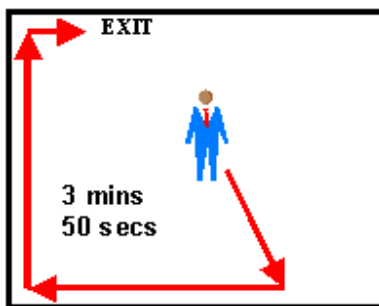


Initial Trials – TV Studio



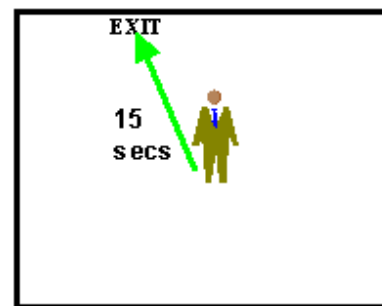
The first series of tests took place in a relatively large television studio situated in the confines of the campus of Leeds University. The studio was filled with artificial smoke and subjects were placed in the studio and filmed with a thermal imaging camera. Relying, primarily, on their memory of the immediate environment and on touch, it was found that subjects would take as long as 3 minutes and 50 seconds to find a conventional emergency exit sign. In contrast, when rapid bursts of broadband noise were played through an evacuation beacon immediately adjacent to the exit (which in this case was acting as a perimeter marker), subjects traversed the wide open space taking 15 seconds to find the way out.

Without Sound



Tentative movement - no confidence in direction

With Sound



Rapid movement - confident of direction

