

How to increase e-learning using the 90/20/8 rule

The 90/20/8 rule of adult attention states that learners are fully alert and attentive for the first eight minutes. By 20 minutes, their attention dips, and by 90 minutes, it crashes. What's more, e-learning must be precise, easy to assimilate, and relevant to the employee's job to be effective, and yet too many e-learning solutions still consist of lengthy, boring, one-dimensional PDFs and videos.



Image source: Getty Images

“Adults in the workplace need and want to improve their knowledge and skills, but not at the expense of completing their tasks, or achieving their KPIs, or giving up their personal time,” said Michael Gullan, CEO of G&G Advocacy, South African e-learning provider aimed at providing innovative solutions to corporates to upskill and reskill their employees. Microlearning is essential to assisting adult learners to achieve their learning goals. “Our data shows that microlearning, using our Content Capsule methodology, results in higher engagement and retention, better completion rates, and increased application in the workplace,” added Gullan.

What is microlearning?

Microlearning, as the name suggests, features short, sharp snackable learning moments, each one designed to achieve a specific outcome and trigger the employee to apply their new learnings. “Ideally, microlearning capsules are designed to be five to seven minutes long, and normally don’t exceed 10 minutes,” said Gullan. “They’re supported across devices, from desktops and laptops to smartphones and tablets, so that learning moments can be completed on the go.”



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What are the eight characteristics of microlearning?

5. **Adaptable** - Can be completed as a stand-alone learning moment, or as a series of connected capsules through a learning path.
6. **Personalised** - Courses are created by employee profile based on proficiency, role, and preferences, so they can get the training they need and want.
7. **Interesting** - Learning content is rich, varied, interesting, and optimised to deliver the right learning experience for the employee.
8. **Adaptable** - Based on insights gleaned from the data, learning material is easy to update and quick to deploy.



What's more, research proves that adults forget nearly 80% of what they learn within a month, so your learning must address these real-life challenges to be effective and enduring. Gullan concludes that microlearning provides

reinforcements to flip the “forgetting” curve to the “recall and retention” curve, address most corporate training needs, and result in radical performance gain and measurable impact on the business.

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