

SHORT AND SWEET

Using Short Films to Promote
Creativity and Communication

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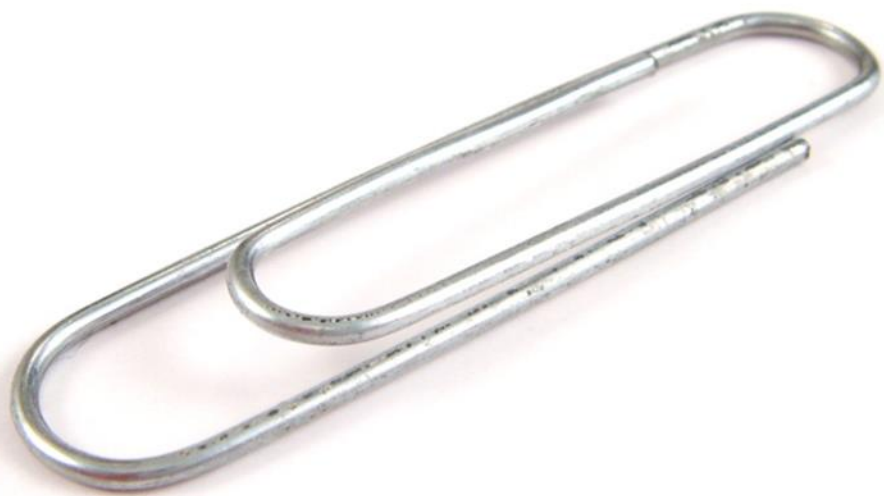
OVERVIEW

- 1.The renaissance of the short film.**
- 2.The benefits of using short films.**
- 3.What creativity is and why it is important.**
- 4.Activities designed around short films.**
- 5.Using short films to get students to create their own narratives.**
- 6.Getting students to create their own short films.**

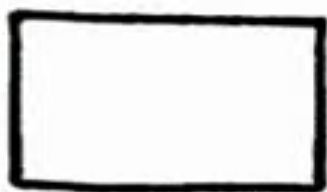
The renaissance of the short film

The benefits of using short films

- 1. View several times**
- 2. Different activity each time**
- 3. Great dramatic impact**
- 4. Students love stories**
- 5. Innovative and creative**
- 6. Prompts for oral & written communication**







**What is being
creative?**

**Is language teaching
a creative profession?**

“Creativity is a key that will open many doors. It can trigger many changes for the better in a vast array of human endeavours. Teaching included. And yet it has always puzzled me that people rarely think of teachers as creative professionals. Architects? Yes. Musicians? Yes. But teachers? You must be joking.”

Chaz Pugliese

“
And yet, creativity, is in my view, any teacher’s bread and butter. We live in a culture that doesn’t encourage us to be creative unless there’s a chance we are going to strike it big with a commercial ‘hit’. Creativity, like so much else in our world, has been co-opted into consumerism and its worth calculated by how much money it generates.”

Chaz Pugliese

“The teaching world is no exception: the big pull is towards standardisation, exams, regimented syllabi, a senseless ‘don’t rock the boat attitude’ - intellectual shortsight that will do nobody a favour. The Victorian art critic John Ruskin, when asked why he was teaching factory workers to draw, said ‘I’m not teaching them to draw, I’m teaching them to see.’”

Chaz Pugliese

“Isn't learning
a language, too,
a way of seeing
anew?”

Chaz Pugliese

The C Group

We offer a provisional description of creativity as: 'thinking and activity in language education that is novel, valuable, and open-ended, and that helps to enrich learning in our students and ourselves'.

THE C GROUP MANIFESTO

- **creativity can greatly enhance the quality of our personal and professional lives**
- **everyone has the potential to be creative in life and at work**
- **all too often this potential is frustrated by institutional pressures**
- **it is possible to change this situation**
- **it will be easier to achieve this by working together than by working separately**

Creativity in the English language classroom

Edited by Alan Maley and Nik Peachey



**What do you do
to be creative?**

have fun stop trying to be someone else's perfect
carry a notebook everywhere

go somewhere new
got an idea? write it down.

