

Best Practices for Designing Online Learning Objects

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Outline for the next hour-ish

How do people learn online?

How do we make things that are effective
for people who will be learning online?

How can I plan ahead?

The image features a white background with two teal-colored geometric shapes. On the left, there is a large teal trapezoid that tapers towards the right. On the right side, there is a smaller teal triangle that tapers towards the left. The text 'How do people learn online?' is centered between these two shapes.

**How do people learn
online?**

Online learning myths



Learning with technology rewires the brain

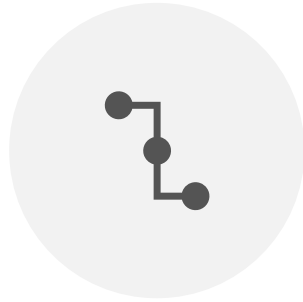


Today's students are digital natives



Our content will be competing for attention online

Richard Mayer's Multimedia Theory of Learning



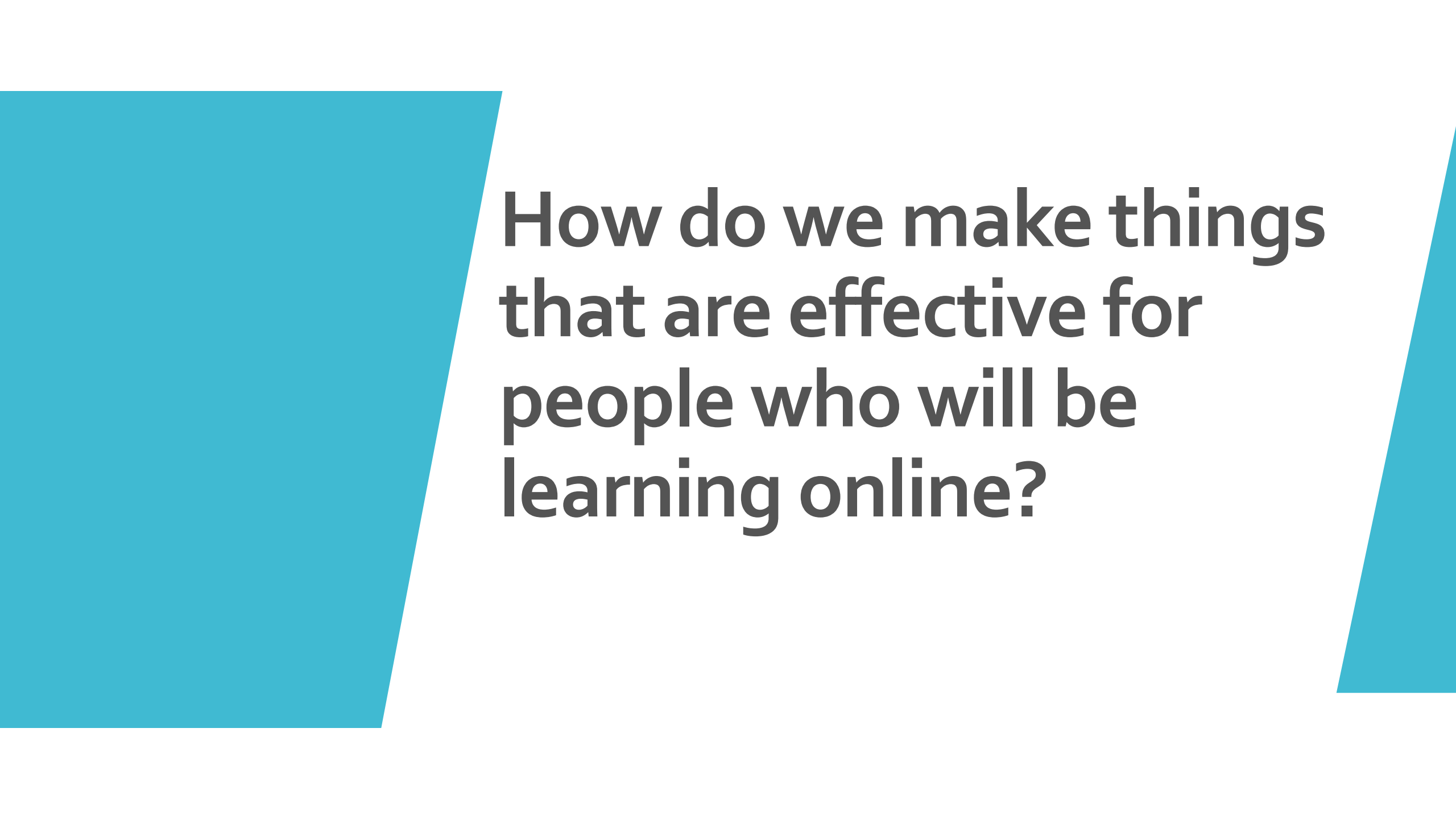
DUAL CHANNELS



LIMITED
CAPACITY



ACTIVE
PROCESSING

The background features two teal-colored geometric shapes. On the left, there is a large teal trapezoid that tapers towards the right. On the right side, there is a smaller teal triangle pointing towards the left. The text is centered between these two shapes.

