

Refining and presenting information (starter for Case study 9.3, lesson 11)

Starter

15 minutes

Refining and presenting information

Tell pupils that multimedia presentations could be used in a variety of ways, for example:

- a presentation to a large audience with the speaker talking and changing the slides when they are ready;
- a package on a computer which a user refers to for information;
- a tutorial which helps someone learn or revise a technique;
- a moving display for use at an exhibition or open evening.

Explain that *features* of multimedia software that could be used by an author include:

- animated images;
- automatic timings for slide transitions;
- action buttons;
- sound;
- speech.

Distribute **Pupil resource 11**, *Evaluating multimedia presentations (worksheet)*. Pupils, in pairs, look at the presentation(s) and complete the worksheet.

See **Teacher resource 14**, *Multimedia presentation examples*, for details of how to access example presentations.

Follow with a discussion about the different *features*.

- *How were they used?*
- *What is the purpose of each one?*
- *How could they be used if the reason for the presentation were changed?*

Emphasise these points.

- 1** Moving images within a slide can help to create impact but can be distracting.
- 2** Moving images can often take up large amounts of file space and therefore may not be suitable for some applications.
- 3** Images without text can force an audience to think about the subject.
- 4** Timed transitions between slides are useful in displays or to provide emphasis within a presentation but can catch out a speaker.
- 5** Sounds can be used for emphasis but could be distracting and will be lost unless the projection facilities have sound capability.
- 6** Speech can be used, depending upon the environment for which the presentation is designed. For example, a presentation with speech or other sounds might not be suitable for a library.
- 7** Action buttons can allow branching within a presentation. This is useful in information systems.

Evaluating multimedia presentations

These are three presentations produced using a multimedia program.

<http://edweb.camcnty.gov.uk/camgrid/heads/ColinHurdDfES.ppt>

<http://wsgfl.westsussex.gov.uk/grid+/Keystage2/DT/casestudies/londonmeed/Presentation.ppt>

<http://www.teachingideas.co.uk/ict/files/multimediapresentations.ppt>

Look at one of the presentations and answer the following questions.

What is the purpose of the presentation?

What is good about the presentation?

Where could the presentation be used?

Who was the audience for which the writer produced this? Explain your answer.

What features of a multimedia presentation were used?

How could it be improved?

Multimedia presentation examples

The three multimedia presentations are:

- 1 <http://edweb.camcnty.gov.uk/camgrid/heads/ColinHurdDfES.ppt>
- 2 <http://wsgfl.westsussex.gov.uk/grid+/Keystage2/DT/casestudies/londonmeed/Presentation.ppt>
- 3 <http://www.teachingideas.co.uk/ict/files/multimediapresentations.ppt>

They were found on the National Grid For Learning website (www.ngfl.gov.uk) by typing "PowerPoint presentation" in the site search engine.

You could concentrate on one, two or all three presentations.

It may be sensible to download the different sites to your local network.