LISTEN TO NEW MUSIC

take breaks
count your blessings collaborate
allow yourself to make mistakes

sing in the shower
get away from the computer

take risks get feedback

practice...practice...practice

don't give up

read a page out of the dictionary

get lots of rest

surround yourself with creative people

clean your workspace

break the rules

don't force it

finish something



5 QUIT BEATING YOURSELF UP



A network diagram consisting of several white circular nodes with black centers, connected by thin gray lines. The nodes are arranged in a complex web. One node in the lower-left area is highlighted with a red outline and a red center. The word "COLLABORATE" is written in large, bold, black capital letters in the upper right, with a faint, larger version of the same word visible in the background. The number "13" is partially visible in the bottom right corner.

COLLABORAT

13

DON'T GIVE UP

DON'T GIVE UP

DON'T GIVE UP

DON'T GIVE UP

DON'T GIVE UP

DON'T GIVE UP

DON'T GIVE UP

DON'T GIVE UP

**How are going to be
creative in your
language learning
this year?**

Manifesto

"Nothing is original. Steal from anywhere that resonates with inspiration or fuels your imagination. Devour old films, new films, music, books, paintings, photographs, poems, dreams, random conversations, architecture, bridges, street signs, trees, clouds, bodies of water, light and shadows. Select only things to steal from that speak directly to your soul. If you do this, your work (and theft) will be authentic. Authenticity is invaluable; originality is non-existent. And don't bother concealing your thievery—celebrate it if you feel like it. In any case, always remember what Jean-Luc Godard said: "It's not where you take things from—it's where you take them to."

— Jim Jarmusch

THIS IS YOUR LIFE.
DO WHAT YOU LOVE,
AND DO IT OFTEN.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE SOMETHING, CHANGE IT.

IF YOU DON'T LIKE YOUR JOB, QUIT.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH TIME, STOP WATCHING TV.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE, STOP;

THEY WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU WHEN YOU

START DOING THINGS YOU LOVE.

STOP OVER ANALYZING, ALL EMOTIONS ARE BEAUTIFUL.

WHEN YOU EAT, APPRECIATE

LIFE IS SIMPLE. EVERY LAST BITE.

OPEN YOUR MIND, ARMS, AND HEART TO NEW THINGS

AND PEOPLE, WE ARE UNITED IN OUR DIFFERENCES.

ASK THE NEXT PERSON YOU SEE WHAT THEIR PASSION IS,

AND SHARE YOUR INSPIRING DREAM WITH THEM.

TRAVEL OFTEN; GETTING LOST WILL
HELP YOU FIND YOURSELF.

SOME OPPORTUNITIES ONLY COME ONCE, SEIZE THEM.

LIFE IS ABOUT THE PEOPLE YOU MEET, AND

THE THINGS YOU CREATE WITH THEM

SO GO OUT AND START CREATING.

LIFE IS LIVE YOUR DREAM

AND SHARE

SHORT. YOUR PASSION.

My Own Manifesto

Live and let live. Every single thought deserves respect, even when somebody doesn't see eye to eye with others. Feel utterly proud when giving a hand to someone even though they haven't asked for it. Don't turn a blind eye to someone who needs your help. Problems crop up every day. Don't let them get you down. Don't let them shatter your dreams. Try to solve them on your own. Listen to every single piece of advice you are given. If you have to tell a white lie, don't be afraid. The truth is sometimes cruel. If you feel like showing your love for someone, don't be ashamed. Perhaps this person feels the same. Not only is time golden. Health is golden too. Feeling good is amazing. Money can bring fake friends, the old ones stay forever. Real friendship is priceless. Enjoy yourself without hurting anyone. Have the time of your life as often as you can. Little details can turn something dull into something funny. Count your blessings every day.

