



Teaching and Investigating higher-level Comprehension Skills in LearnWeb, an interactive Platform integrating TED Talks

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Outline

- LearnWeb – general features
- LearnWeb – TED-related features
- How we used TED talks and LearnWeb
- Advantages and limits of current version
- Platform's new developments



LearnWeb

An educational Web platform specifically designed for searching, collecting, sharing, managing, analysing and critically working with open-access multimedia resources, through individual or collaborative activities.

Integrates

- multimedia resources from YouTube, Vimeo, Slideshare, Flickr and Bing
- educational resources:
 - the LORO portal of the Open University
 - TED talks
- Web2.0 tools
 - GoogleDocs
 - WordWanderer

<http://learnweb.l3s.uni-hannover.de>



TED talks in LearnWeb

The screenshot shows the LearnWeb interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'LearnWeb' and a search bar containing 'ted videos'. Below this is a 'My Resources' section with an 'Upload Resource' button. A grid of video thumbnails is displayed, including titles like 'How do we heal medicine?', 'Eric Dishman: Health care s...', 'Eric Dishman: Take health c...', 'Rebecca Onie: What if our he...', 'Dave deBronkart: Meet e-Pa...', and 'The simple power of hand-wa...'. The right-hand side shows a detailed view of the video 'The simple power of hand-washing' by Myriam Sidibe. Below the video player, there are fields for 'Author', 'Source', and 'Transcript'. A 'Description' section follows. At the bottom right, a red-bordered box highlights the 'Tags' and 'Comments' sections, which include input fields and 'Add Tag' and 'Add Comment' buttons. A blue callout box labeled 'Resource annotations' points to this red-bordered area.

Resource annotations

Tags

Add Tag

Comments

Add Comment

TED talks in LearnWeb

Workable transcripts

LearnWeb

My Resources
Group overview
Profile
?
🇬🇧

Select transcript language: Save

Note: You can highlight a word or phrase where you could give your own definition, and also click on the highlighted part.

just selecting it, and on selection a prompt opens up which returns a set of definitions according to the system displayed as a tooltip for the highlighted part. You could delete it.

0:11 So imagine that a plane is crashing. How would you save the children and babies, and if you knew how to stop that, how would you save them?

0:23 Now imagine that 60 planes crash every single day. That's the number of kids that never make it to their fifth birthday.

0:43 Most of these deaths are preventable. They aren't just make me sad, it makes me angry, and it makes me determined. Diarrhea and pneumonia are the top two killers of children under five, and what we can do to prevent these diseases isn't that hard. It's a biological innovation. It's one of the world's oldest inventions: a bar of soap. Washing with soap can reduce diarrhoea by half, and handwashing with soap can have an impact on reducing flu, trachoma, SARS, and most recently, Ebola outbreak, one of the key interventions is handwashing with soap. It stops babies from dying. Handwashing with soap is one of the most cost-effective ways of saving children's lives. It can save over 600,000 children every year. That's the equivalent of stopping 10 jumbo jets full of babies and children from crashing every single day. I think you'll agree with me that that's a pretty useful public health intervention.

2:13 So now just take a minute. I think you need to get to know the person next to you. Why don't you just shake their hands. Please shake their hands. All right, get to know each other. They look really pretty. All right. So what if I told you that the person whose hands you just shook actually didn't wash their hands when they were coming out of the toilet? (Laughter) They don't look so pretty anymore, right? Pretty yucky, you would agree with me.

2:42 Well, statistics are actually showing that four people out of five don't wash their hands when they come out of the toilet, globally. And the same way, we don't do it when we've got fancy toilets, running water, and soap available, it's the same thing in the countries where child mortality is really high.

3:03 What is it? Is there no soap? Actually, soap is available. In 90 percent of households in India, 94 percent of households in Kenya, you will find soap. Even in countries where soap is the lowest, like Ethiopia, we are at 50 percent.

3:23 So why is it? Why aren't people washing their hands? Why is it that Mayank, this young boy that I met in India, isn't washing his hands? Well, in Mayank's family, soap is used for bathing, soap is used for laundry, soap is used for washing dishes. His parents think sometimes it's a precious commodity, so they'll keep it in a cupboard. They'll keep it away from him so he doesn't waste it. On average, in Mayank's family, they will use soap for washing hands once a day at the very best, and sometimes even once a week for washing hands with soap. What's the result of that? Children pick up disease in the place that's supposed to love them and protect them the most, in their homes.

MYRIAM SIDIBE
THE SIMPLE POWER OF HAND-WASHING



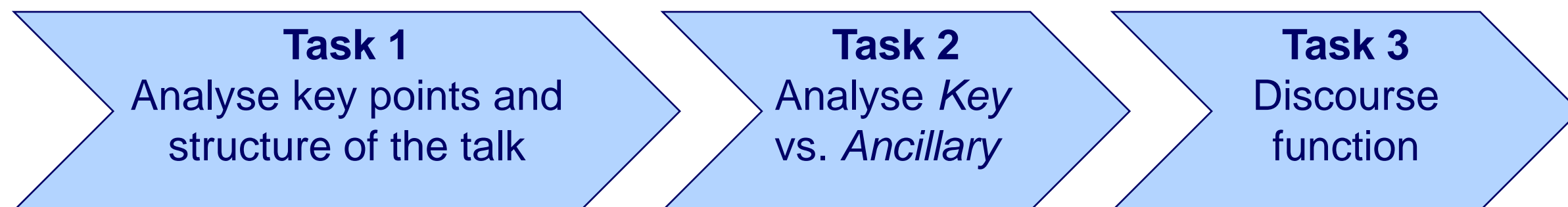
How we used TED talks in LearnWeb

MA curriculum for translators and interpreters

Module on Interpreting (1 year) – first few lessons

16 students

Students analysed the transcript in order to identify specific aspects





Task 1

Key points and structure

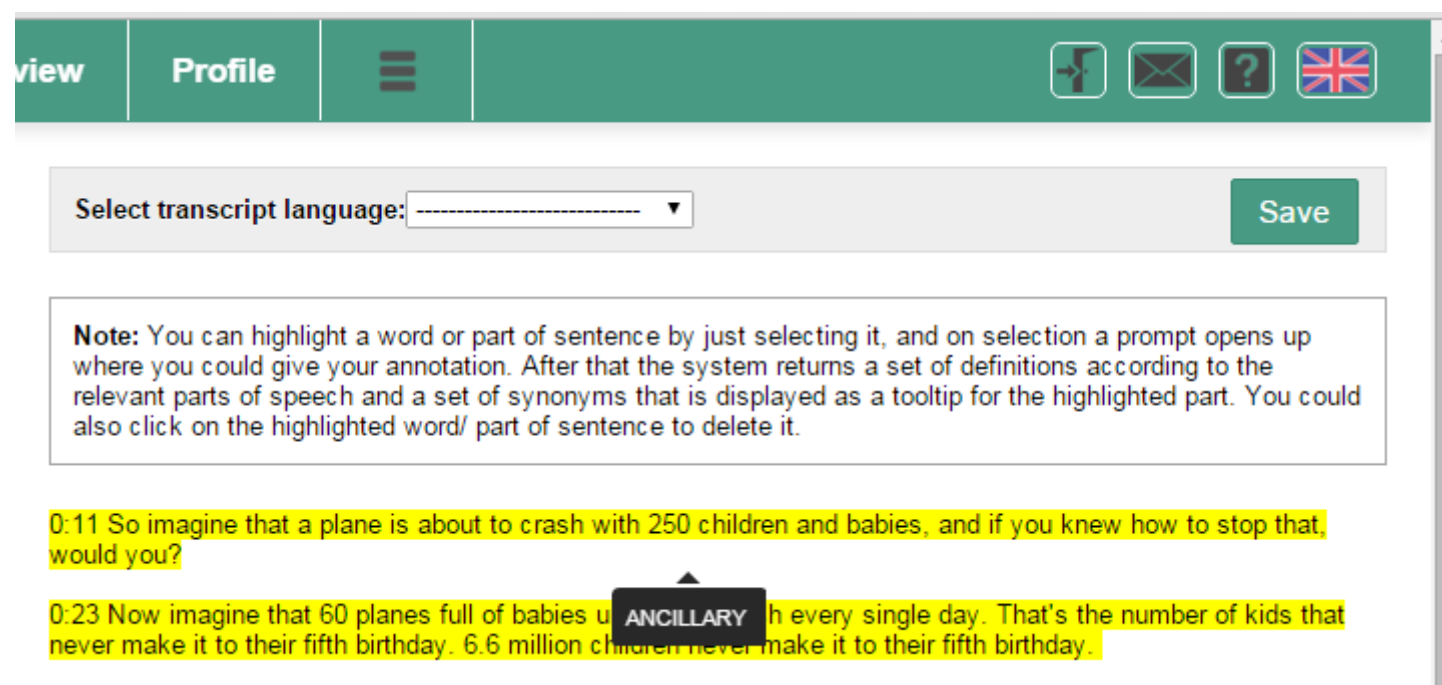
Work on the transcript of the first six minutes of the “Soap” video and divide it into five sections corresponding to the following ‘titles’:

- *Speaker’s key point;*
- *Current situation;*
- *Reasons for current situation;*
- *How can current situation be changed and by whom;*
- *Evidence supporting this solution.*

Task 2

Key information

Analyse the same piece of text and distinguish key assertions from exemplifications or other ancillary pieces of text by using tags *Key* vs. *Ancillary*



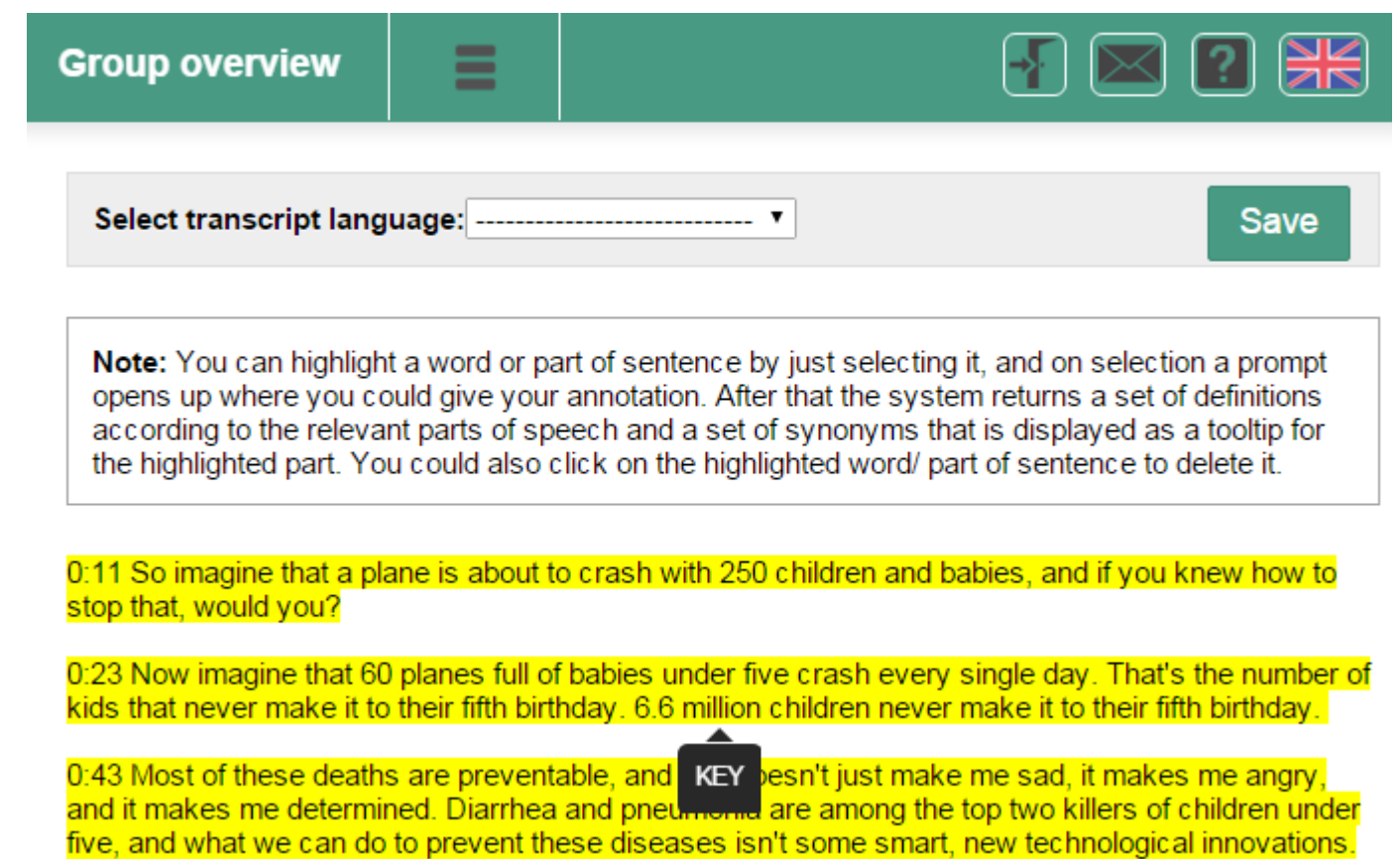
view Profile [Menu] [Icons]

Select transcript language: [Dropdown] Save

Note: You can highlight a word or part of sentence by just selecting it, and on selection a prompt opens up where you could give your annotation. After that the system returns a set of definitions according to the relevant parts of speech and a set of synonyms that is displayed as a tooltip for the highlighted part. You could also click on the highlighted word/ part of sentence to delete it.

0:11 So imagine that a plane is about to crash with 250 children and babies, and if you knew how to stop that, would you?

0:23 Now imagine that 60 planes full of babies u **ANCILLARY** h every single day. That's the number of kids that never make it to their fifth birthday. 6.6 million children never make it to their fifth birthday.



Group overview [Menu] [Icons]

Select transcript language: [Dropdown] Save

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0:11 So imagine that a plane is about to crash with 250 children and babies, and if you knew how to stop that, would you?

0:23 Now imagine that 60 planes full of babies under five crash every single day. That's the number of kids that never make it to their fifth birthday. 6.6 million children never make it to their fifth birthday.

0:43 Most of these deaths are preventable, and **KEY** besn't just make me sad, it makes me angry, and it makes me determined. Diarrhea and pneumonia are among the top two killers of children under five, and what we can do to prevent these diseases isn't some smart, new technological innovations.

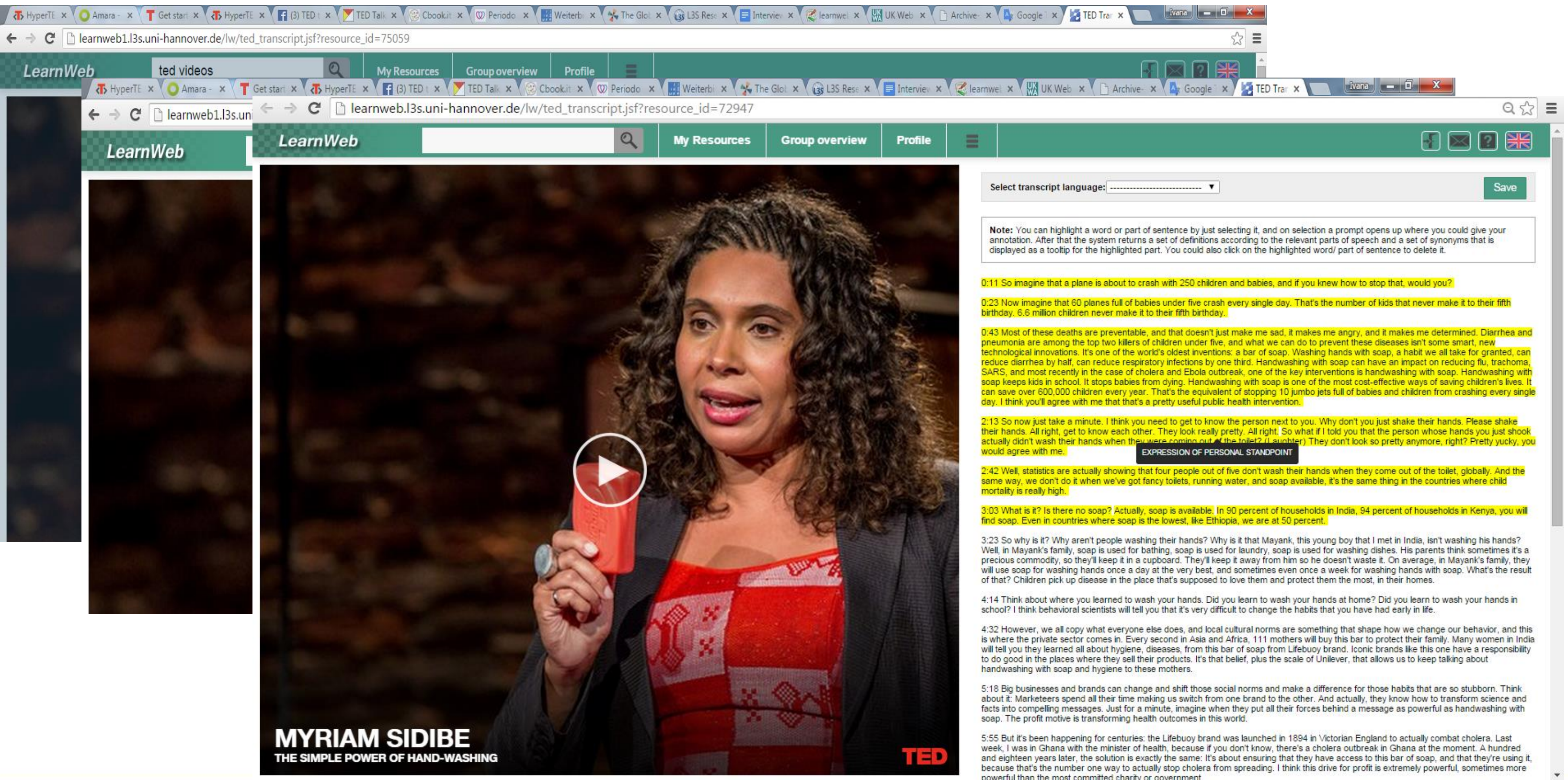


Task 3

Discourse function

Consider the first three minutes of the speech and specify the discourse function of each sentence. Choose among the following:
Assertion; Exemplification; Suggestion; Invitation; Request; Apology; Complaint; Thank; Compliment; Expression of personal standpoint; Rhetorical question; Other (specify).

Tasks in practice



learnweb1.l3s.uni-hannover.de/lw/ted_transcript.jsf?resource_id=75059

LearnWeb ted videos My Resources Group overview Profile

learnweb.l3s.uni-hannover.de/lw/ted_transcript.jsf?resource_id=72947

LearnWeb My Resources Group overview Profile

Select transcript language: Save