**How do we make things
that are effective for
people who will be
learning online?**

"Umbrella" Topics



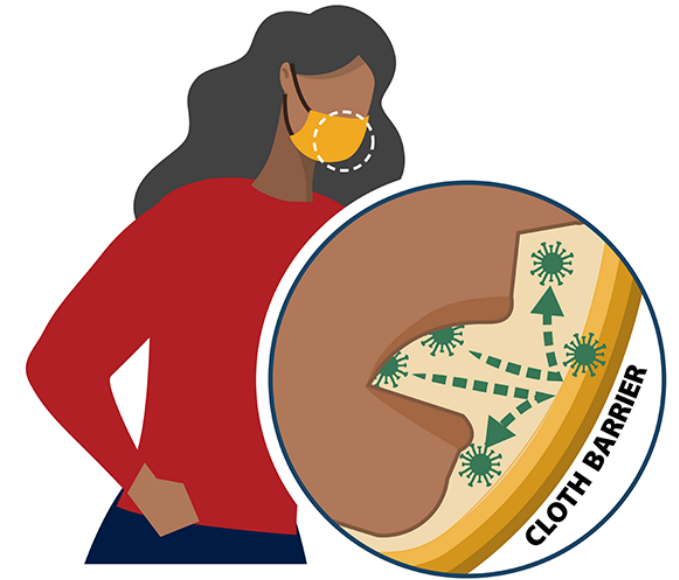
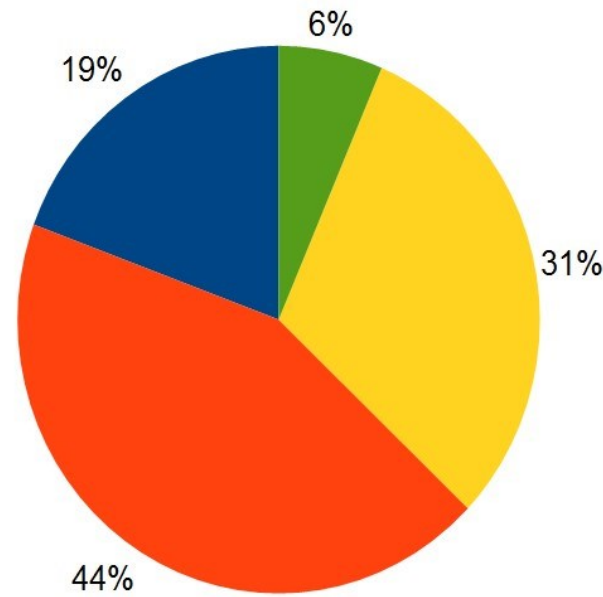
Combining words and graphics



Keeping it simple



Breaking it down



Combining Words and Graphics: Multimedia Principle

SIMPLE SEARCH

Select to search for items in the library collection

Search: Everything **Library Catalog (MUSCAT)** Online Resources Special Collections
 Course Reserves

Use drop-down menu to choose "Books"

Any field ▼ contains ▼ Material Type ▼
All items


AND ▼ Any field ▼ contains ▼ Language ▼
Any language

Enter your search terms

Publication Start Date:
Day ▼ Month ▼ Year

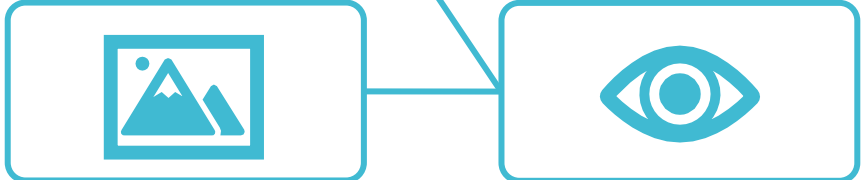
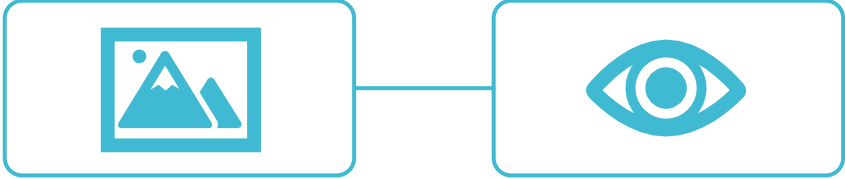
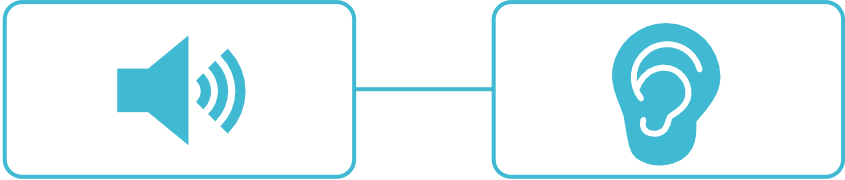
Publication End Date:
Day ▼ Month ▼ Year