You only have one life

Be happy

Try to change all the things that you don't like

Live each moment with intensity, live intensely

Think before speaking

Be coherent between what you think and what you say

Not impose, dialogue

Put love in your life

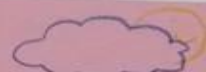
Learn for every mistake, yours or others

**Don't worry about things that haven't solution, take care of
that can be solved**

Help and let yourself be helped

Learn to forgive and begin forgiving yourself

Treat others as you would be treated



Strengthen yourself and you'll avoid obstacles.

Write your thoughts and reflect about them.

Enjoy all the moments in your life as it could be the last day.



Follow your dreams, you can get what you want.



Positive thinking will push you forwards.



You are a creative person, believe it and do the most of it.

Smile and don't get cross.



Be sporty, breathe properly, be conscious about it.

MANIFESTO :

- Make happiness the purpose of your life.
- If you want to give a big present give a smile
- Life is a jump, don't think about it, get it!
- Help people, you will be helping yourself.
- The more you dream, the more you live
- Today is the first day of the rest of your life.
- Think of your first kiss, think in innocence
- Will you be there tomorrow?, Enjoy today
- Search for somebody who makes you happy.
- When there is a will there's a way.



Let it Be

When you wake up in the morning,
you have a new day to discover,
make it easy and be happy.

Enjoy every minute of the day like
the last minute of your life.

Give a kiss to your mother, give a
kiss to your partner, give a kiss to
your friend. Don't you feel happiness?

Feel the energy, share your love....

LIVE YOUR LIFE



- Flush your troubles away!

Do what you like!

Fulfill your dreams

Learn new things everyday

- Kick out your worries



Do help others.

Life is too short to be worried

Express yourself.

Forget your pains

No more drama

Smile, laugh and love  

Forgive

Live everyday as it would be the last day!"

Travel as far as you can.

Meet different cultures

Traveling is the Only Thing That you buy
and makes you richer

Nothing great was achieved without
enthusiasm.

Nothing is impossible.

From the impossible to the possible it's
only you beneath.

