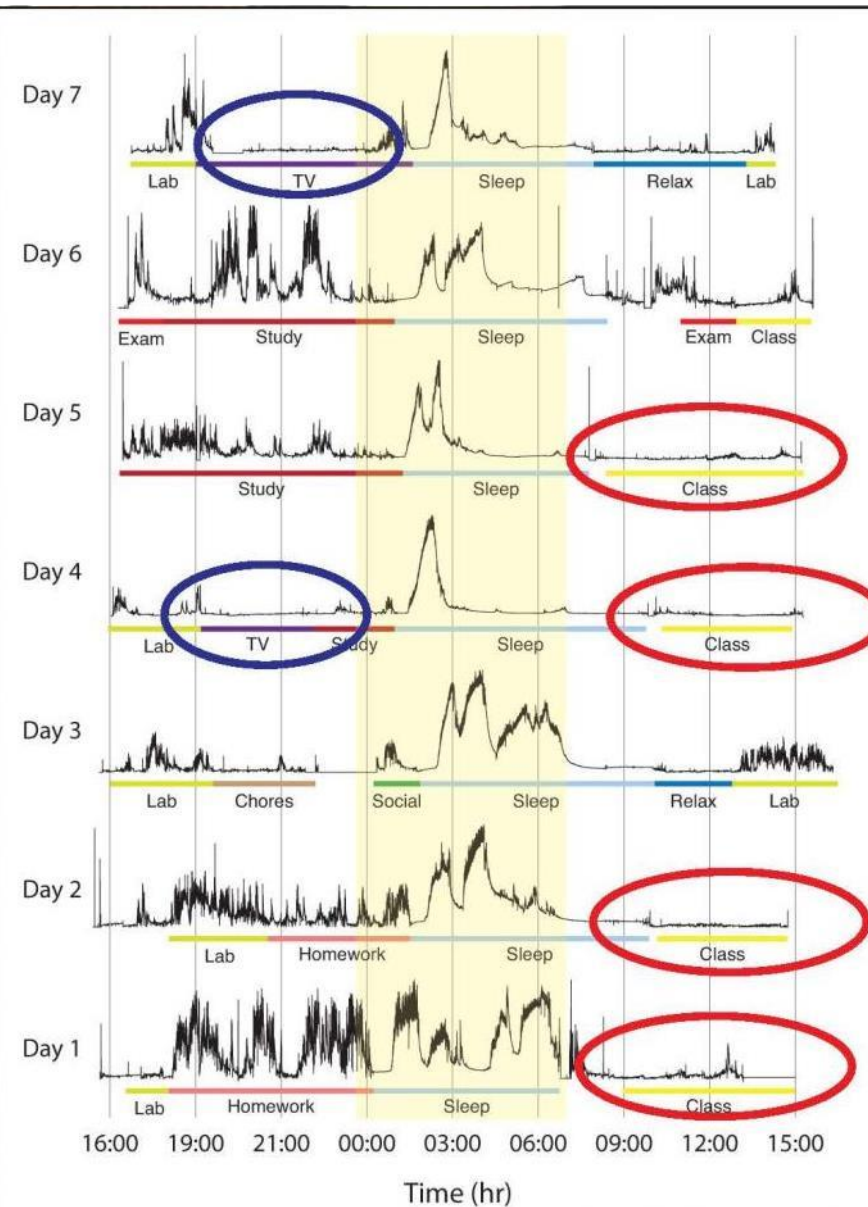
A different methodology for teaching

Evidence indicates the importance of including activity in lectures (about every 20 minutes)



Cantillon P, BMJ 2003

Studies suggest that brain activity during lectures is low



Mazur 2012
http://mazur.harvard.edu/sentFiles/MazurTalk_1815.pdf

The flipped classroom model

Didactic information delivery; one-way, low interaction, usually large group

Application & problem solving in isolation

Traditional model



Classroom



Self-directed study



Assessment

Flipped model



Didactic info before lecture
(usually video +/- reading)

Application & problem solving in class with facilitator present; higher interaction; peer learning; Usually small groups
But more rooms, more facilitators, more prep time



Improved student experience?
Improved learning?

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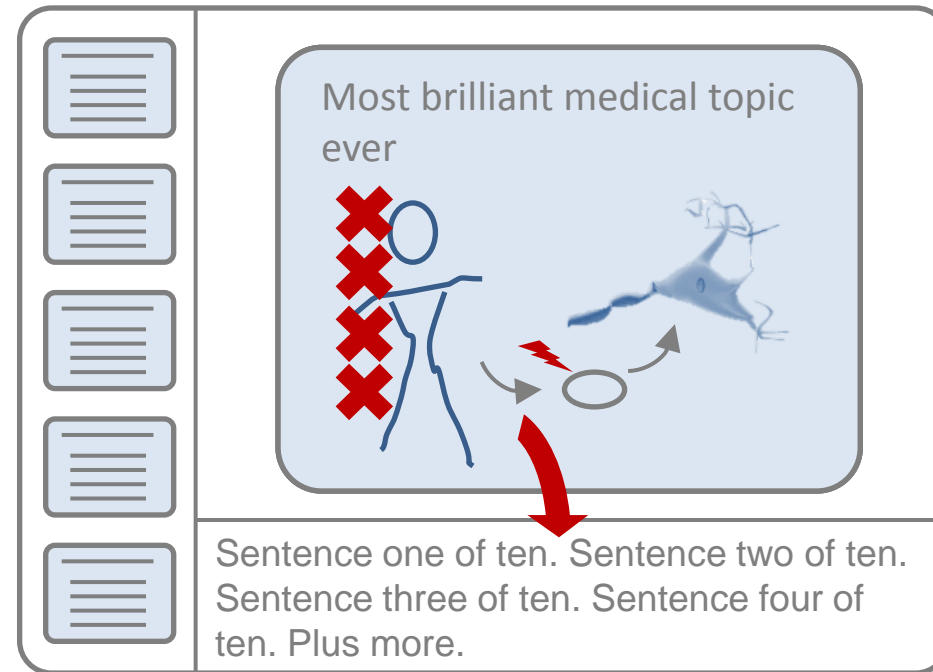
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Four easy steps to creating effective slides

- 1 Write out your content as normal, guilt free!
- 2 Move **all** your notes to the Notes pane
- 3 Get rid of the bullet points (better with Slide Master)
- 4 Use graphics and images to **show** the key point of each slide



Back to your future...



How will you apply this to *your* practice?

Take 1 minute to think and note down two things now:

1. Your thoughts or reactions right now
2. One thing you will investigate and try out in your teaching/training

What to do next

1

- Look at our **BSMS Teaching Support website**: blogs.brighton.ac.uk/bsmsteachingsupport

2

- **Have a go** with something in your teaching

3

- **Get in touch** with me for training on these digital tools t.r.vincent@bsms.ac.uk or if you have an idea for a digital learning resource

References

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- www.educause.edu