

Universal Design

Assessment Task Number 11

- 1) Is multi-modality always a good thing? Justify your answer.
- 2) What are (i) auditory icons and (ii) earcons? How can they be used to benefit both visually impaired and sighted users?
- 3) Research your country's legislation relating to accessibility of technology for disabled people. What are the implications of this to your future career in computing?
- 4) Take your university website or another site of your choice and assess it for accessibility. How would you recommend improving the site?
- 5) How could systems be made more accessible to older users?
- 6) Interview either (i) a person you know over 65 or (ii) a child you know under 16 about their experience, attitude and expectations of computers. What factors would you take into account if you were designing a website aimed at this person?

ANSWER

1. It cannot be good always. As it involves multi-modality sometimes it will leads to a failure due to a some mistake in a particular mode. so we need to take care of all modes or systems that are involved to get overall success.
2. **(i) Auditory Icon** makes use of natural everyday sounds in order to represent objects and actions on the interface. For example, as a file is dragged across the screen the noise of paper scraping can be heard.
(ii) Earcon is a structured audio message based on musical sounds which conveys to the user information about the tasks being carried out. For example, while scrolling up and down a page the user gains information on their place in the document. At the top of the document the pitch of the note given is high; as the user scrolls down the pitch decreases.
 - Such as these are like sound-effects for computers, complementing visual events with appropriate sounds. But they are not designed merely to provide entertainment, rather they convey rich information about events in computer systems, allowing us to listen to computers as we do to the everyday world and they have a strong structure to link them together. This may reduce the learning time and the memory load, but as they have not yet been tested this is unknown.
3. We can say that ensuring accessible ICTs for persons with disabilities and expanding access to these technologies, as well as to assistive technologies, should become a key element of global, regional and national strategies to remove the remaining barriers faced by persons with disabilities.

4. Make it more responsive, encourage sharing and following and make it simple but attracted that's my recommendation for improving the site.
5. I think my website would be more accessible for older user if my website is simple and easy to understand easy to use and read.
6. For those people who's under 65 yrs old they prefer the largest text and icon, for them to easily read and understand the words. And for those who's under 16 yrs old they prefer the small text and icon because it makes them more comfortable.