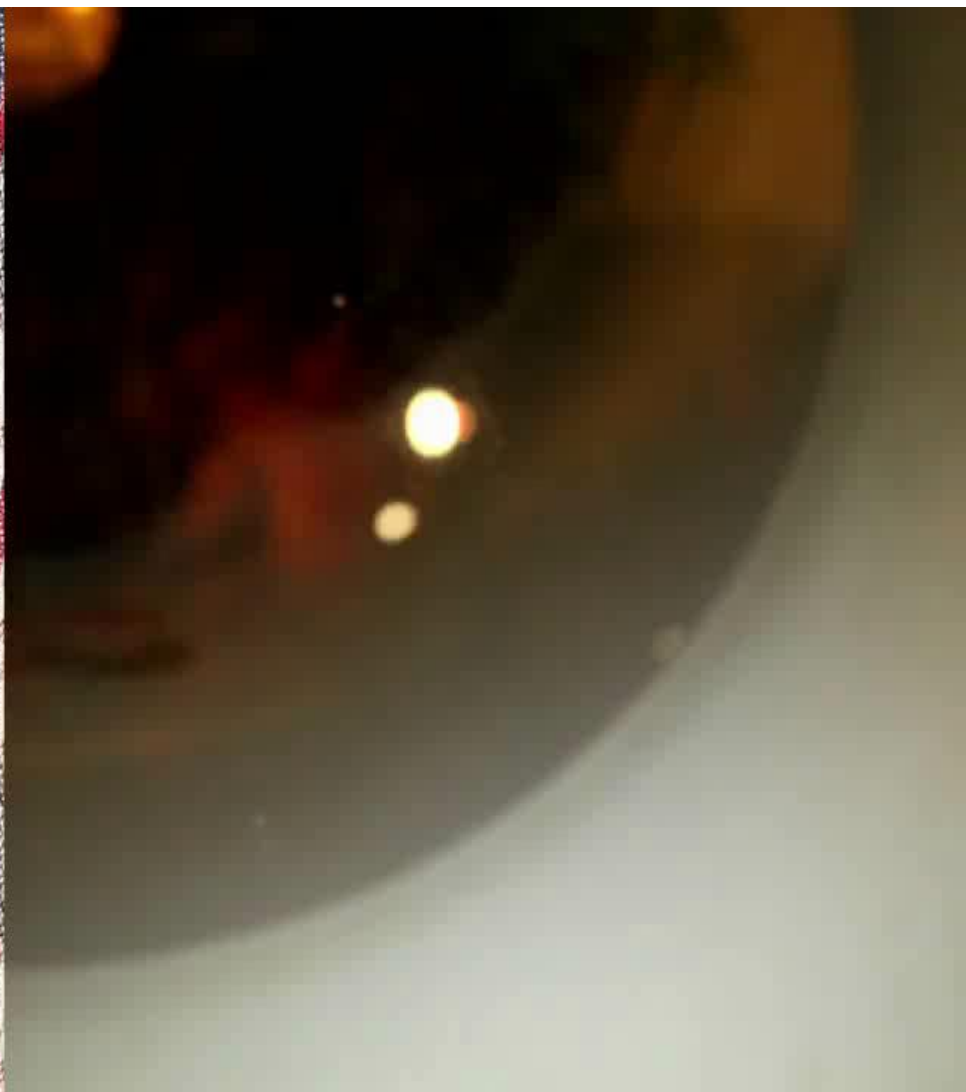




**If you could travel to
11 countries in 44
days, where would
you travel to?**



**What would you eat
and drink in these
countries?**



**What could you learn
in these countries?**

A man with short brown hair, wearing a dark leather jacket, is riding a motorcycle at night. He is smiling and looking down at his hands on the handlebars. The background features a Western-style town with wooden buildings, some with lit windows, under a dark blue night sky. The word "LEARN" is overlaid in large white capital letters.

LEARN

My epic journey

If I could travel to 11 countries in 44 days I would start with France because it's near to Spain and I like France so much. Then I would go to Germany, Switzerland and Finland because these are countries that I haven't seen. After this I would fly to United Kingdom and then I would across the Atlantic Ocean to visit Brasil, Argentina, Costa Rica, Mexico, Cuba, USA and Japan.

If I had the chance I would learn to cook in France, to drink beer as german people and in Finland I would learn to skiing. In brasil I would learn to dance capoeira and I would practise tango in Argentina. In Costa Rica I would learn to do skooba diving. Then I would learn to make tequila in Mexico and cocktails in Cuba. In USA I would learn to live as a gangster and shooting guns. I would go to Japan to learn fight sumo.

In France I would eat a lot of cheese, in Switzerland I would eat chocolate. In Argentina I would taste the best meal in the world. At last in Mexico I would eat their famous nachos with cheese and in Japan I would eat a lot of shushi that I like so much!

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Secrets

- 1.Can you keep a secret?**
- 2.Have you ever revealed someone's secret?**
- 3.Who do you confide your secrets to?**
- 4.Did you keep a secret diary when you were a child?**
- 5.Do you know anyone who is very secretive?**
- 6.What are the most common secrets?**
- 7.Has anyone ever confessed something to you?**
- 8.Do you think men or women are more secretive?**
- 9.Do you think it is wrong for the media to reveal people's secrets?**
- 10.Is it good to have secrets?**

PostSecret



I GOT A PARKING CITATION AND SO DID THE CAR NEXT TO ME.

I REPLACED THE TICKET ON THE CAR NEXT TO ME WITH MINE.

MY TICKET GOT PAID.

AND THE ONE I TOOK?

