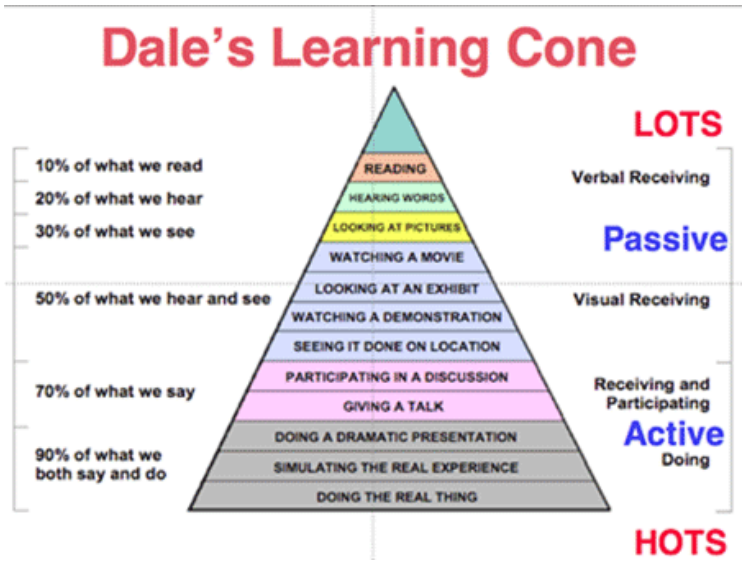
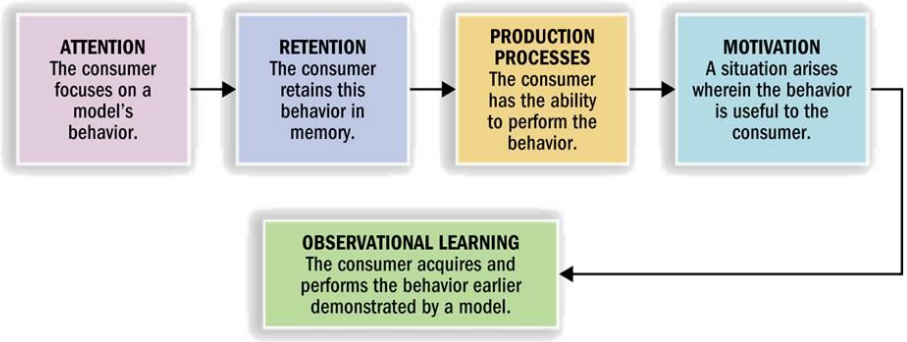
Demonstration Lectures

This style of lecturing is frequently used in science, technology, engineering, and math. The professor illustrates how to complete a task while explaining concepts and theories. Demonstrations can be live, videos, and/or simulated. After the demonstration, students are often provided with the opportunity to apply what is learned to either a situation or problem. Balch (2014) found that students who viewed a demonstration outperformed students that listened to a lecture only. Neurons in the brain known as visualmotor neurons are activated when we observe someone else performing, particularly if we visualize ourselves performing the same task. This allows us to mentally rehearse the skill. Learning and engagement are high in demonstration lectures because students are provided with context for the knowledge being taught and are often asked to explore solving problems.



Components of Observational Learning



Quick Tips for using the Demonstration Lecture

1. Giving a demonstration involves the students hearing and seeing the content. This greatly increases student learning from hearing or seeing alone. Ensure that you talk through a demonstration, or chose a video that does that same.

2. To enhance learning even more, follow a demonstration by having students perform and apply the new knowledge as soon as possible.

3. Demonstrations come in a variety of forms. We often think of demonstrating a skill such as taking blood pressure or staining a blood smear. However, demonstrations can be working out a math problem on a board, rationalizing a problem aloud to demonstrate thought process, student presentations, a scientific experiment, models, and even pointing to parts of a diagram.

4. If a demonstration goes wrong, learning can still be successful! Learning through demonstration is accomplished by the student modeling what was observed. If the demonstrator encounters a problem during the demonstration, students will also learn the coping mechanisms observed, which can be used to problem solve later.

Learn more

For more tips visit: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Observational_learning

Observational Learning and Social Learning Theory: https://youtu.be/2Cptzo3-sHI

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