

Ágnes DARITS

The Potential Role of Visualisation in the Vocational Training and Continuous Education of Adults

Adults are a specific educational target group, due to the facts that on the one hand they bring a vast amount of life and work experience into the learning process and – on the other hand – they are very often part-time learners. Thus the use of efficient didactic methods in their teaching can have a multiple impact on the quality of their learning. In my talk I wish to examine the use of visualisation as a potential tool for creating and enhancing communicational conformity between learner and teacher, easing the transmission of thoughts and ideas. The first part will review the role of perception in the learning process, with specific regard to the differences in the individual perception patterns, as well as visualisation playing a major role in the acceptance, understanding and recalling of the teaching material. The second part will discuss how the development of IT technologies in the last twenty years enlarged the range of potential educational tools that can be used to convey knowledge. The third part is meant to give an account on the lessons that could be learned this far from an empirical experiment on using visual technology in adult vocational training.

Ágnes DARITS (1958) economist and sociologist. General director of OKTÁV Further Educational Centre and has a PhD Absolutorium from the Department of Technological Education, Budapest University of Technology. She is a Master Practitioner of Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP™). At the beginning of her carrier her research interest focused on industrial design, man-made environment, visual culture and art. Following the year that she spent at University of London, Goldsmiths' College as a visiting researcher, in the last 20 years her interest turned towards the exploration of individual (communicational, presentational and vocational) skills needed to coop with the challenges of the labour market as well as towards the specific training and teaching methods and structures suitable for the development of these skills. E-mail: darits@oktav.hu.