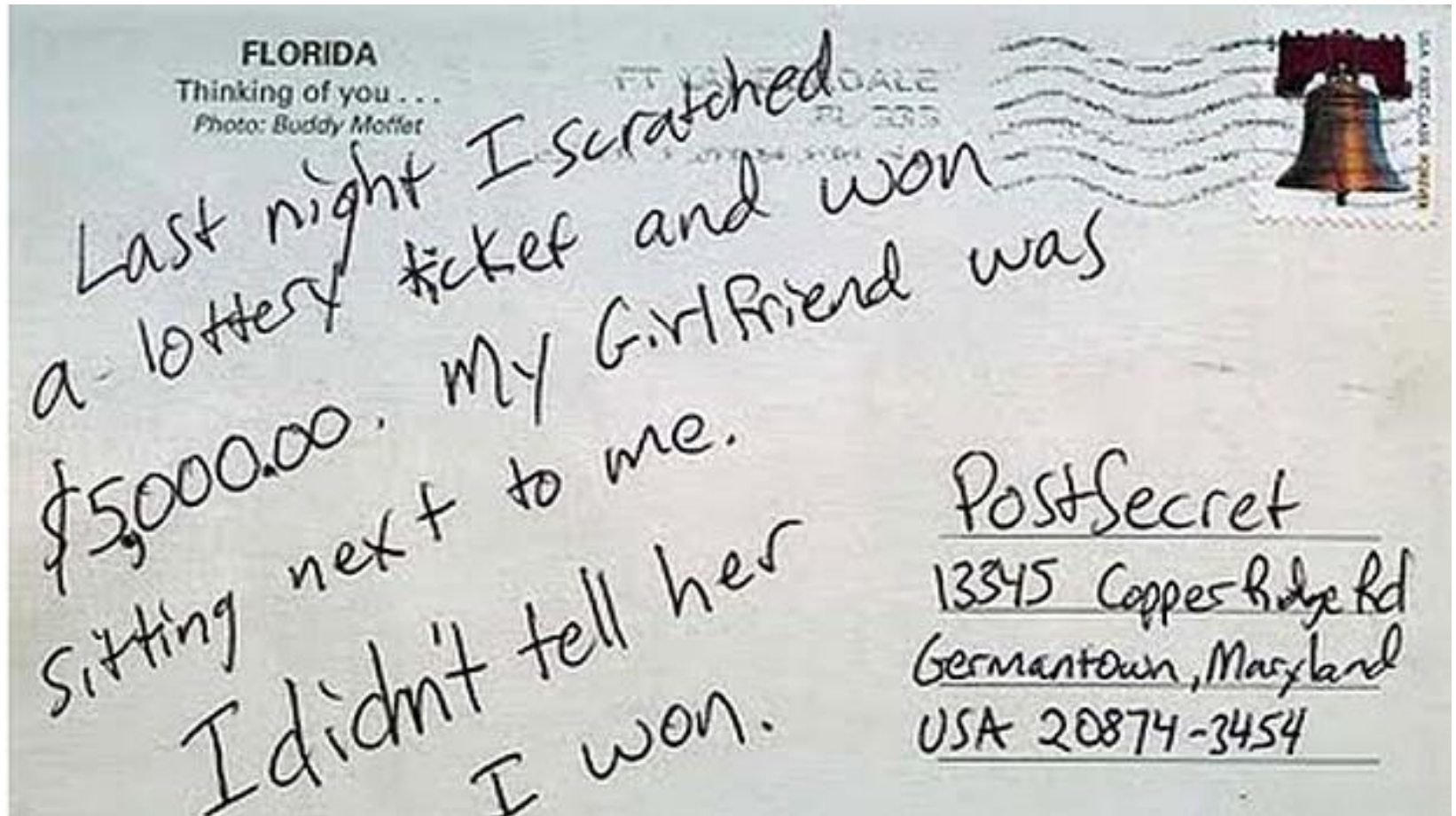
I MAILED IT TO POSTSECRET.

