8. Video and the Internet
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This article is a snapshot of resources on the Internet for using video in the EFL/ESL classroom and teaching with the Internet. Noting that the search engine *Altavista* claims 31 million pages found on 627,000 servers (1,158,000 host names), and four million articles from 14,000 *Usenet* news groups, I can safely say I have not found everything on the topic. I have limited my research to these topics: movies, screenplays, television, literary resources, EFL/ESL Publisher Videos and articles on the Web. In the appendix there is information on *Usenet*, email lists and my general bibliography called "Books for Teaching Languages Using the Internet" (http://www.wfi.fr/volterre/biblio.html).

Movies
The Internet Movie Database **http://us.imdb.org/**
You will find a searchable database, daily movie news, recent and upcoming movie releases, movie quotes, movie goofs, and more. This is a most extraordinary resource to use with movie videos. I looked at *Silence of the Lambs* (1991) which gives you a good synopsis of the film and an incredible number of internal links to follow for filmography and biography of the characters, movie quotes, movie goofs, complete details on production more information than one needs almost.

Use the *Goofs Browser* resource to get your students talking. Show the appropriate clip, explain that there is a "goof" (mistake, error, *faux pas*, etc.) and have them speculate on what the "mistake" is.
Example from *The Godfather* (1972)

Continuity: A glass of wine in the wedding scene. The waiter fills Tom Hagen's glass twice within seconds during his dinner with Woltz.
Anachronisms: A building reflected in the window of the police car during the assassination of Barzini would not be built until more than ten years after the supposed time frame of the assassination.
Revealing mistakes: One of Sonny's punches clearly misses Carlo, yet Carlo reacts as if hit.

From the Movie Database site why not exploit the *Movie Quote of the Day* as a good warmup exercise in your class. Depending on your class level, other course work

and access to videos, you could
1) show the clip without sound and have students predict what is actually said. You may want to do this orally or have pairs write down the predicted quote. Then show the sequence as often as needed for the students to compare their versions with the original.
2) use the quote first as a short dictation or reading task, focusing on vocabulary. Show the clip, including a few moments before and afte the quote, and work on pronunciation and listening using the quote.
3) integrate the quote into a fuller lesson around the sequence in which the quote appears for discussion, written work or other tasks you have designed.

Examples
From *Thelma and Louise* 1991 for a discussion on violence, rape and women.
Louise Sawyer: In the future, when a woman is crying like that, she isn't having any fun.

From *Dead Poets Society* 1989 quotes for a debate on children and parents, a humorous quote and one to use when talking about language, linguistics and learning languages:
1) *Neil:* For the first time in my life, I know what I want to do! And for the first time, I'm going to *do it*! Whether my father wants me to or not!
2) *Daulton answering phone:* Welton Academy, hello. Yes he is, hold on. Mr. Nolan, it's for you. It's God. He says we should have girls at Welton.
3) *John Keating:* Why do we need language?
Neil Perry: To communicate…
John Keating: Nooo!! To woo women!

From *Silence of the Lambs*, use the closing line of the film to focus on the play on words and irony of Dr Lecter's final words.
Hannibal Lecter: I do wish we could chat longer, but I'm having an old friend for dinner.

Another good starting place to find movie resources is in *Yahoo*.
The site **http://www.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Movies_and_Films/** will take you to hundreds of other sites.

http://www.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Actors_and_Actresses/
This site is a very long alphabetical list of actors and actresses with links to Web sites of just about everybody. The quality of the web sites vary as many are done by fans.

Greatest Films of All Time **http://www.filmsite.org/films.html**
The *Scout Report Signpost* at **http://www.signpost.org/signpost/index.html** has this to say about the *Greatest Films of All Time* site:

> a loving tribute to great films, provided by Tim Dirks. Here you can find plot information on hundreds of classic films, arranged by year, genre, and title. Also, there are sections on memorable film quotations (which are linked to the movie they came from), as well as great scenes. Possibly the best part of the entire site is the large bibliography of film reference books. The only drawback to the site is that it is not searchable. Are these the best films of all time? Half the fun of this site is comparing your list to Mr. Dirks'.

Given the continual growth of the Web, it is likely that a search on a new film release will take you to a site that someone (a fan or movie company) has put up.

Screenplays
http://www.yahoo.com/Entertainment/Movies_and_Films/Screenplays/
You will not find a screenplay for every movie in the world, but chances are you can find one for a film you would like to use or have access to. The possibilities seem endless: have the students read all, some, one scene or a few lines of dialogue combined with showing the film and using any of many techniques to exploit it. Using the script may be before, during or after viewing. You can use the actual text for cloze/gap exercises, dramatization, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and so on. If a film is based on a novel, you could compare a passage from the book with the screen play.

Two examples of places to find full scripts and transcripts are:
1) *Drew's Scripts-O-Rama* **http://www.script-o-rama.com/** with major feature film scripts and transcripts and television scripts. The list of American TV scripts were not very familiar to this writer not having lived in the US in a long time. If you do not have access to American television, TV scripts will be of less interest to you.

2) **http://www.geocities.com/Hollywood/9371/script.htm**
   Screenplays, scripts, transcripts, and drafts for dozens of films from
   Alien to *The Graduate* to *Young Frankenstein.*

Television and News
CNN **http://cnn.com**
http://CNN.com/CNN/programs/CNNnewsroom/daily/
CNN Newsroom & WorldView is a free, 30-minute block of commercial-free news
and features programming accompanied by a Daily Classroom Guide, developed
especially for school use. CNN Newsroom is one of my personal favorites because
of its quality, variety and supporting classroom guides, which prior to the Web were
(and still are) available by email. Now full transcripts are on the Web. This writer
has personally transcribed dozens of CNN stories for classroom use. What a gift
from CNN not to have to do this any more! CNN NEWSROOM airs weekdays at
4:30 to 5:00 a.m. ET (0830 to 0900 GMT). Every edition of CNN NEWSROOM
begins with a review of the day's top news stories, followed by a special feature
from a different "desk" each day:

Monday: Environment Desk "examines issues of global concern as well as
               developments and trends in politics, economics, science and tech-
               nology."
Tuesday: International Desk "explores selected issues and events taking place
               around the globe."
Wednesday: Business Desk "examines business and commerce issues."
Thursday: Science Desk "investigates current events in science."
Friday: Editor's Desk "offers a media perspective on trends, issues and art."

The CNN blurb:
   "CNN NEWSROOM WorldView focuses on the historical
   and cultural background of world events, adding fresh, in-depth perspectives
   to global news stories covered by the network's 21 international bureaus.
   Enrolled schools may record each day's programs and use them at their
   convenience."

For CNN Newsroom Classroom Guides, send an email to **majordomo@tenet.edu**
and in the body of your message type: subscribe cnn-newsroom

NBC http://www.nbc.com

NBC offers plenty of news and other stories, some with audio (I was using Real Audio Beta 4) and video clips which needed a "surround video" plug-in which I do not have installed). I personally found many pages unaesthetic: too many fonts and messy page organization. The server also seemed to set a cookie for every page I clicked on - annoying.

I looked at a medical/science oriented article called "CDC: Lyme disease cases at record high" at **http://www.msnbc.com/news/80004.asp**

This is a well-written text, with appropriate graphs, an audio file and Internet Links to other sites. This type of article would make an excellent reading follow-up to the video or as preparation for viewing. The dilemma of using "current" news is being able to watch and/or record an item on the day or days it is "news". Not all articles have audio files nor graphs, but photos and Internet Links are integrated into all of the articles I looked at. With a bit of research, finding a companion article to video materials you have and want to use appears very likely to work.

Copyright questions, which this article does not address, is another kettle of fish. If in doubt about copyright and fair usage, *do* contact the owners of the material.

Time http://www.pathfinder.com/Time Daily Stories

Here is another source of texts to go with current news from television. The *Time Magazine* Web site has both the US and International Editions as well as archives. *Time Magazine* is certainly one print publication that is available throughout the world. If, ironically, you don't have access to the print publication but do have Web access, you can combine the Web site news stories, any other local English-language or native language newspaper and a news broadcast from television for classroom activities.

From most of the search engines one can find print newspapers, journals and magazines. One place to start is at the Infoseek News Center: Premier News **http://www.infoseek.com/** with World, Business, Technology and Sports News links.
News Wires: Reuters, Business Wire and PR Newswire. Premier News: *Chicago Tribune*, CNN, *Los Angeles Times*, MSNBC, *The New York Times*, *San Jose Mercury News*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post*

PBS **http://www.pbs.org/**
This site has a wealth of information and for their NOVA programs there have a Teachers Guide section with before and after viewing suggestions.
http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/nova/teachersguide/tglibrary.html
has some 30 current and previous guides ranging from "Shark Attack!", "Warriors of the Amazon", "Lightning!" to "Kidnapped by UFOs?", "Venus Unveiled" and "Vikings in America".

Discovery Channel School **http://school.discovery.com/**
The programs for the Fall 1997 season sound particularly interesting ranging from Body Science to the Modern Presidency (a study of six postwar era presidents), Discover Magazine (a week of exploration into the unknown and the unseen), Communication: Baby Talk to Bytes and Cultures Alive! (learning about different countries and the people around the world).

Discovery Channel School Student Showcase. Their blurb: "On these pages, we're highlighting some of the creative and interesting projects developed by classrooms using Discovery Channel School programming and related resources."
http://school.discovery.com/showcase/index.html

One fascinating project was called The Promised Land. These are "activities, resources and ideas from colleagues for using The Promised Land as a springboard for the design of powerful learning experiences." **http://school.discovery.com/learningcomm/promisedland/teachandlearn/** There are well-prepared and extensive curriculum guides with Civil Rights, Cultural Awareness, Economics, Geography, Literature and Art and Media Literacy in Mind. One drawback is that these guides are designed for native speakers, so you, the EFL/ESL teacher, will need to adapt them to your classroom level.

