Teachers' Search for Multimedia Lesson Plan Materials:
Study, Results, and Design Implications for Oral History Archives

Katy Newton Lawley, Dagobert Soergel, Ryen W. White*, and Xiaoli Huang
University of Maryland College of Information Studies, *University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies

SURVIVORS OF THE
SHOAH
VISUAL HISTORY FOUNDATION.
MALACH
Multilingual Access to Large
Spoken ArChives
www.clsp.jhu.edu/research/malach/

Problem Space

Goal: Understand and support information seeking and use for lesson planning.

Education
• Educators' workflow
  • Incorporate standards, curricula, lesson plans
• Teaching theories and techniques
  • Constructivism
  • Culturally relevant teaching, personalized learning

Information Seeking and Use
• Task-oriented information seeking
  • Tasks motivate behaviors and criteria
• Task-centered relevance
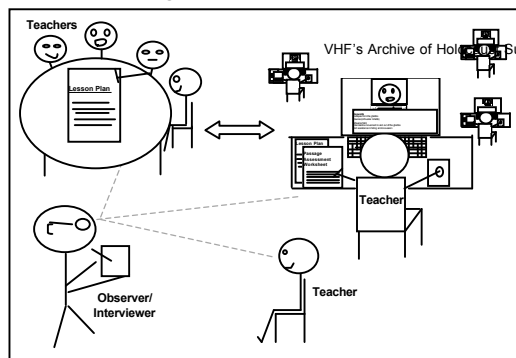• Mental models:
  • Of information space
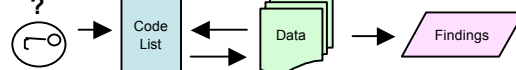 • Of task and subtasks

Study Design

Research questions

• How do curriculum development and searching interact?
• How do teachers approach the searching task?
  • How do they decide which educational materials to select?
• What functionality does a retrieval system need to support material selection for curricular uses?

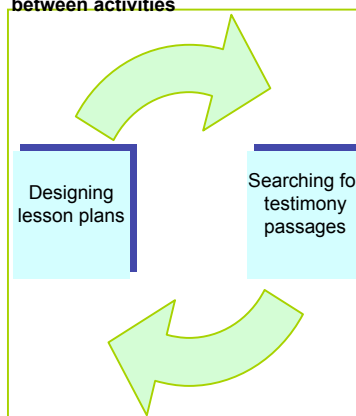**Teacher Workshop Week: Eight teachers use Shoah VHF Archive and design lesson plans for tolerance education**

Teachers

VHF's Archive of Holocaust Survivor Testimonies

Lesson Plan

Teacher

Teacher

Observer/Interviewer

Qualitative analysis of workshop transcripts and worksheets

Code List → Data → Findings

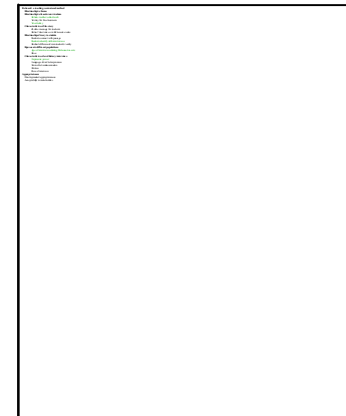## Findings & Implications for Interaction Design

Bi-directional, interdependent interplay between activities
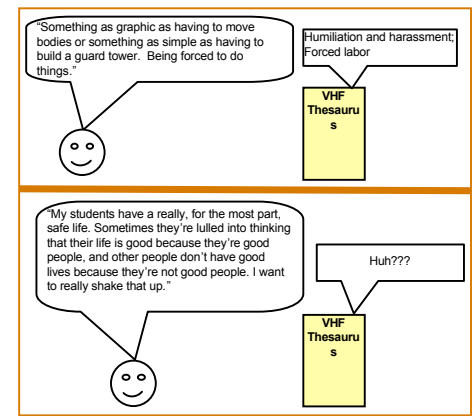
Designing lesson plans ⇄ Searching for testimony passages