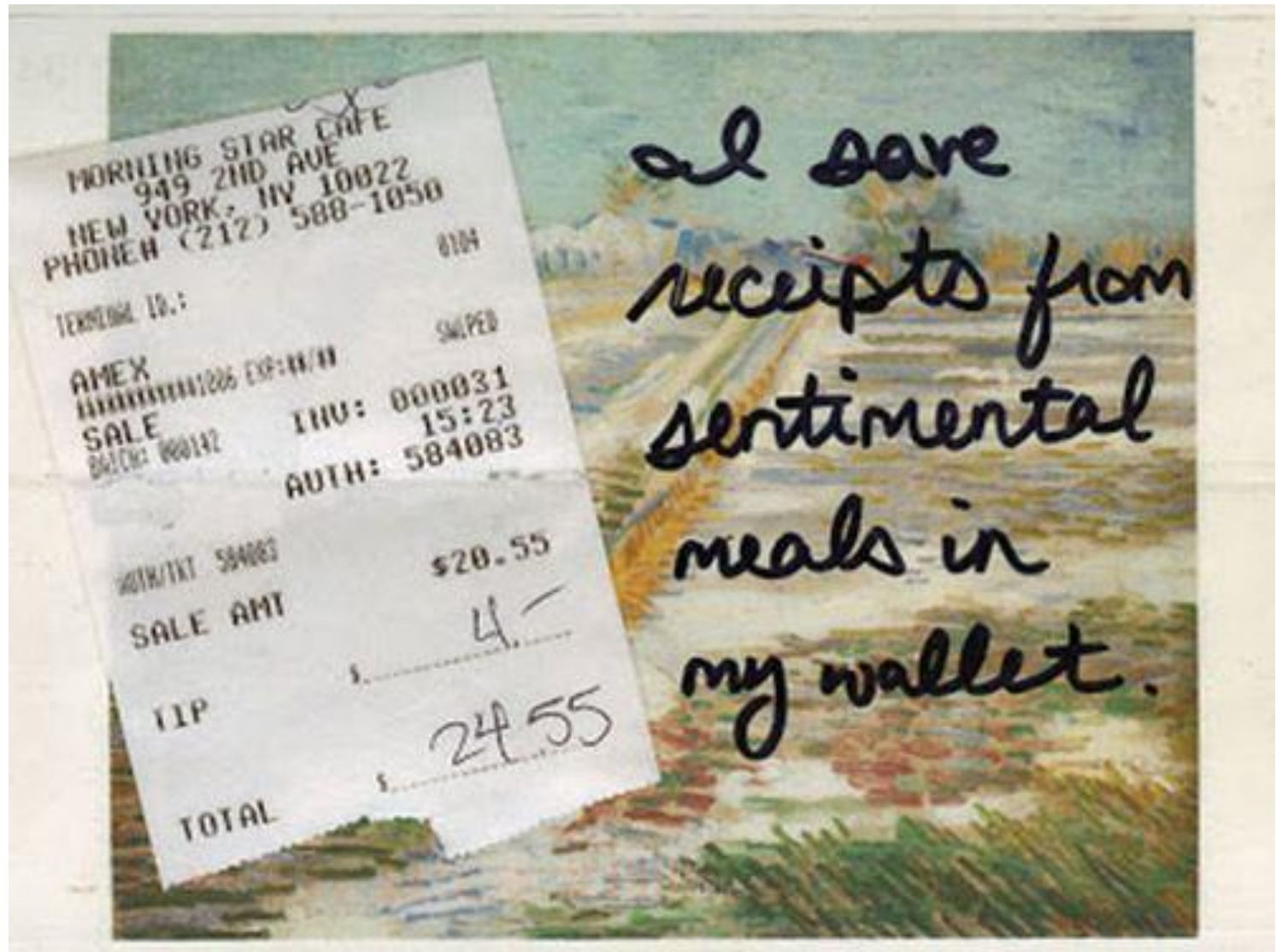




My mom thinks that I do the laundry to be helpful. The real reason I do it willingly is because I like collecting the money of my family members who have forgotten to empty their pockets before they put them in the dirty clothes bin.







