

**Lesson Title:** Six Word Video Story

**Grade Level:** 10 - 12

### Description of Lesson

Create a Six Word Story project about you in which your story is told in six video shots. This is inspired by Ernest Hemingway's famous challenge in the 1920's to create a complete story in only six words. No two shots can be alike; in other words, you must use 6 different shots from 6 different angles. Every edit must be from a different distance. The major production objective is learning how to create a video production with many scene changes to capture the audiences' attention.

### Instructional Objectives

- Students will be able to tell a story in only six words.
- Students will create a video incorporating the complete production cycling from pre-production, production, and post-production.
- Students will analyze and explore basic shot composition techniques.
- Students will be able to edit their own video shots to create their final video.

### Suggested Materials, Technology, and Resources.

- Camtasia screen recording software will be utilized to create the video tutorials for students to follow.
- Video cameras will be checked-out to students during the production process for video recording.
- Final Cut Pro X video editing software is what students will use to edit during their post-production.

### Learning Theories and Instruction Design Models

**Constructionism** is the main learning theory in the Six Word Story project. Students will develop and produce videos to understand how to tell a story with video. The process of storytelling will unfold, as students will be learning by making.

**Scaffolding** and the **Zone of Proximal Development** will challenge students throughout the project and build on their past learning experiences. Video tutorials will assist students throughout this individual project.

**Description of Lesson and the Procedures****Launch:**

Begin the lesson by having students view my Six Word Story as a way of modeling by example. Students will then brainstorm to identify nouns and adjectives that describe them.

**Creating a Six Word Story:**

Students will work individually on creating their story. Video tutorials will be available to assist students with:

1. Final Cut Pro interface layout along with the different windows, panels, and icons.
2. Production process of recording video shots and different shot compositions.
3. Post-production process of editing video clips and rendering the final video.

Once students have their 6 six words, they will begin recording their video shots. Students will use proper shot composition techniques to record each of their 6 words. Creativity along with the differentiation between shots is the focus for the production phase.

**Editing:**

The video tutorials will be referred to when students need assistance during the post-production editing. Each word must be easily identified with text overlays, the written word in the shot, or voice narration of each word. Music will be researched and selected through one of the following royalty free music sites:

- Omnimusic for Media (<http://www.omnimusic.com>)
- Incompetch (<http://www.incompetech.com>)
- Soundzabound (<http://www.soundzabound.com>)

Once the video shots, text, and music have been arranged on the timeline, students will export/share their videos for viewing. Exporting/sharing the videos is the final process of editing.

**Video requirements:**

The shot composition of the video must be 6 different video shots from 6 different video angles. Each shot must be no less than 3 seconds and no longer than 6 seconds. Therefore, the total length of your video will be between 0:18 seconds to 0:30 seconds.

**Student Summative Assessment**

Students will export/share their Six Word Story Video for a project grade.

**Differentiation / Accommodations**

This lesson includes several differentiation possibilities for students of varying ability levels and interests.

**Differentiated End Products:**

Students are encouraged to create productions with differing levels of complexity based on their previous experience editing video and knowledge of software. Students who are particularly gifted editors are encouraged to use more advanced editing techniques. Conversely, students who struggle with editing are encouraged to create a more simplistic Six Word Story.

**Key Vocabulary**

Pre-production – the beginning phase of a project. During this initial production phase, the script is broken down into individual scenes and all the locations, props, cast members, costumes, special effects and visual effects are identified. A detailed production schedule is decided upon by the producers and director to begin the production phase.

Production – the active process of capturing and recording video footage.

Post-production – the process of editing video and audio media assets to tell a story. This phase of video/film production generally takes longer than the actual shooting of the film.

Shot Composition – the guidelines in video and film for common types of shots, framing, and picture composition. Shots are usually described in relation to a subject.

**Collaboration**

Students will work individually and collaboratively when needed for assistance and guidance to solve problems.

**Length of Time to Present Lesson**

4 class periods for the Six Word Story Video project (48 Min. per class)

**Post Lesson Reflection**