Storyboarding
For Instructional Design

Robert Rector
What is Storyboarding?

• “Storyboards are visual organizers, typically a series of illustrations displayed in sequence for the purpose of pre-visualizing a video, web-based training, or interactive media sequence.”

– http://www.instructionaldesign.org/storyboarding.html
The Story of Storyboarding

• Where did storyboards come from?

• Walt Disney
• 1930s
• By the late 1930s every major film studio was using storyboards
Media that Use Storyboards

- Film
- Television
- Animation
- Fiction
- Business
- Interactive Media
  - Web Development
  - Software Design
  - Instructional Design and Technology
Use for Storyboards for Instructional Design

• “There is no right or wrong way to storyboard; developers and instructional designers use a variety of different templates and methods.”
  – Nicole Legault
  • http://flirtingwelearning.wordpress.com/
# Anatomy of a Storyboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Slide No:</th>
<th>Module:</th>
<th>Topic:</th>
<th>Learning Objective:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Content**

**Notes to the Programmer**

**Audio Script:**

- [http://flirtingwelearning.wordpress.com](http://flirtingwelearning.wordpress.com)
Expressing Personal Opinions

Introduction

Methods of expressing personal opinions vary across cultures.

Certain cultures value collective harmony over individual goals.

Canadian culture values diversity and freedom of speech.

Within the Canadian workplace, individual goals and opinions are valued.

Narrator Script: Methods and opportunities for expressing personal opinions vary across cultures. In certain countries, people do not express their opinions openly because the culture values "collective harmony" over individual goals and beliefs.

In Canada, diversity and freedom of speech is promoted. It is believed that when individuals have personal success, group success will follow. Within the Canadian workplace, individual goals are valued and employees are encouraged to express personal opinions.

Navigation Information:
- BACK: Previous slide (intro animation)
- NEXT: Next slide

Media Information:
- Title slides in from left
- Image and text box fade in
- Introduction text and bullets fade in one at a time
- Narration is synched with corresponding slide text

- http://flirtingwelearning.wordpress.com
Expressing Personal Opinions

Skills
- Positive attitude
- Respect for others
- Responsibility
- Honesty and ethical behaviour
- Stress management
- Report unsafe conditions
- Interview preparation
- Communication skills
- Working with others

Narrator Script: The following skills are associated with the ability to express opinions: demonstrating a positive attitude, showing respect for others, demonstrating responsibility, demonstrating honesty and ethical behaviour, managing stress, reporting potentially unsafe working conditions, preparing for interviews and demonstrating communication skills and the ability to work with others.

Click on one of the skills listed to view a short scenario of how each skill is applicable to the workplace.

- http://flirtingwelearning.wordpress.com
Expressing Personal Opinions

**Skills**
- Positive attitude
- Respect for others
- Responsibility
- Honesty and ethical behavior
- Stress management
- Report unsafe conditions
- Interview preparation
- Communication skills
- Working with others

**Stress management**
As a manager, I want my employees to be able to manage their stress levels. This means that my staff need to approach me and voice their concerns and opinions if they have a workplace issue, such as a need for additional training or a lighter workload.

**Narrator Script**: "Woman's voice"

"As a manager, I want my employees to be able to manage their stress levels. This means that my staff need to approach me and voice their concerns and opinions if they have a workplace issue, such as a need for additional training, or a lighter workload."

- http://flirtingwelearning.wordpress.com
Reasons to use Storyboards

– Helps a Subject Matter Expert (SME) fill in their expert content.
  • The designer can then rearrange the content into an effective sequence
– Can be given to a developer who will use it as a blueprint to develop the final product
– Assists instructional designer in sequencing the instruction
Possible Elements to Include in a Storyboard

• Navigation
  – GUI (Graphical User Interface)
  – Includes the buttons needed to navigate through the program

• Course Contents
  – Must have a frame with a sample of the Table of Contents, outline and map

• Quizzes/Testing

• Audio Scripting

• Learning Objectives

• Module Name
Storyboard Design Guidelines

– Make sure that the media used supports the learning objectives

– Cognitive load theory
  • For interactive media, try to minimize text and images occurring at the same time

