

Digital Storytelling and Multimedia Tools for Teaching Language and Literature

OPEN ACCESS

Volume: 12

Special Issue: 1

Month: December

Year: 2023

P-ISSN: 2320-2645

E-ISSN: 2582-3531

Received: 27.10.2023

Accepted: 05.12.2023

Published: 14.12.2023

Citation:

Victoria Alan, S.

“Digital Storytelling and Multimedia Tools for Teaching Language and Literature.” *Shanlax International Journal of English*, vol. 12, no. S1, 2023, pp. 110–14.

DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.34293/rtdh.v12iS1-Dec.49>

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Abstract

This study explains how digital stories are used in teaching language and literature. This paper shows how the art of storytelling can be effectively used with growing digital technology. There is a tremendous shift from print to digital media in the 21st century. The traditional oral storytelling method has changed to visual digital media stories with video, audio, and 3D objects, this helps the readers to interact with stories currently. Digital storytelling is the result of combining different media elements into a coherent story. The digital story presentation is short but it is attractive. They stimulate the senses and imagination and are suitable for different learning styles. Nowadays our student curriculum is different, they have distance education, online education, and direct education. Because of this, we have to blend our classroom education with computers and new technologies. Teachers and professors use computers, scanners, printers, cameras, and the Internet in classrooms. Teachers use effective technology to increase student learning and understanding. In the olden days, people tell stories to children at bedtime, nowadays computers are creating multiple stories, and humans need not want to break their heads to tell stories. Everything is digital now, so it is much easier to create stories for our written literature and second language teaching. The students are very interested in seeing visual stories for their lessons.

Digital storytelling uses multimedia tools to bring narratives to life. Digital stories are versatile and can cover a wide range of topics. Such as explaining a concept, reflecting on a personal experience, retelling a historical event, or making an argument. Digital stories are typically videos that combine audio, images, and video clips to tell a story. Even though we recommend that digital stories be three minutes long, but lot of work goes into making one. First, you will need to brainstorm what you want your digital story to be about. Once you have determined the purpose of your digital story, the next step is to create a script and storyboard. When you write a script you will need to decide what you want your digital story to accomplish. The script and storyboard will lay out exactly how the digital story will unfold. The next step is to create a video depending on your script and storyboard you may need to record your voiceover, gather or create images or video clips, and choose music and sound effects. Finally put all the elements together and enjoy the new product.

Creating a digital story is an engaging way to share information that requires creativity, self-direction, and experimentation with new

technologies. Patrick Rothfuss says “The story makes you what you are. We build ourselves out of that story” (73). Digital stories can also be narration on podcasts, text on a website, blog, or social media platform. Yes, even tweeting can be a digital storytelling that allows us to better connect with the content we create. Designing and communicating information requires us to deepen our understanding of the content. While increasing visual sound, oral language creativity, thinking skills, and making meaningful communication for both the author and the viewers. Digital storytelling is a process that puts you in the driver’s seat allowing you to create a story that is interesting to you. This can help to expand your creative muscles in new ways. You get experience with writing, creating projects, critical thinking, and decision-making. Digital storytelling needs software, a website, and an application.

Digital storytelling is a teaching method for the students. They can study the second language in a playful method. The pictures, audio and color used in storytelling will help the students to understand the text in a better way. Digital storytelling helps language learners to learn vocabulary and grammar effectively. Many students who have been exposed to storytelling build new vocabulary, use more complex sentences, and improve comprehension.

Nowadays many technologies are used in classrooms. We can convert the English language materials to digital stories. Teachers should be given practice to use this technology in the classroom. This digital storytelling technology has great pedagogical potential for learners.

Teachers while using this technology come across many challenges. For example, they are not familiar with modern technology. The use of DST in language classrooms provides plenty of benefits, including innovative teaching techniques in comparison with traditional methods and individual learning. Introducing DST in language classrooms can help the learners learn all four language skills and they can also learn digital literacy. In the olden days, students feared writing because they thought they would make mistakes and lack writing skills. Students are nowadays interested in seeing YouTube videos by using digital stories we can encourage them to pursue topics that they are passionate about. Students not only benefit from information through digital stories but also can make their own digital stories for their projects or teaching purposes. Digital storytelling provides visual literacy, technology literacy, information literacy, and media literacy to the students. As digital stories are created by one person the stories are personal. It was built by the author’s understanding. So many digital stories are written in the first person rather than the third person. Brandson Sanderson says “The purpose of the storyteller is not to tell you how to think but to give you questions to think upon”(112).

