

Learning Activity: Guess the Word

Learning Activity Goal: Create a photostory similar to the two examples given that visually explores the many meanings of a single word (and its related variants, if appropriate).

Examples from Class:

- <http://youtu.be/j0HfwkArpvU>
- <http://photopeach.com/album/127bok8>

Instructions:

1. Select a word that has the potential to be “read” many different ways.
2. Using one of the following tools (or a similar one), create a picture-based exploration of your word.
 - a. Photopeach: <http://photopeach.com/>
 - b. Animoto: <http://animoto.com/>
 - c. Windows Photostory or iMovie
3. First, investigate the ways your chosen word is used:
 - a. Start with a Google images search on the word to see what shows up.
 - b. Next, search again combining the word into common phrases. For example, if you were searching for the word hot, you could also try “too hot”; “hot dog”; and so on.
 - c. Finally, do the regular Google search and see how the word is used in different texts.
4. Find appropriate pictures. Please use pictures that are licensed to share. Here is a good list of resources: <http://50ways.wikispaces.com/StoryMedia>
5. Use between 10 to 15 photos/pictures/illustrations to
 - a. Define the word
 - b. Expand the meaning of the word
 - c. Show the versatility of the word
 - d. Demonstrate perspectives and interpretations of the word
6. Title slide: “Guess the Word by Your Name”
7. Assemble the pictures in an interesting order; for example, you might start with abstract meanings and lead up to concrete. If you have pictures that display the actual word, save them to the end
8. Final slide: **include the word at the end of the show**. You may use music without words or with very few words (don’t give away your concept through the music).
9. In roughly 300-500 words, write a reflection describing your choices for the photostory.
10. Submit a link or downloaded version of the photostory to this assignment link. Include your reflection in the Comments section, too. Later, you will share this project on your Visual Literacy Portfolio.

Here is an example that we made in about 3 minutes. While it is not perfect, it demonstrates the versatility of pictures and did take some thought concerning arrangement.

<http://photopeach.com/album/127bok8#>

You can also find more examples from last year's class on their VL Portfolios:

<http://ett531visualliteracy.weebly.com/visual-portfolios.html> (scroll down underneath our current class).

Learning Activity Grading Criteria: Most Learning Activities have the same grading criteria with levels at proficient, competent, and novice. The rubrics are embedded in the Blackboard grading system, so make sure to click on "rubric" when reviewing your grades.

Proficient

- The project is a stellar example of the related course concepts, clearly demonstrating the concepts through thoughtful arrangement and planning. The project could serve as an exemplar for the learning objective.
- The reflection is at least 300 words, elegantly styled, and adds insight to the issues provided in the activity description and related topics.
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Competent

- The project demonstrates critical thinking, thoughtful display of related course concepts, and achieves the learning objective.
- The reflection is at least 300 words, well-written, and explores the issues provided in the activity description.
- The project is free of punctuation, grammar, spelling, and usage errors. The project is correctly uploaded/submitted.

Novice

- The project demonstrates some understanding of the related course concepts, although one or more ideas might not be clearly demonstrated. The project achieves the learning objective.
- The reflection is at least 300 words, written in a style appropriate for a graduate-level course, and begins exploring the issues provided in the activity description.
- Although a few errors in punctuation, grammar, spelling, usage, or submission appear, they do not detract from clarity of the project or the reflection.