

The Educational Possibilities of Intelligent Videodiscs

Alfred Bork, UC Irvine 1977

speaking of advantage of computers in instruction- "The first advantage...is the level of interaction which is possible. The distinction is between an active medium, with the student constantly interacting while learning, and a passive medium, with the student reading or being told something but making no active contribution of his or her own. But the computer allows individualization impossible with printed media or with lecture or videotape presentations, reacting to the individual background, previously acquired knowledge, and desires of individual students. A third advantage is that the computer can be the creator or experiences....Simulations on the computer can create a rich range of experiences, and so give students the same ability to learn on the basis of experiences that they had in elementary school."

"Some of the discs will also contain standard books, perhaps all the texts and auxiliary physics books currently available, and newer ones following newer pedagogical strategies."

"A third type of videodisc for the physics course might have slides and video sequences of the phenomena of physics, giving the student a rich background at the beginning of the study of a particular area in the phenomena appropriate to the theory about to be considered. The fact that physical theories, or all scientific theories, arise out of experience is something that needs to be constantly stressed with students."

Graphics, Videodiscs, and the Personal Computer

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"Many people learn better, through iconic representations, pictorial information that may be, although informationally equivalent, entirely different in the manner it conveys that information to humans."