



EMOJIS, ATTENTION CLIMATE

With Etienne Turpin

4 October 2024

- 14:13:42 From Kirsten Scheid to Everyone (from Beirut):
Sorry, gonna keep my video off so I can keep up with the audio.
- 14:14:35 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
Understood! (We like cameras on — but folks in *war zones* get a special dispensation.... 😊)
- 14:14:37 From David Landes to Everyone:
Replying to "Sorry, gonna keep my..."
Hi Kirsten! Hope you're ok out there!
- 14:16:16 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
<https://www.schoolofattention.org/>
- 14:20:18 From Kirsten Scheid to Everyone:
What is the name for the IG account?
- 14:20:51 From Kirsten Scheid to Everyone:
never mind, found it
- 14:21:33 From David Landes to Everyone:
<https://www.instagram.com/schoolofattention/>
- 14:23:23 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:
Also Teen Vogue! <https://www.teenvogue.com/story/college-students-not-reading>
- 14:23:32 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:
Reacted to "Also Teen Vogue! htt..." with ❤️
- 14:23:34 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2024/10/07/social-media-mental-health-suicide-crisis-teens>
- 14:26:22 From Isabel Palacios-Macedo to Everyone:
https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1z598C64pxH8Oego-r8ZXrG_wIToTFJ0k

(OPENING EXERCISE: EMOJI TRANSLATION)

- 14:27:39 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:
🔔
- 14:29:38 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
Another 30 secs!
- 14:31:56 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:
It reminded me of this music video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qmlJveN9IkI>
- 14:31:57 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:
Put any responses in the chat!

14:32:05 From Jac Mullen to Everyone:
exactitude in science map

!!
CORRECT!

14:32:15 From Nabil Kashyap to Everyone:

I was stuck on Borges' map of the world

14:32:16 From Ann-Sophie Springer to Everyone:

there is something re the map not being the territory

14:32:16 From Jac Mullen to Everyone:

the one where the map is the same size as the world

14:32:47 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:



14:33:08 From Jac Mullen to Everyone:

The SUPER interesting thing here is the relationship between mnemonics and glottic writing systems, no?

14:39:24 From Isabel Palacios-Macedo to Everyone:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-T4s7xRbpss>

FIRST BREAKOUT – ON MOST-USED EMOJIS & THEIR EMOTIONAL VALENCE

14:52:14 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

My top emoji: 🍌

...which I take to be a reflection of all the well wishes I've been receiving over the past few days (I had a birthday recently). A pretty good emoji to represent my human experience!

14:52:25 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:

Reacted to "My top emoji": 🍌

...w..." with ❤️

14:52:32 From Ana Marques to Everyone:

Reacted to "My top emoji": 🍌

...w..." with ❤️

14:52:46 From Holmes, Brooke to Everyone:

Reacted to "My top emoji": 🍌

...w..." with 🎉

14:52:50 From Julian Chehirian to Everyone:

Kristen and Kyle and I all seem to reach for watery, tearful emojis.. and we discussed the relationship between emojis and melodrama... Kristen mentioned emojis as overflow containers for emotion. Towards the end we questioned whether there is a sort of honesty and safety in the emoji, as against the initial hysterical/histrionic thesis! 🤔🤔🤔🤔

14:53:03 From Kirsten Scheid to Everyone:

Our top emojis are 🍌, ❤️ and the thumbs up

14:53:21 From Kyle Winston-Lindeboom to Everyone:

The most used emojis in our group involved either sweat or tears! 💦

14:53:30 From Ana Marques to Everyone:

red heart ❤️ is the winner

the sparkle ✨ is also a champ

14:53:33 From Kirsten Scheid to Everyone:

Jacob distinguished two functions of emojis: metacommunication that can modulate words, or as commentary in place of words

14:53:36 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:

My top emoji: 🤔

A way of communicating empathy towards others without words

14:53:44 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

Reacted to "Kristen and Kyle and..." with ❤️

14:54:33 From Akua Banful to Everyone:

Michael and Jac are not big emoji users. Their states of mind/ communication are tranquility and a sense of efficiency of Jac. My top emoji is 🤔, I'm usually laughing at/ amused by something, so pretty representative

14:54:42 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:

But our group communicated a bit about the blue heart, because Ann-Sophie is in Greece and is immersed in a beautiful blue environment

14:55:37 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:

Reacted to "Kristen and Kyle and..." with ❤️

14:56:15 From Ann-Sophie Springer to Everyone:

yes, I also use them to signal, emphasize empathetically to the person I "speak" to - but, yes, at this moment I have been sharing the blue 💙 as an "extensive" sign if being immersed in a blue environment of sky and sea all day long...