+ ADD A NEW LINE

SEARCH  OTHER LIBRARIES

Combining Words and Graphics: Contiguity Principle

Keeping it
Simple:
Modality
Principle



Keeping it
Simple:
Redundancy
Principle

Key words

Short phrases

Keeping it
Simple:
Coherence
Principle

Omit
extraneous:

Words

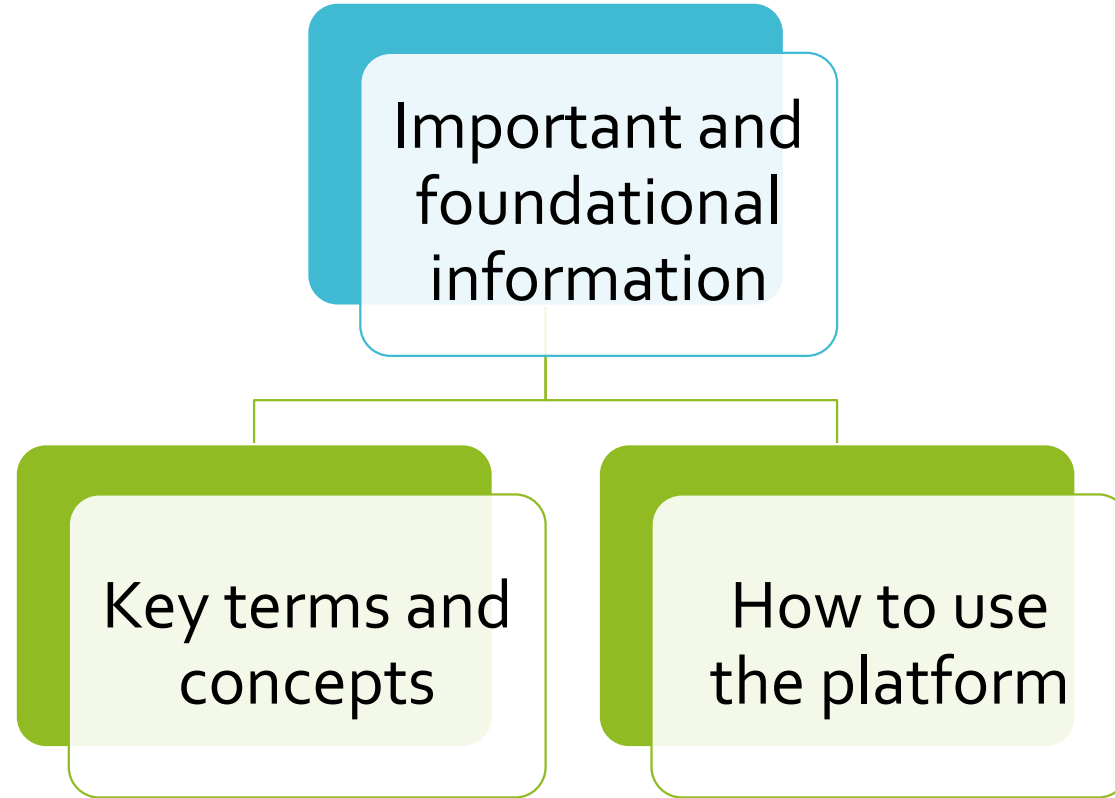
Images

Sounds

Break lessons into
smaller parts

Students work at
their own pace

Breaking it Down: Segmenting Principle



Breaking it Down: Pretraining Principle

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How can I plan ahead?

Time-savers



Reusing content

Consider sharing yours



Accessibility

Learn more tomorrow
;)

Choosing the right tools for the job



Sound engineering

when medium complements message



Affordances

all the things a thing can do

Shipka, J. (2006). Sound engineering: Toward a theory of multimodal soundness. *Computers and Composition*, 23(3), 355–373. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.compcom.2006.05.003>

The image features a white background with two teal-colored geometric shapes. On the left, there is a large teal trapezoid that tapers towards the right. On the right side, there is a smaller teal triangle that tapers towards the left. The word "Questions?" is centered in the white space between these two shapes.

Questions?