



Attentioin



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Attention is the focus of consciousness on a particular object or idea at a particular time, to the exclusion of other objects or ideas.

Attention is defined as a process, which compels the individual to select some particular stimulus according to his interest and attitude out of the multiplicity of stimuli present in the environment.

Sharma RN 1967

“Attention is the taking possession by the mind, in clear and vivid form, of one out of what seem several simultaneously possible objects or trains of thought.”

William James (1890)

“Attention is a state of sensory clearness or consciousness.”

Titchener

In simple terms, attention means concentrating mental activity on a particular object, idea, or task, enabling us to perceive it clearly and respond effectively.

Nature of Attention

The nature of attention refers to the essential features and qualities that describe how attention works in the human mind.

Cognitive Process

Attention is a mental activity that helps us focus on selected information.

Continuous

It goes on without stopping, though its intensity may vary.

Selective

We choose to focus on one stimulus while ignoring others.

Fluctuating

Attention keeps shifting based on our interests, needs, and situations.

State of Consciousness

It makes information clear and understandable to the individual.

Linked with Interest/Need

We pay attention only when something is interesting or necessary.

Improves Clarity of Stimuli

Attention helps us perceive things more clearly.

Personal Activity

It differs from person to person depending on their mindset and habits.

Process of Adjustment

It helps individuals adjust to internal needs or external situations.

Supports Memory

Attention helps store experiences accurately for future use.

Increases Efficiency

It prepares individuals to act effectively in any situation.

Motivational

Motivation directs and strengthens attention.

Internal factors

The internal factors are concerned with the individual. So, these are called subjective factors.

1. Interests

We are interested in some things and disinterested in others. Interesting things draw our attention quickly.

Example: An engineer and a botanist walking together will attend to different objects- engineer notices buildings, botanist notices trees.

2. Desire

A person's desire leads to paying attention to certain things.

Example: If a person wants to buy a hammer, his attention will focus on shops where hammers are available.

3. Motives

Basic motives are important for drawing attention. Human motives like hunger, thirst, and safety play a vital role.

Example: A thirsty person's attention is always on where water is available.

4. Aim / Goal

Every person has immediate and ultimate goals in life. These goals direct attention.

Example: A student whose aim is to pass the exam will pay attention to textbooks and notes.

5. Habit

Habit strongly influences attention.

Example: A person who habitually plays cricket will always pay attention to cricket-related information and commentary.

6. Past Experience

Past experiences also affect attention.

Example: If experience tells us someone is sincere, we pay attention to their advice. If past experience is negative, we ignore their suggestions.

External factors

The external factors are concerned with the environment. These are also called objective factors.

1. Size

Size has an effect on attention. It is natural that an unusual size attracts the attention of people. Very big size or very small size draws our attention when compared with normal size.

Example: A dwarf man walking on the road draws our attention.

2. Intensity

Loud sounds, strong smells, and deep colors are attractive in nature. If a sound is intense, it attracts our attention.

Example: Thunder is louder than a car sound, so our attention is drawn to thunder.

3. Movement

Moving things draw our attention more than stationary ones.

Example: A moving car attracts attention faster than a stationary car.

4. Repetition

If a thing, person, or event is repeated several times, it draws our attention.

Example: Repeated advertisements on walls draw our attention.

5. Duration

Attention is drawn to things that last longer.

Example: A salesperson draws attention by lengthening his voice.

6. Abrupt Change

(Slide heading but explanation not shown - this usually means sudden changes in light, sound, or temperature also attract attention.)

7. Novelty

Newness attracts attention more quickly than traditional or familiar things.

Example: A new teacher attracts the children's attention in school.

Educational Implications of Attention:

- i. The teacher should try to secure attention of the children in teaching-learning situation.
- ii. The teacher should create a conducive environment at the time of teaching in order to concentrate full attention among the children.
- iii. The learning atmosphere should be free from all possible distracting factors.
- iv. In order to create attention the teacher should try to motivate the students at each stage of teaching.
- v. Diagrams, figures and pictures should be drawn at the time of need.
- vi. Audio-visual aids should be used properly.

Educational Implications of Attention:

- vii. The teacher should move use of gestures, postures, actions and demonstrations at the time of teaching.
- viii. The students should be involved actively in teaching-learning activities.
- ix. Fear of punishment and rude behaviour of teacher should be avoided.
- x. The teacher should show a fair and impartial treatment to all the students in the class.

The discussed steps will definitely help the students to create attentions among them-selves in the teaching learning situations.



Thank You

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION



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