Seamless integration of lesson plans and searching

Save and organize searches, notes, assessments, and lesson plans

Explore contributed lesson plans

Pedagogically-based relevance criteria
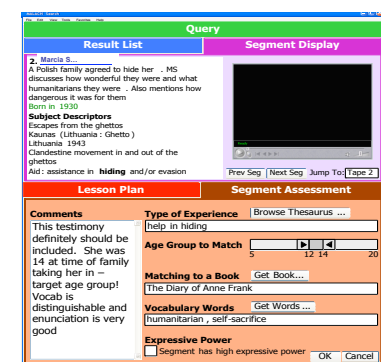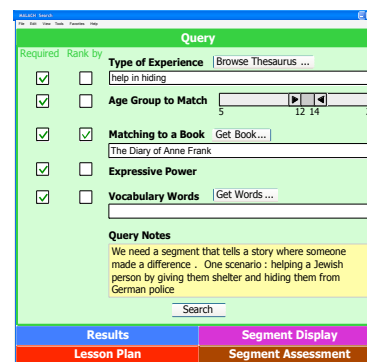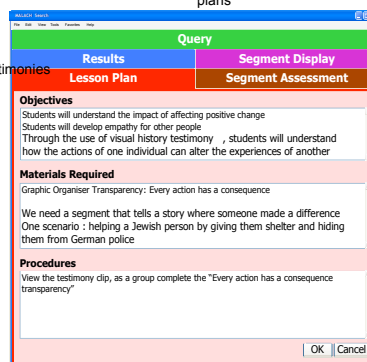
Guided entry into Archive

Search concurrently on multiple facets

Disconnect between information needs and thesaurus descriptors

"Something as graphic as having to move bodies or something as simple as having to build a guard tower. Being forced to do things."

Humiliation and harassment; Forced labor

VHF Thesaurus

"My students have a really, for the most part, safe life. Sometimes they're lulled into thinking that their life is good because they're good people, and other people don't have good lives because they're not good people. I want to really shake that up."

Huh???

VHF Thesaurus

View topicality indicators during relevance assessment

Capture interesting attribute values for the catalog: concepts, books, vocabulary words.

Explore contributed segment assessments

Query / Results / Segment Display / Lesson Plan / Segment Assessment

Objectives
Students will understand the impact of affecting positive change
Students will develop empathy for other people
Through the use of visual history testimony , students will understand how the actions of one individual can alter the experiences of another

Materials Required
Graphic Organiser Transparency: Every action has a consequence

We need a segment that tells a story where someone made a difference
One scenario : helping a Jewish person by giving them shelter and hiding them from German police

Procedures
View the testimony clip, as a group complete the "Every action has a consequence transparency"

Query

Required	Rank by		
☑	☐	**Type of Experience**	Browse Thesaurus …
		help in hiding	
☑	☐	**Age Group to Match**	5 12 14 20
☑	☑	**Matching to a Book**	Get Book…
		The Diary of Anne Frank	
☑	☐	**Expressive Power**	
☑	☐	**Vocabulary Words**	Get Words …

Query Notes
We need a segment that tells a story where someone made a difference. One scenario : helping a Jewish person by giving them shelter and hiding them from German police

Search

Results / Segment Display / Lesson Plan / Segment Assessment

Query / Result List / Segment Display

2. Marcia S….
A Polish family agreed to hide her . MS discusses how wonderful they were and what humanitarians they were . Also mentions how dangerous it was for them
Born in 1930
Subject Descriptors
Escapes from the ghettos
Kaunas (Lithuania : Ghetto)
Lithuania 1943
Clandestine movement in and out of the ghettos
Aid : assistance in hiding and/or evasion

Prev Seg | Next Seg | Jump To: Tape 2

Lesson Plan / Segment Assessment

Comments
This testimony definitely should be included. She was 14 at time of family taking her in – target age group! Vocab is distinguishable and enunciation is very good

Type of Experience | Browse Thesaurus …
help in hiding
Age Group to Match 5 12 14 20
Matching to a Book | Get Book…
The Diary of Anne Frank
Vocabulary Words | Get Words …
humanitarian , self-sacrifice
Expressive Power
☐ Segment has high expressive power

OK | Cancel

Future Work

Within framework of materials selection as a special case of information seeking …

• Analyze lesson planning in context: School systems, curriculum designers, teachers, media specialists, students.

• Evaluate current interface iteration.
• Design back-end functionality, especially for collaboration and sharing.