14:57:11 From Ann-Sophie Springer to Everyone:

we also had one person in our group who doesn't have any phone!! 📱📱📱📱

14:58:13 From Ana Marques to Everyone:

this got me thinking about what would be ATTENTION EMOJIS

i've been using 💙 a lot

14:58:27 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

Replying to "this got me thinking..."

Just u wait...

14:58:35 From Kristen to Everyone:

Reacted to "this got me thinking..." with ❤️

15:00:12 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

Some ATTENTION ACTIVISM vocabulary here:

<https://www.schoolofattention.org/attention-activism>

BREAKOUT TWO – WHAT EMOJIS SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE UNICODE DECK TO DEAL WITH HUMAN FRACKING?

15:10:13 From Ana Marques to Everyone:

attention emojis:

- attention in the body: a lit up human body
- joint attention: a circle of people, bond
- agency over creating our worlds:
- generosity: the presence behind the eyes

* the result of producing an emoji about climate anxiety vs the process of discussing that kind of emoji

* how come there's no hammock emoji or surveillance camera emoji!!!

15:10:30 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

(1/2) Peter: We spend so much of our time at the School complicating people's understanding of "attention". We push back against the "time-on-task" definition of attention for a richer, more complex sense of attention (and, by extension, our human experience.) So this is a *perfectly* impossible task.

Avik: Adding to the library of emojis does increase the number of available choices, which may be seen as a drag on our attentional faculties. But some emoji's really stick, and people get them.

Isabel: The best emojis have multiple meanings!

15:10:41 From Ann-Sophie Springer to Everyone:

Reacted to "attention emojis:

-..." with ❤️

15:10:42 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

(2/2) David: In the hurricane, there was a need to differentiate between forwarded messages, emergencies, etc. We needed a tag to denote what kind of message this was before someone read it. It teaches us HOW TO READ THE MESSAGE. A message to be forwarded? To be pinned? To be acted upon? This advances attention activism by instructing us how to attend to a message.

Peter: This emoji instructs HOW to read the message.

David: Announcement, cooperation, question...

Avik: Emojis reflect one's experience. One part of attention activism that links to crisis management is the experience of the melted brain. Protecting one's attention with swords crossed in front of the brain?

15:11:42 From Christopher Mole to Everyone:

Attention as brain: But we should represent whole body.

Person staring at phone: the distorted face between phone and face.

A positive depiction of the scope of attention: a big empty circle!

Good attention hard to depict -- too protean, too expansive.

Cyclone emoji -- interpreted as spiralling out, rather than in.

15:11:57 From Christopher Mole to Everyone:

Reacted to "Attention as brain: ..." with 🌀

15:12:07 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:

^^^^

15:12:26 From Ann-Sophie Springer to Everyone:

Reacted to "Attention as brain: ..." with ❤️

15:12:30 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:

Reacted to "Attention as brain: ..." with ❤️

15:12:40 From Akua Banful to Everyone:

We combined a few emojis as a way to get at a sense of attention that's linked to awareness and focus: 👁️ + ✨ (attention/ awareness)

💡 + 🧠 (thinking cap)

📱 / 🖱️ / 🖨️

🏠 + 🧘 (deep/transcendental focus)

15:12:42 From Kyle Winston-Lindeboom to Everyone:

Julian suggested a gestural, subject outside the ecology of the device which deflects inward spiral of the metalanguage

such as the eye which makes you feel yourself IRL

Kristen picturing spotlight on stage -- but what would the object be? Maybe the Diamond as ab "emptiness", something that reflects/deflects

Kyle thinking of the rabbit-hole-phone-gaze that people experience when they're being fracked

Julian describes as a tunnel, gazing upward, stuck in pit

It's an eye that enters into space that you need to get out of

Kristen things diamond eyes emoji is intentional attention.

Screen glow face as .. fracking?

15:12:58 From Ann-Sophie Springer to Everyone:

Reacted to "Attention as brain: ..." with 🤔

15:13:14 From Nabil Kashyap to Everyone:

Reacted to "Attention as brain: ..." with 🌀

15:13:53 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

Reacted to "We combined a few em..." with 👍

15:14:10 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:

🌀 The cyclone worked as a representation of narrowed attention (spiraling in) that doomscrolling can give us, but then we thought of the counter example of the spiraling out, which is sanctuary/attention practices that expand your attention by recognizing the environment as well

15:14:34 From Julian Chehrian to Everyone:

Reacted to "🌀 The cyclone worke..." with ❤️

15:14:50 From David Landes to Everyone:

emojis that express interactions rather than words... to do work what words can't

15:16:11 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

Closest to an empty cup is a whiskey glass...

15:16:20 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:



POSTSCRIPT – SENT BY JAC MULLEN AFTER THE EVENT:

