A model for designing instructional narratives for adult learners: Connecting the DOTS

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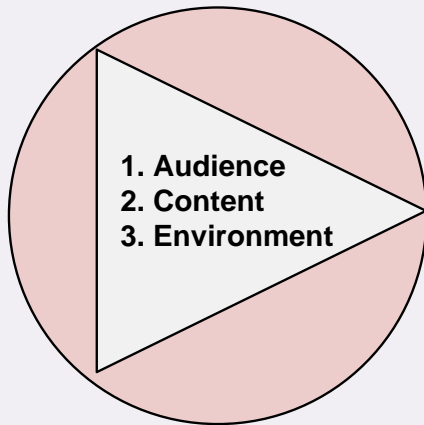
May 14-15, 2014

Agenda

- Instructional narrative definition
- DOTS model
- DOTS model theory bases
- Comprehension
- How does this work?
- Getting started
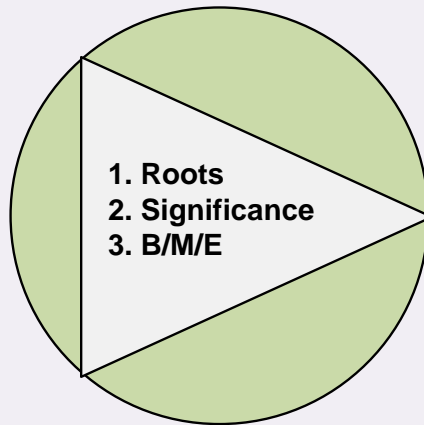
Instructional narrative

Narrative expressly designed for the purpose of enabling learners to acquire particular capabilities, take action, make decisions, alter their perspective leading to a change in behavior.

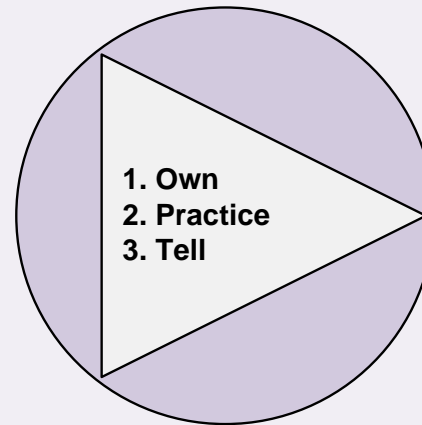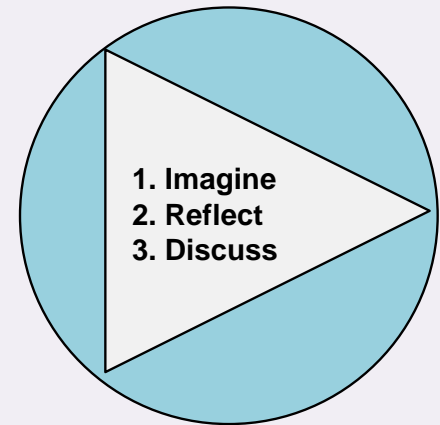Source: Smith, D.M. (2012). A model for designing instructional narratives: Connecting the DOTS. (Doctoral dissertation). Wayne State University, Detroit: MI.

DOTS model

Describe

1. Audience
2. Content
3. Environment

Operationalize

1. Roots
2. Significance
3. B/M/E

Tailor

1. Own
2. Practice
3. Tell

See

1. Imagine
2. Reflect
3. Discuss

DOTS model: Theory bases

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Encoding ——————————————→ Decoding

