E-Stories

Digital Storytelling in Supporting Immigrant University Students Language and Technology Use Skills

Higher Education
ERASMUS+

KA220-HED -
Cooperation partnerships in higher education

Reference Number:
2023-1-TR01-KA220-HED-000167303
Duration:
31.12.2023 to 30.12.2026 (36 months)

WP3

Introduction to Digital Storytelling

For teachers

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Introduction to Digital Storytelling

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Introduction to Digital Storytelling

1. Introduction

From the beginning of human history, people have relied on storytelling to convey information. It has been crucial in shaping communities and preserving their cultural and intangible traditions. Even in modern times, traditional storytelling approaches are widely applied in fields such as cinema, television, and gaming. Furthermore, storytelling strategies are frequently utilized in marketing and political messaging to inspire emotional responses in audiences.



“Referred to largely as digital storytelling (DST), it stands for the process of telling one´s stories or providing accounts of nonpersonal events in a variety of ways (audio-, video-, image-, and text-based or a combination of two or more of these modes) to enhance the message.” (Nami, 2020, p. 65)

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2. The method of Digital Storytelling

- Working with stories to convey certain content and messages (Schach, 2017),
- Stories and images create emotions and emotions lead to change (Etzold, 2017),
- Learning processes are effective because they combine personal topics with diverse skills,
- development of skills like creativity, reflection, social, language, culture, and digital,
- method is used in different educational fields .

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3. Overview of the technique

There are different techniques of Digital Storytelling:

- Joe Lambert's Seven Steps of Digital Storytelling
- Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey
- Pixar Storytelling



Introduction to Digital Storytelling

3. Overview of the technique

Joe Lambert's Seven Steps of Digital Storytelling (Lambert, 2013)

- Focus on: The process of digital storytelling
- Role of the person involved: Creates a character or sometimes the storytellers involve themselves
- Feedback mechanisms: Yes
- Educational Focus: Stronger focus in literature studies
- International use: Often used in international contexts
- Integration in real-life settings: Books, screenplay



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3. Overview of the technique

Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey (Williams, 2019)

- Focus on: The hero as the main character
- Role of the person involved: The storyteller is usually/often the hero
- Feedback mechanisms: Sometimes
- Educational Focus: Possible
- International use: Often used in international contexts
- Integration in real-life settings: Movies, psychology, books



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3. Overview of the technique

Pixar Storytelling (Koo & Hellerman, 2023)

- Focus on: The main character
- Role of the person involved: Creates a character or the storyteller involves themselves
- Feedback mechanisms: Yes
- Educational Focus: Yes
- International use: Often used in international contexts
- Integration in real-life settings: Movies, life journey



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4. Importance in foreign language teaching and learning

According to Nair & Yunus, 2021 **Digital Storytelling**

- empowers students to speak with greater confidence
- improves verbal proficiency through creative expression of thoughts and ideas
- captures students' attention and motivation, making learning more meaningful
- encourages students to take an active role in their education
- enhances communication skills, which are essential for effective speaking
- allows students to convey emotions and personal experiences, which can lead to more fluent and expressive speaking



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4. Importance in foreign language teaching and learning

Implementation into the classroom (Nair & Yunus, 2021)

- integrate Digital Storytelling into the Curriculum as a regular part of their teaching methodology
- needs a duration of 8-14 weeks to develop their stories thoroughly and develop their skills effectively
- teachers should encourage students to personalize their stories and express their emotions, so students are more invested in their narratives
- teachers should use various digital tools and platforms to facilitate the creation and sharing of digital stories
- educators should foster a supportive atmosphere where students feel comfortable sharing their stories
- students could also work collaboratively



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5. Summary

- In summary, digital storytelling offers a more dynamic, engaging, and relevant approach to improving students' speaking abilities compared to traditional teaching methods.
- It fosters creativity, collaboration, and emotional expression, all of which contribute to more effective speaking practice.
- Digital storytelling is a valuable educational tool that significantly contributes to the improvement of speaking skills among students across various educational levels.
- Educators can effectively utilize digital storytelling to improve their students' speaking skills and create a more engaging and interactive learning experience.



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Co-funded by the European Union

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