James Cooper* (james.cooper@reasoningmind.org) and Paulette N Willis. Just because you can, doesn’t mean you should.

Designing good multimedia instruction requires consideration beyond aesthetics. A student user’s engagement can be significantly impacted by each design choice, and it may be the case that the aesthetic choice is not the right choice for engagement. Here we discuss certain elements that have been shown to help or hinder engagement and learning. We also discuss the experience of Reasoning Mind in adopting these helpful design elements and the resulting high levels of student engagement. (Received September 15, 2014)