# Teaching With Podcasting????
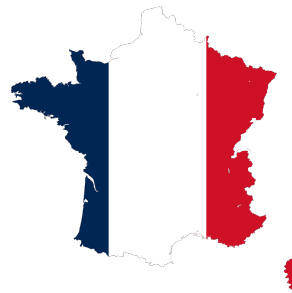
Peter Schmidt, November 2024

# Who is this guy?



- Trained as a *physicist* (1996)

- Worked as a *software engineer* – (well, most of the time)

- Became a *podcaster* (2020)

# So...teaching...

Once upon a time (2018) I started to learn…
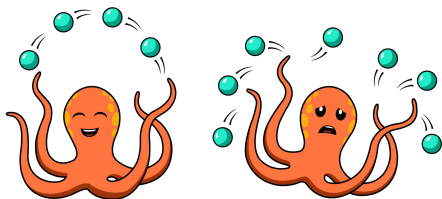


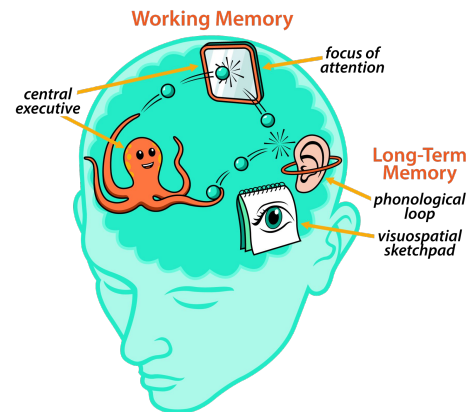Found teaching languages hasn't changed much



Found Podcasts

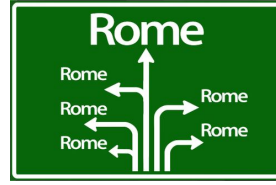# Working memory ... long-term memory



Don't overload your working memory



How to learn "beyond the exam"?

# Many Roads lead to rome...



Different ways to learn complex content

"Wandering minds" may not be a bad thing



Focused mode          Diffuse mode
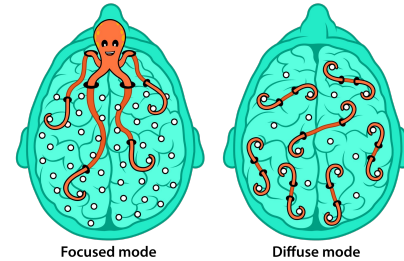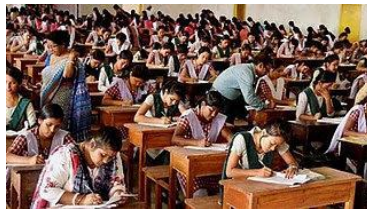
Different perspectives matter

# But Would it work in Tech?

Audio only?



Anybody learning anything?



Isn't there enough already?

# What do podcasts bring to the table?

Get different points of view

Get sign posts

Get it when and where you want it

# What is it they can't do?

Replace classes

Coding instructions/examples - audio only

Interaction between students/tutors

# Enter - bytesized rse

Launched 2022 as part of the *Universe HPC project

Short online lessons focussing on practical implementations

NOW IN 3RD SEASON

Each lesson is matched with a podcast episodes

* **U**nderstanding and **N**urturing an **I**ntegrated **V**ision for **E**ducation in **RSE** - HPC

# Bytesized Rse episodes

Published 2-3 days after online class

Includes background, history, interviews (usually), quiz

Open to all listeners (part of Code for Thought)

# UCL Course - python and C++

Autumn term 2022: Research Software Engineering with Python

As of Jan/2025: C++ course for researchers

Follows similar concept as ByteSized RSE

EXCEPT: IS OWNED BY UCL

# Experiences? Lessons learnt?

Feedback? — surveys (UCL), download stats (ByteSized RSE)

Interaction? — very little, podcasts are more for consuming

Audio only? — works, but you have to think about the content & structure

Effort? — LOTS

# Would i do it again? ... Should you?

absolutely

Podcasts can be a great **addition** to a class (alas, not a replacement)

Podcasts can make us CURIOUS

*And what better way to learn?*

# APPENDIX

- Code for Thought podcast https://codeforthought.buzzsprout.com/
- Register Geknister podcast https://registergeknister.buzzsprout.com/
- Uncommon Sense Teaching, Barbara Oakley, PhD
  ISBN 9780593329733
  - Images downloaded from https://barbaraoakley.com/downloads/ Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International, License by Beth Rogowsky and Barbara Oakley
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