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Mental Imagery in Boxing









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Outline



Sr No.	Sub-Topic		
1	What is Mental Imagery?		
2	Types of Mental Imagery		
3	How Imagery works?		
4	Imagery: to help current situation?		
5	Uses of Imagery		
6	Practical session		
7	When to use Imagery?		
8	Creating your own Imagery script		
9	Summary & tips		







"What the mind of man can conceive and believe, it can achieve" – Napoleon Hill







What is Mental Imagery?







- "Cognitive rehearsal of a task in the absence of overt physical movement". (Driskell, Copper & Moran, 1994)
- In simpler words, everything that we *visualize is a* form of mental imagery.
- It involves you imagining yourself in an environment performing a specific activity using all of your senses (sight, hear, feel and smell).

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Have you heard of Imagery?











Types of Imagery



Internal

Visualizing the implementation of a skill from your point of view, you are imagining your own actions, seeing and feeling from within.

External

Seeing yourself from the point of view of a third person. For instance, watching yourself in action in a movie.







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The Psychoneuromuscular Theory: Practise imagery \rightarrow brain imagines movements \rightarrow firings from brain are recorded on a mental blueprint \rightarrow easier to perform movements in future. (Carpenter, 1894; Jacobson, 1931)







Why is it important to practice Imagery?

Different purposes depending on need of athlete



5 hours of practice & 1 hour of visualization











10



¹¹ Imagery: To Help Current Situation?













Uses of Imagery





Motivation Enhancement

Recalling images of their goals, or of success in past competition or beating a competitor in a competition, their training routines.







Try it with me...











Rehearsal of skills



- Practice and acquire skills
- Practice skills to polish them or detect areas of improvement and visualise correcting them









Relaxation

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- Imagining yourself in a calm, relaxed state
- Imagining peaceful/ calming environments









Control Emotional Responses

 Given the uncertainty, feeling anxious, low, negative is very common and imagery helps to reduce these negative experiences.



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Try it with me...













Injury rehabilitation

- Pain management
- Visualize yourself getting injured and then imagine yourself healing successfully











Build Confidence

- Feel confident before a fight
- During a fight
- Pre-competition anxiety / nervousness







Try it with me...









During a fight

When to

use

Imagery?

Before practice

Before a fight



Creating your own Imagery Script

Step 1: Match desired outcome with function of imagery

Step 2: Create your imagery script

Step 3: Record your script

Step 4: Begin your imagery training program

Step 5: Evaluate your program





Step 1: Match desired outcome with function of imagery









Step 2: Create your imagery script









Step 3: Record your script









Step 4: Begin your imagery training program









Step 5: Evaluate your program







Date

What time did you practice your imagery script?

Where were you when you practiced your imagery script?

	Not at all	Somewhat	Very well
Rate how well you saw yourself in the situations	1	2	3
Rate how well you heard yourself in the situations	1	2	3
Rate how you well you 'felt' making the movements	1	2	3







Summary & Quick Tips

1. Visualize the outcome you desire

2. Use all your senses



3. Practice frequently

4. Focus on quality... not quantity



5. Takes time and effort to learn



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Thank you!

Questions?









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