BBC **http://www.bbc.co.uk/**
With graphics turned off you will be unable to navigate this site. I was not amused! The whitish text on black depressed me even more. No further comment.

Literary resources to go with films
Literary resources abound on the Internet. A few starting points:
Project Gutenberg, perhaps, the "original" online reading resource. **http://www.promo.net/pg/**
The full Etext Listings from which you can search by author or title: **http://**

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www.promo.net/pg/lists/list.html The Virtual Bookshelf Enhanced online reading **http://www.islandmm.com/islandmm/cgi-bin/sitemsmplr.pl?f=em** And try Short Story Search **http://www.islandmm.com/islandmm/cgi-bin/sitemsss?f=em** which has books and short stories for online reading.

Case study: Sense and Sensibility
Let us say you choose *Sense and Sensibility* for class viewing. At **http://www.promo.net/pg/_authors/i-_austen_jane_.html** you will find links to Jane Austin's *Emma, Mansfield Park, Northanger Abbey, Persuasion* and *Sense and Sensibility*. You can download the full text of *Sense and Sensibility* (676 Kb text or 279 Kb in a Zip file) from three different FTP sites.

A simple search on Altavista found 400 matches with the "usual" mix of excellent to totally unrelated sites. This raises the need for knowing how to do advanced searches and understanding search techniques, which this article does not cover.

Starting with *Yahoo* you can find literary resources for Jane Austin at **http://www.yahoo.com/Arts/Humanities/Literature/Electronic_Literature/Collections/Books_On_line/**

Using the Movie Data Base you can find more information than you will know what to do with for *Sense and Sensibility* 1995 and the 1985 TV series. Commercial products, summary, goofs, quotes, locations, press articles, soundtracks, ratings, critics, laserdiscs, dates and more. The mind boggles.

EFL/ESL Publisher videos - produced for language learners
Succinct print catalog-style descriptions of commercially available videos from EFL/ESL publishers (and accompanying course books, work books and audio cassettes) are relatively easy to find in Publishers Web sites. Web sites with useful online pedagogical support do not seem to be very prevalent. One outstanding exception is Highway E.L.T. and the Virtual Classroom Words Will Travel at **http://www.hutch.com.au/~els** Its blurb:

> This site has been developed by English Language Systems to showcase our
> ELT materials and to create an interactive English language learning
> environment, or virtual classroom, accessible to students and teachers around
> the world.

At **http://www.hutch.com.au/~els/www4.htm** there is additional information including how the video was made where it was filmed.

The Virtual Classroom
http://www.hutch.com.au/~els/vc1.htm

Trial Two of the *Virtual Classroom* is taking place now (Spring 1997) and you do not have to be a participating teacher or learner to monitor the work in progress in the project which combines the course book and video *Words Will Travel* and the Internet. Its blurb:

> Our objective in designing a *Virtual Classroom* has been to create an interactive English language learning environment accessible to students and teachers wherever they may be. In the trial phase, we are exploring the premise that providing structured tasks around a common focus or context is the best way to stimulate dynamic interaction and meaningful communication between English language learners on the internet. At the same time as undertaking the various tasks set, students will be developing their 'net literacy'. That is to say, they will become progressively more knowledgeable about using e-mail, hypertext links and search engines to access the resources available on the World Wide Web.[1]

Many of you may be familiar with *Family Album*, produced by Regents **http://www.phregents.com/faactmnt.html** Each month there is an activity to use with the video *Family Album*, U.S.A. You can print the activity and use it in the classroom.

Articles on the Web
• The Internet TESL Journal, Vol. II, No. 2, February 1996
http://www.aitech.ac.jp/~iteslj/
• "Ideas on Using Videos"
http://www.aitech.ac.jp/~iteslj/Lessons/Tatsuki-Video.html Donna Tatsuki, Nishinomiya, Japan Email: **z87260 @kgupyr.kwansei.ac.jp**

This article includes ideas for using Agatha Christie films, the movie "Tampopo" by Juzo Itami, *Eyewitness VCR Newsreel Challenge* by Parker Brothers, Hollywood newsreels or news broadcasts, and movie titles that provide a "taste" of fixed holidays like Christmas or of birthdays.

Techniques for Teaching with Video
http://www.phregents.com/techniqu.html This is a discussion of five techniques: Freeze Frame, Sound Only, Silent Viewing, Jigsaw Viewing, and Normal Viewing, for teaching language with video.

There is a review of *The Real English Video* by Mark Ellison Taylor, EFLWEB, published on Volterre-Fr at **http://www.wfi.fr/volterre/video.html**

And at **http://www.wfi.fr/volterre/internetvideo.html** you will find hyperlinks and details from this article.

Final Note

Every effort has been made to have accurate Web addresses (URLs) in this article. The nature of the Internet is such that addresses change or come and go.

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