Communication Theory

Narrative Theory ——————————→

Learning Theory ——————————————→

Learning & Adult Development Theories

Instructional Design and Adult Development Theories ———————→

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Brain Scans: Comprehension

Words
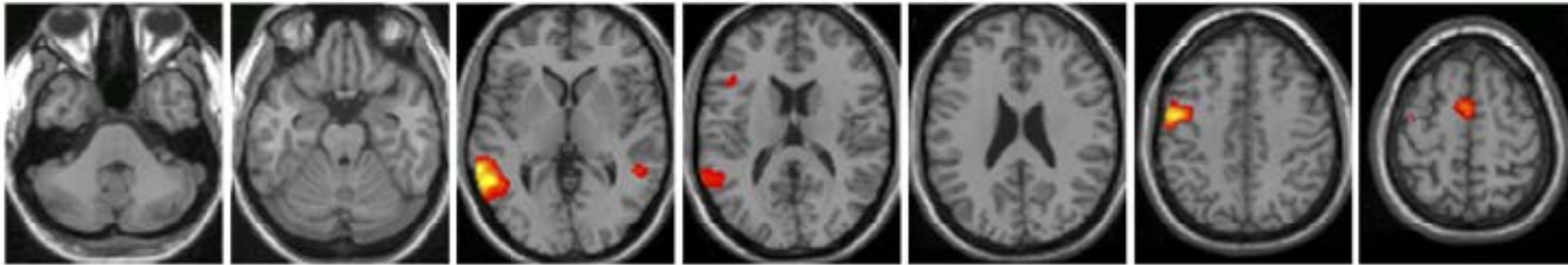
Sentences
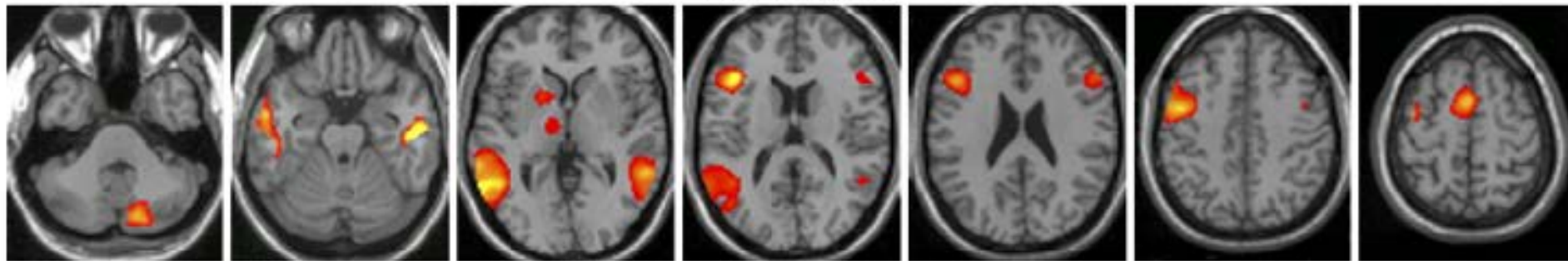
Narratives
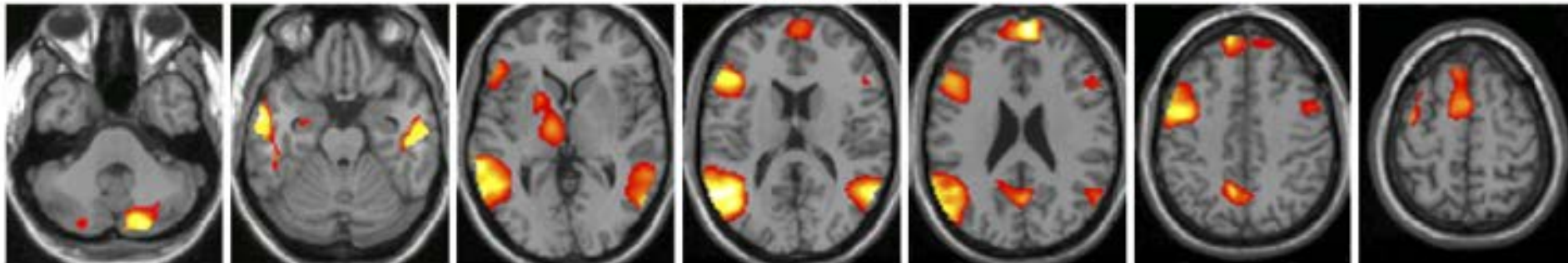
How does this work?

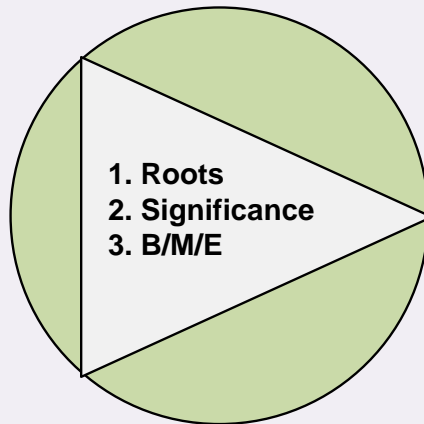When learning is comprehended...(sense)...it can be connected to **past experience**...(meaning)...there is more brain activity...followed by retention
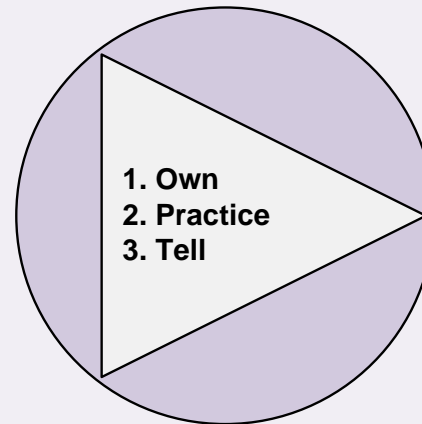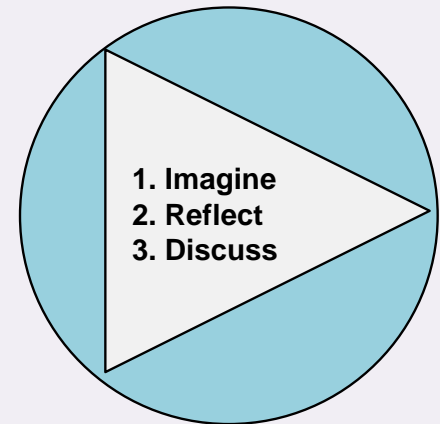
Source: Maquire, E.A., Frith, C.D., & Morris, R.G.M. (1999, October). The functional neuroanatomy of comprehension and memory: The importance of prior knowledge. *Brain*, 122, 1839-1850.

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Getting Started

- Driving a car
- Rent a car at the airport
- Making a cake
- Your first haircut
- How to give a dog a bath
- How add an App
- Carving a pumpkin
- How to cut the grass

Thank you!