

**PRETEST – WHICH INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIUM
HAS THESE ATTRIBUTES?**

(Herman Weller, EDW 472/SMS 491, Spring 2008)

Based on Smith & Ragan, 1999, pp. 288-291

NAME THE MEDIUM THAT HAS EACH SET OF ATTRIBUTES

Medium: _____

- Interactive – Can be highly interactive.
- Expensive – Extremely expensive to employ.
- Adaptable & flexible – Can be highly adaptable and flexible.
- Not perfectly reliable – Unreliable for doing the same thing over and over in exactly the same way (such as repeating the same lesson on acid-base reactions 25 times for 25 individual students).
- Empathetic – Possesses and reflects empathy. Is the only medium that has this ability, and for certain learning tasks and situations, it is an invaluable one.
- Multiprocessing – Appears able to simultaneously process multiple sensory inputs from various sources and select those that are most critical to the current situation.

Medium: _____

- Inexpensive – Is relatively inexpensive to produce and duplicate (although the range of cost for production and duplication can be quite wide).
- Individualized – Supports individual student use.
- No equipment required & very portable – Does not require equipment for use and is very portable.
- Permanent record – Is a permanent record of instruction, and accessing it requires no equipment.
- Easy random access – Its format, as supported by various conventions, is excellent for providing easy random access by individual users.
- Fairly interactive – Can be developed to provide a fair degree of interactivity.
- Annotatable – Can be annotated by learners to reflect their personal elaborations and emphases.

- Requires user literacy – Is sensitive to learners’ literacy skills (i.e., the student must be literate to use it).

Medium: _____

- Rapid & accurate information manipulation – Can hold a great deal of information in its memory, manipulate this information rapidly, and never make a mistake in this manipulation of data.
- Access vast information – Can access a seemingly limitless amount and range of information over networks.
- Dynamic graphics – Can deliver graphics, and the character of these graphics can be changed by input from the learner.
- Highly interactive – Can foster a high level of interactivity. It can ask for student response and can respond to the student’s response in a relatively individualized manner.
- Individualized – Can adapt to the learner, either through supporting exploration by hyperlinks or actively by adjusting the content to the needs of the learner.
- Variable control – Can maintain a high level of control over what the learner is allowed to attend to at one time, or it can put this control in the hands of the learner.
- Adjustable feedback – Can adjust the type of feedback that it gives to the type of response that the learner makes.
- Adapt instruction to learner needs – Can retain and analyze records of the progress of the learner and use this information to adapt future instruction sequences to the needs of the learner.
- Controls other media interactively – Can control other media, and use these media in an interactive way.
- Transferable instruction – Allows exact duplication of instruction at remote sites.

Medium: _____

- Audiovisual – Is a medium that is heard and seen. Although it can depict text, the medium’s primary strength lies in its ability to display images, in motion and color, along with sound.

- Alters apparent time – Can appear to compress time (i.e., time lapse) or expand time (i.e., slow motion) to support learner’s attention.
- Zooms – Can “zoom in” for enlarged close-ups or “zoom out” for a telephoto view.
- Little interactivity – Active, individualized learner interaction is difficult to support with this medium, unless it is used with a computer.
- Prearranged sequence – Presentation occurs via a prearranged sequence, which is difficult and awkward by individual learners, unless it is used with a computer.