Instead of asking students to write long assignments teachers can insist students make digital stories about their history, adventure, or a trip to a new place. Teachers can ask students to use dictionaries and multimedia tools so that they learn new vocabulary and digital apps. Before giving the assignment teach the students how to use the app. Give them an outline story, and encourage them to take risks. If they grammar mistakes don’t try to point them out, concentrate on language mechanics. Give positive feedback to the students. The students usually feel embarrassed to speak in front of the others. If they were given digital stories they would express them creatively and convey meaning with more than just the spoken word. As a language teacher rather than drilling the students in grammar and pronunciation ask them to create digital stories. So that they can think critically and react. These skills are important in language learning.

Let’s see how to create a story with the app, We can create a story with the help of a chatbot. We need not want to strain our brains, we don’t want to imagine either, just with three steps with AI tools we can create a story. We can create a children’s storybook within 5 to 10 minutes with an AI tool. The first step, go to chatgpt and ask chatgpt to create a short storybook that contains chapters. We can see the chatgpt will immediately write a story in seconds with chapters. Now our story is

ready. Step 2 Go to Leonardo AI to generate free images, and select image dimension, after that paste our story on the board so that it can select prompt images. Now images are ready, we have to choose which images are suitable for our story and download the images. Next, go to chatgpt and copy the first chapter. Likewise, we can create and generate a story.

Free digital storytelling websites

- ACMI GENERATOR – It is a creative video space where you can explore the moving image. We can create our moving images and share them. We can also choose a storyboard generator and either choose a script or build your storyboard and share it.
- BUBBLR – It is a tool to create comic strips using photos from Flickr. Just take a sequence of pictures, add bubbles, and create a story.
- COMIC MASTER – It allows you to create your short graphic novel with the comic master. you can decide how you want the page or your graphic novel to look and add backgrounds.
- Capsules – We can create a rich multimedia experience with videos, photos, music blogs, and documents.
- MAKSKIP – This app helps to create stories about the places we visit in our lives. Mark your place in Google Maps and create your own stories.
- MAKE BELIEFS AND COMIX – We can create our comic strip. We can use talk or thought balloons for character communication.
- PICLITS – Creative writing site that matches beautiful images.
- SLIDE STORY – It allows you to combine pictures, and slide shows with voice narration.
- SMILE BOX – It lets you quickly and easily create slide shows with voice narration.
- STORY BIRD – Story Bird lets anyone make visual stories in seconds.
- ZOO BURST – Zoo burst is a digital storytelling tool that lets anyone easily create his or her 3d pop-up books.
- Slide story Story bird
- Animato
- Canva
- Adobe state
- Moviemaker
- Go animate Prezi
- Ani maker class
- Bunce
- Digital lms
- We video

The digital storytelling key features are a point of view, a dramatic question, emotional content, the gift of voice, the power of soundtrack, economy, and pacing. Digital narratives in English literature refer to the use of digital technology to create and deliver narratives. Books that are created and presented through digital is called digital text in literature. Usually, books are printed in paper forms. There are many types of digital literature including hypertext fiction, animated poetry, and literary chatbots. Digital fiction is written for reading from computers or tablets and smartphones. Literature is introduced in the digital age through e-books, digital archives, and electronic literature. Nowadays digital books are better because less costly, convenient, portable, and environmentally friendly. The twenty first century has been described as a digital world. The importance of digital learning was better understood by people during covid – 19 pandemic. The teachers are requested to take classes through conference platforms using the Zoom app, Microsoft Teams, and Google Meetings. So that teachers are well aware of new technologies at present. They

can easily use digital stories for teaching purposes. Robin Moore says “Inside each of us is a natural born storyteller, waiting to be released”(340).

Literature is a written work read by the students. It is written as a poem, novel, or prose piece. Teaching literature is not easy. Teaching literature has become more challenging nowadays. Students are increasingly seeking briefer, more visual, social, and dynamic media because these media effortlessly entertain them. Students were used to watching TV at home, and parents have practiced the kids watching TV. They have habits of watching movies in the theatre. They like to hear music. So present education should also mix teaching with visual projectors and showing films to the students.

Let us see how to convert a literature poem into a digital story. When students are creating visual poems, they have to use the author’s diction and tone, they should read the poem line by line. After that, they have to create images for each line. Then students should create music that provokes emotions. Next, they have to use good pronunciation while using dialogues. The most important thing students should not miss is the author’s intensity in writing this poem. Digital storytelling can be used to create book trailers. Instead of asking students to write a book review teachers can ask them to create book trailers. Students while creating book trailers have to use persuasive techniques to provoke the readers to read the book. They should create a book trailer similar to film trailers. They have to show the character’s conflict and their behaviors in the trailer so that readers are motivated to read the book.

This paper has closely examined how digital stories are important for teaching to students. Many substantial apps for making digital stories are shown in this paper. This paper concludes with the statement if we use digital stories for teaching language and literature it will be more effective for learning. Below this article some few stories are given for reference, we have to use this slides to make digital stories.





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