

ANIMOTO / AUDACITY-BASED TASKS

Creating a novel-based 'movie trailer'

TARGET GROUP

Age 15-18
Level B1 +

CONTEXT

(Ex: in class, online etc.)

Classroom, blended learning environment

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Summarizing a novel/book/story in a creative manner
- Revision of main points of a novel
- Highlighting most important points/characters etc.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

[Animoto](#) (and/or [Audacity](#) or some other voice recording tools; but students can use also captions).

Students need to have access to a computer and the internet (in school or at home).

CONTENT

At the end of the school year when you are reviewing for finals or mid-terms (depending on your school's academic calendar) have the students make a brief Animoto video that they can use to:

- a. Reflect on what the novel was about
- b. Pick out the important elements of a chapter or a novel
 - i. Main Points
 - ii. Characters
 - iii. Themes
 - iv. Symbols
 - v. Setting

Animoto utilizes "MTV Style" editing to show brief clips of a specific subject or theme set to music. This is perfect for gleaning the main elements of a novel or chapter you just read in class.

You can divide the class in more groups and assign them different chapters of a book.

- c. Tell them that their audience will be the next year's incoming pupils and they have to convince them that this novel will be an amazing read! Just like film directors would do with a summer blockbuster.

If you have time, you can have your students take photographs for the trailer, where they themselves play the main roles in the trailer(s). This can be made into a class project where the videos are shared with the world via YouTube or embedded into a class website (but keep privacy issues in mind). This will add authenticity to the task.

ASSESSMENT

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS' WORK

Students can evaluate other students' work by rating them with e.g. stars or according to a set of criteria such as: relevance (whether the group has indeed highlighted the most important events, characters), suspense (how interesting the clip has been), the choice of photographs, visual material and its synchronization with the verbal component. If you do the same task with two or more classes, you can have another class rate and evaluate their work.

TEACHER SELF-EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITY

ADDED VALUE

(Increase in value created by the use of the ICT tool)

- Created videos can be saved and stored for future use and shared outside of the classroom (with parents, other teachers, friends, future students, the Internet at large, etc.). Using an authentic audience adds authenticity to the task itself, which is generally motivating for students.
- The task encourages pupils to connect the visual with the verbal in attempt to retell (a part of) a story.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES

Less practical if there are too many students in class, some parts can be assigned for homework. Students who do not have regular access to the internet or who are less technologically savvy might need additional help, which can be taken into account when they are divided into groups.

Example adapted from Andrew Marcinek

Source: [Hello Animoto](#)