

Boone Brinson and Richard Romo. Visual Delights: How to Make and Use Visual Delights in the English Class. Mexico, Delti, 1993.

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This book first appeared in print in 1980. It was the brain child of two fellow English teachers (Richard Romo and Boone Brinson) who decided to put down in book form what they had successfully demonstrated in numerous seminars in Mexico and the U.S. In 1993 it was given a new format and put back on the market. The question, of course, is how well does the book hold up 15 years later. The answer is... pretty well!

The new edition is a little more polished than the original, but most of the artist's original sketches have been copied, so that the flavor remains the same. 15 years ago visual aids were not so widely used nor readily available and the purpose of the book was to fill that void. Today many more teachers are aware of and have access to more professional visuals than when the book was originally printed. However, for the beginning teacher and especially the public school teacher who is struggling to find an inexpensive, but interesting way to supplement the curriculum, this book can still offer a no-frills, basic approach to making and using visual aids in the classroom.

The book includes twenty different visual aids. Each unit begins with a drawing of the visual followed by simple, step-by-step directions on how to make the visual. The next part of the unit deals with suggestions on how to use the visual. The authors provide vocabulary, grammar structures and situations, as well as different types of activities which would be suitable for the visual. Many of the visuals are aimed at basic level classes, but some of the more open-ended visuals, such as *The Dragon and the Princess*, *Faces*, *Story and Road Ran* could be used for any level and any age group, from children to adults.

In the preface to the book, the authors assure the reader that "anyone can" follow their instructions and make workable visuals. So, if you are just starting out in your teaching career or if putting variety in your classes has become too costly, then getting back to basics might be just what you need.