Dear college students:
I throw away the papers
you turn in at the end of
the semester without
reading them because the
grammar and unoriginality
depresses me.



**Using short films to get
students to create their
own narratives.**

- **The Adventures of a Cardboard Box**
- **The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr Morris Lessmore**
- **I Forgot My Phone**
- **Inseparable**
- **The Man Who Planted Trees**
- **The Black Button**
- **Post-it Love**

Paperman



**Students write an
alternative ending.**

Mixtape

One character writes a letter to another character.

We've All Been There

Students imagine that they are a character and decide what will happen to him or her in the next ten years. Each student writes a narrative in the first person, describing the next ten years of their character.

**What goes around
comes around.**

The Reader

a bookshop

post-its

alphabet soup

a library

a comic

scrabble

Lost Property

**Getting students to create
their own short films.**

Filmmaking is a positive and creative solution to integrating students' digital life outside the classroom with what can happen inside the classroom and that through collaboration, they can actually create something greater.

**‘We must teach communication
comprehensively in all its forms ...**

**We live and work in a visually
sophisticated world, so we must be
sophisticated in using all the forms
of communication, not just the
written word.’**

George Lucas

‘We need filmmaking in our classrooms, not to graduate filmmakers, but to graduate problem solvers, critical thinkers and passionate people who can work with others to make that which does not yet exist, real.’

Nikos Theodosakis

‘The ability to capture diverse images, text and sounds and make educated decisions regarding the best way to combine them into a coherent and meaningful product makes digital filmmaking an appropriate tool for creative language learning.’

Seemita Mohanty

One-second films

**“Today everybody’s
a film-maker.”**

Wim Wenders

A portrait of James Cameron, an older man with grey hair, wearing a dark jacket over a dark shirt. He is standing next to a professional video camera mounted on a tripod. His right hand is resting on the camera. The background is dark and out of focus.

Pick up a camera. Shoot something.
No matter how small,
no matter how cheesy,
no matter whether your friends
and your sister star in it.
Put your name on it as director.
Now you're a director.
Everything after that you're just
negotiating your budget and your fee.

-James Cameron

We chose the image of birds flying because it makes us feel free, calm and relaxed. Also, it's a natural moment that transmits us a sense of a different life.



This is a special moment in the film because it transmits the love for nature, the power of nature, and it shows us that we depend of nature.



The eye of the cat is a magnificent moment because the mystery and the harmony of this moment creates a strange feeling of inferiority on us, and we feel touched by the beauty of this “animal moment”.



For me, the piano keys represent all the afternoons spent in front of the piano thinking and doing sums to understand the *tempo*, the compass, etc. Sometimes, when I'm sad, I start playing the piano and everything disappears.



I like this moment because it reminds me of those days when it's cold outside and I'm at home watching a film. It was also because of drops trickling down that when I was four years old I learnt how to count until ten!



“I think that stories and the telling of stories are the foundations of human communication and understanding. If children all over the country are watching films, asking questions and telling their stories, then the world will eventually be a better place.”

Beeban Kidron

‘Our task now is to keep encouraging our students to become effective communicators and active participants in their language learning. This is going to involve adopting new approaches to language, often integrating what students are already engaging with and learning outside of the classroom.’

Anna Witcher



FUTU RESH ORTS



SHORTS

CHAMPIONING UNDISCOVERED TALENT



vineo

WELCOME TO THE VIMEO



STAFF PICKS



CAREFULLY CURATED  HAND PICKED WITH  IN NEW YORK CITY

EST. 2008



allatc



Viral **Elt** *testtecher*



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