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0:43 Most of these deaths are preventable, and that doesn't just make me sad, it makes me angry, and it makes me determined. Diarrhea and pneumonia are among the top two killers of children under five, and what we can do to prevent these diseases isn't some smart, new technological innovations. It's one of the world's oldest inventions: a bar of soap. Washing hands with soap, a habit we all take for granted, can reduce diarrhea by half, can reduce respiratory infections by one third. Handwashing with soap can have an impact on reducing flu, trachoma, SARS, and most recently in the case of cholera and Ebola outbreak, one of the key interventions is handwashing with soap. Handwashing with soap keeps kids in school. It stops babies from dying. Handwashing with soap is one of the most cost-effective ways of saving children's lives. It can save over 600,000 children every year. That's the equivalent of stopping 10 jumbo jets full of babies and children from crashing every single day. I think you'll agree with me that that's a pretty useful public health intervention.

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EXPRESSION OF PERSONAL STANDPOINT

2:42 Well, statistics are actually showing that four people out of five don't wash their hands when they come out of the toilet, globally. And the same way, we don't do it when we've got fancy toilets, running water, and soap available, it's the same thing in the countries where child mortality is really high.

3:03 What is it? Is there no soap? Actually, soap is available. In 90 percent of households in India, 94 percent of households in Kenya, you will find soap. Even in countries where soap is the lowest, like Ethiopia, we are at 50 percent.

3:23 So why is it? Why aren't people washing their hands? Why is it that Mayank, this young boy that I met in India, isn't washing his hands? Well, in Mayank's family, soap is used for bathing, soap is used for laundry, soap is used for washing dishes. His parents think sometimes it's a precious commodity, so they'll keep it in a cupboard. They'll keep it away from him so he doesn't waste it. On average, in Mayank's family, they will use soap for washing hands once a day at the very best, and sometimes even once a week for washing hands with soap. What's the result of that? Children pick up disease in the place that's supposed to love them and protect them the most, in their homes.

4:14 Think about where you learned to wash your hands. Did you learn to wash your hands at home? Did you learn to wash your hands in school? I think behavioral scientists will tell you that it's very difficult to change the habits that you have had early in life.

