

Physical Objects and Animations

by Sophia Tutorial



WHAT'S COVERED

In this lesson, you will learn about additional types of visual aids that you can use during your speech. Specifically, this lesson will cover:

1. Physical and Animate Objects
2. Objects as Visual Aids
3. Choosing Objects for Presentations

1. Physical and Animate Objects

In today's media-driven world, public speakers have a plethora of visual aids to choose from when augmenting their presentations.

From **LCD** projections to flip charts, visual aids help presenters inform and persuade audiences, as well as help them understand the presentation topic.

Physical and animate objects can also help integrate the verbal and visual elements of the speaker's presentation into one unified and memorable message.



TERM TO KNOW

LCD

A flat panel display, electronic visual display, or video display that uses the light modulating properties of liquid crystals. Liquid crystals do not emit light directly.

2. Objects as Visual Aids

Ultimately, objects should enhance rather than detract from a presentation. The use of objects as visual aids involves using actual objects as live demonstrations or **props** for the audience.

🔗 **EXAMPLE** A speech about tying knots would be more effective by bringing a rope.

Using physical objects is often necessary when demonstrating how to do something so that the audience can fully understand the procedure or process.

The use of physical and animate objects in formal presentations is the same as in stage acting where actors use still and animated props. For the objects to be as effective as possible, they must be positioned in a way where they are quickly detected and easily understood by the audience.

A common mistake involves placing an object where it is obstructed or hidden from view, or in front of a more interesting object that divides the audience's attention. Speakers must also be cognizant of objects that are too large or inconvenient for stage use.



TERM TO KNOW

Prop

An item placed on a stage or set to create a scene or scenario in which actors perform. Contraction of "property".

3. Choosing Objects for Presentations

There are many physical and animate objects available for presentations. Choosing the appropriate visual aids depends on the speaker's preference, as well as the content and setting of the presentation.

Objects can be both beneficial or distracting during speeches. Therefore, presenters should prepare and plan ahead accordingly to ensure that objects are appropriate for the audience and material being presented.



SUMMARY

In this lesson, you learned that **choosing the appropriate object** for a presentation depends on the speaker's preference, as well as the content and setting of the presentation. Ultimately, objects should enhance rather than detract from a presentation. Using **physical objects** is often necessary when demonstrating how to do something so that the audience can fully understand the procedure or process.

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