



Computer Science Department
Second Semester 2017/2018

Comp332 – Human Computer Interaction.

Instructor: Mamoun Nawahdah

Assignment#1
Understandable and Confusing Design

Name: Maryam Shaheen

ID#: 1140427

Take a photo of **two designs** you think are **understandable** and another **two** that you think are **confusing**.

- What do you think makes the designs understandable or confusing?
- For each, determine the following: affordance, signifier, mapping (if any), and feedback (if any).

Confusing design #1



I found this sign in the Palestinian museum, in BZU and it was very confusing, what does that mean?

1- In my opinion this sign for someone who has no background about signs, It's not affording me anything...

2- It's obvious that there's no mapping in the sign (No Text)

3- the user can't give any feedback!

4- it's not signified: the main thing that forced me to think about this sign for this assignment is because it stuck in my head since one year ago, but I still remember that it was confusing for me, so I made a Poll in the students group to see what they think about it, and the responses were as following:

- Is crowding allowed in the outside museum space?
- Have adults to be with kids? And the arrows are for more attention?
- Or maybe, visitors have to stay in a group not separated since there are group tours in the museum??
- is entry limited?
- is it only for families?

It's really **confusing**...

After "Search by Image" in Google the results were shocking!



Confusing design #2

Bus bell to stop the driver! Which one is the bell button?



Most likely it's broken so the user can't notice the red color



- 1- It's **affording** the user, but after trying the four buttons and wasting time
- 2- It's obvious that **there is a confusing mapping** in the left and right buttons (they're for the lightning) but they look like speakers, so maybe they're for bell voice?
- 3- **The user can't give any feedback!**
- 4- **It's not signified** for first time user and fresh students.

Confusing design#3

Hand-break under the steering wheel!



1- It's **affording**, but the user may get confused and change the gear instead of pulling the hand-break.

2- It's obvious that **there is mapping** (Text) but the user still don't know to which side shall he turn it?

3- **The user can't give any feedback!**

4- **It's not signified** for first time user, and for me every time :')

Understandable design #1

Danger!, Electricity!



- 1- It's **affording** the user to be safe and staying away from danger
- 2- There is **mapping** (electricity symbol)
- 3- The user can't give **any feedback**, and I think it's not needed.
- 4- It's **signified**

Understandable design #2



- 1- It's **affording** the user that there's Special Needs parking to the left.
- 2- There is **mapping** (Special Need symbol, arrow symbol)
- 3- The user can't give **any feedback**, and I think it's not needed.
- 4- It's **signified**