4:32 However, we all copy what everyone else does, and local cultural norms are something that shape how we change our behavior, and this is where the private sector comes in. Every second in Asia and Africa, 111 mothers will buy this bar to protect their family. Many women in India will tell you they learned all about hygiene, diseases, from this bar of soap from Lifebuoy brand. Iconic brands like this one have a responsibility to do good in the places where they sell their products. It's that belief, plus the scale of Unilever, that allows us to keep talking about handwashing with soap and hygiene to these mothers.

5:18 Big businesses and brands can change and shift those social norms and make a difference for those habits that are so stubborn. Think about it: Marketers spend all their time making us switch from one brand to the other. And actually, they know how to transform science and facts into compelling messages. Just for a minute, imagine when they put all their forces behind a message as powerful as handwashing with soap. The profit motive is transforming health outcomes in this world.

5:55 But it's been happening for centuries: the Lifebuoy brand was launched in 1894 in Victorian England to actually combat cholera. Last week, I was in Ghana with the minister of health, because if you don't know, there's a cholera outbreak in Ghana at the moment. A hundred and eighteen years later, the solution is exactly the same: It's about ensuring that they have access to this bar of soap, and that they're using it, because that's the number one way to actually stop cholera from spreading. I think this drive for profit is extremely powerful, sometimes more powerful than the most committed charity or government.

MYRIAM SIDIBE
THE SIMPLE POWER OF HAND-WASHING

TED



Teacher's aim in using LearnWeb

1. Providing an appealing environment for otherwise boring tasks;
2. Exposing the students to authentic spoken material;
3. Allowing the students to work in class and/or from home;
4. Keeping track of the students' steps and choices in performing the given tasks, for further analysis of the students comprehension skills, difficulties and needs.



Program limitations

- Only allows for open tagging. This limit was overcome by giving the students clear written instructions specifying a list of tags to choose from for each task
- Does not currently support multi-colour selections. It was thus necessary to instruct the students to save the same video resource three times with different names (Task 1, Task 2, and Task 3), each copy to be used for the corresponding exercise.



Logs

Can only be accessed on-line; however, an Excel version of the logs can be requested from the platform's administrators.

Showed that, though the tasks were rather boring, they seemed to engage the students (some students continued the exercises outside class hours; see time stamps)

Will also provide insight into the types of difficulties the students had in performing each tasks.

Logs

LearnWeb

sidibe



My Resources

Group overview

Profile



Transcript Logs

(4 of 66)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 30

Student Name	TED Talk	added by	Word/Words	User Annotation	Action	TimeStamp
silvia.cristofaro	Task 3	silvia.cristofaro	In 90 percent of households in India, 94 percent of households in Kenya, you will find soap. Even in countries where soap is the lowest, like Ethiopia, we are at 50 percent.	EXEMPLIFICATIONS	selection	2014-10-20 15:11:47.0
silvia.cristofaro	Task 3	silvia.cristofaro	In 90 percent of households in India, 94 percent of households in Kenya, you will find soap. Even in countries where soap is the lowest, like Ethiopia, we are at 50 percent.		deselection	2014-10-20 15:11:35.0
silvia.cristofaro	Task 3	silvia.cristofaro	Actually, soap is available.		selection	2014-10-20 15:11:31.0
silvia.cristofaro	Task 3	silvia.cristofaro	In 90 percent of households in India, 94 percent of households in Kenya, you will find soap. Even in countries where soap is the lowest, like Ethiopia, we are at 50 percent.	EXEMPLIFICATIONS	selection	2014-10-20 15:11:04.0
silvia.cristofaro	Task 3	silvia.cristofaro	2:42 Well, statistics are actually showing that four people out of five don't wash their hands when they come out of the toilet, globally. And the same way, we don't do it when we've got fancy toilets, running water, and soap available, it's the same thing in the countries where child mortality is really high.	ASSERTION	selection	2014-10-20 15:10:17.0
silvia.cristofaro	Task 3	silvia.cristofaro	2:42 Well, statistics are actually showing that four people out of five don't wash their hands when they come out of the toilet, globally.		deselection	2014-10-20 15:10:08.0
silvia.cristofaro	Task 3	silvia.cristofaro	2:42 Well, statistics are actually showing that four people out of five don't wash their hands when they come out of the toilet, globally.	ASSERTION	selection	2014-10-20 15:09:50.0



Platform's new developments

- possibility to create and update multilingual glossaries in a collaborative way
- multiple-choice tagging options set by the teacher
- downloadable log data
- alternative ways to display the students' selections and tags



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