– Make sure that quizzes and testing are aligned with learning objectives
  • Ensure that they will provide valid evidence of understanding
Tools to Create Storyboards

• Microsoft Word
  – Widely available and understood software
  – Not easy to rearrange content

• PowerPoint
  – The most popular
    • Widely known and understood
    • Widely available
    • Slide Sorter View makes it easy to rearrange frames
E-Learning Authoring Tools that Benefit from Storyboards

• Lectora Snap
  – A PowerPoint Add-On
  – http://lectora.com/

• Articulate Storyline

• Adobe Captivate
E-Learning Authoring Tools that Benefit from Storyboards

• **Celtx**
  - Screenwriting and storyboarding software
  - Free!
  - [www.celtx.com](http://www.celtx.com)
17. INT. SMALL FLAT - NIGHT

17.1 TWO-SHOT: Cameron is offered a beer...

17.2 CLOSE UP: ...but declines revealing it has an odd effect on him.

17.3 TWO-SHOT: This gets CJ and Stripsey's devious minds working.

17.4 TWO-SHOT: so they grab down some beer...

17.5 TWO-SHOT: ...and breathe it in Cameron's direction...

17.6 TWO-SHOT: ...and score a direct hit! High five!

17.7 TWO-SHOT: Stripsey thinks he has an idea to solve CJ's problem...

17.8 TWO-SHOT: ...but again doesn't know quite what it is.

17.9 TWO-SHOT: Poor Cameron.
Sample Word Storyboard Template

• The following two slides show what a Microsoft Word storyboard template looks like.
  – Courtesy of Connie Malamed
    • http://theelearningcoach.com

• (PowerPoint is recommended over Word, because it is easier to rearrange the sequence of your content.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module and Lesson Name (See example of a storyboard on next page.)</th>
<th>Screen number (unique identifier)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visual description or sketch goes here.</td>
<td>Narration or script goes here.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interactions, branching and programming notes go here.</td>
<td>Misc Notes can go here.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From [http://www.theelearningcoach.com](http://www.theelearningcoach.com) [replace this with your footer info]
How do you feel about giving your cat medicine?

- [ ] I am looking forward to placing a pill down my cat’s throat.
- [ ] I’d rather have a root canal.
- [ ] I plan to hire a cat consultant to do it three times a day.
- [ ] My cat has very long claws. How do you think I feel?

If user clicks 1, go to screen 5.
If user clicks 2 or 4, go to screen 6.
If user clicks 3, go to screen 7.

Narration:
Prior to attempting to administer a pill to a cat, it is important to achieve the correct frame of mind. In order to do this, you must face your true feelings about the experience. Select all the items that express your feelings.

Notes:
Female narrator projecting a soothing voice.
The following slide is a free template that you can use to create your own storyboard.

- Courtesy of Jeffrey Goldman of MinuteBio
  - [http://theelearningcoach.com/](http://theelearningcoach.com/)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project name:</th>
<th>Screen ID:</th>
<th>Screen of</th>
<th>Date:</th>
<th></th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Navigation info</th>
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<th>Media information</th>
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Notes:
PowerPoint Slide Sorter View

- It is easy to rearrange storyboard slides/frames in Slide Sorter View – a major advantage of PowerPoint.
Example of Captivate Project

• Following is an Adobe Captivate e-Learning project that I created.
• Captivate allows you to import PowerPoint slides, like many e-Learning authoring tools.
• I wish that I had known more about storyboarding when I made this.
• (Nerdy, over-the-top narration intended!)
Captivate Project – Robert Rector


• This is my portfolio of Instructional Tech projects.  
  – Go to the Open Office Impress project.

• You don’t have to watch the whole video, but think about how storyboarding makes e-Learning authoring easier. (Again, I wish I had known more!)

• In particular, think about *branching points*, and how storyboarding can help the designer organize them more effectively.
Now it Is Time to Create Our Own Storyboard

• Using the PowerPoint storyboard template in the previous slide, let’s create our own storyboard!
• Download the template [here](#).
  – It is the third one – “Visual Storyboard 2”.
• Think about a learning outcome that you think would be achieved with e-Learning, and create a few storyboard frames!
• Be creative and enjoy!
Thank you for coming to the workshop, and enjoy your storyboarding!!!