Appendix A- Information and Consent Form

Dear Student,

I will be teaching your class once a week for the current semester. I will be instructing you in the operation of several software programs and assigning you building and communication tasks.

I have permission from our school administration to study this class as research for my doctoral degree in Education, and I would be grateful if you will agree to be part of this study. I am researching students-built objects and use in 3D virtual worlds, and I will be monitoring chat transcripts, distributing questionnaires and conducting interviews. You will be allowed to use this set of computer programs and virtual system during our class time and at home.

This is important research which will contribute to a body of knowledge about virtual worlds use in English language learning. This research will benefit both university faculty and students in the future.

If you would prefer not to take part, or you would like to withdraw from this study at any time, you will be given an alternative curriculum to complete in order to satisfy your course requirement for this class. You will not lose any credit and there will be no penalty.

Any data I collect from questionnaires, interviews or observations will be treated in strict confidence. I will record the interviews, but these recordings will only be used by me and will be destroyed along with the questionnaires upon completion of the study.

To ensure anonymity, no names will be used when I write about the study. There will be no attempt to link your performance in this class to you as a person.

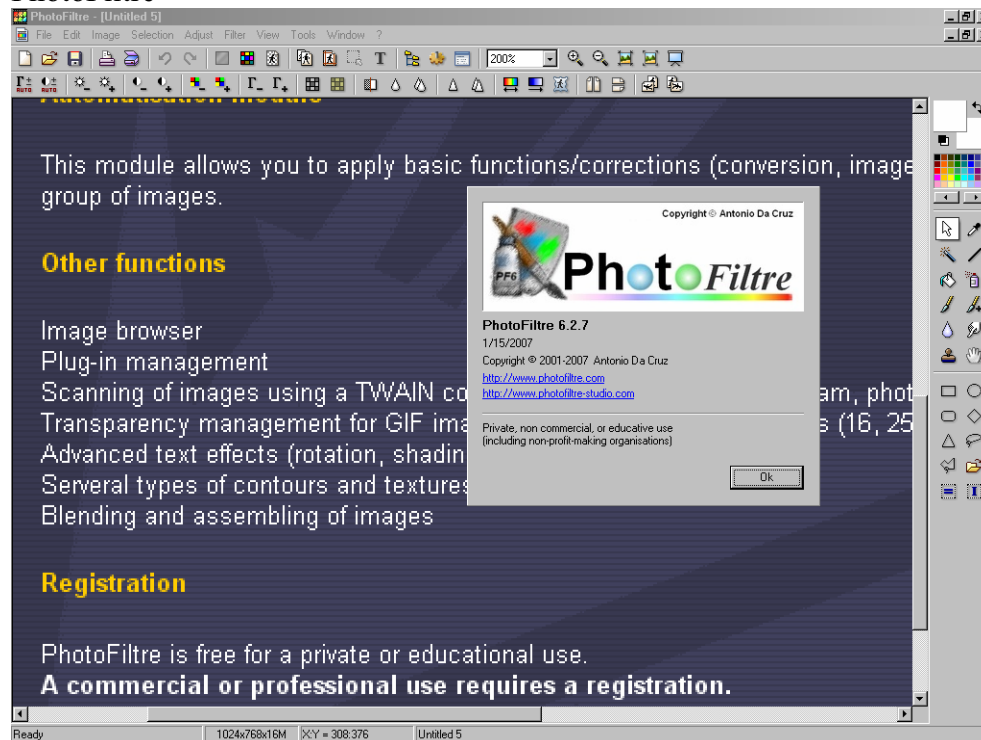Thanks for helping me with my research!
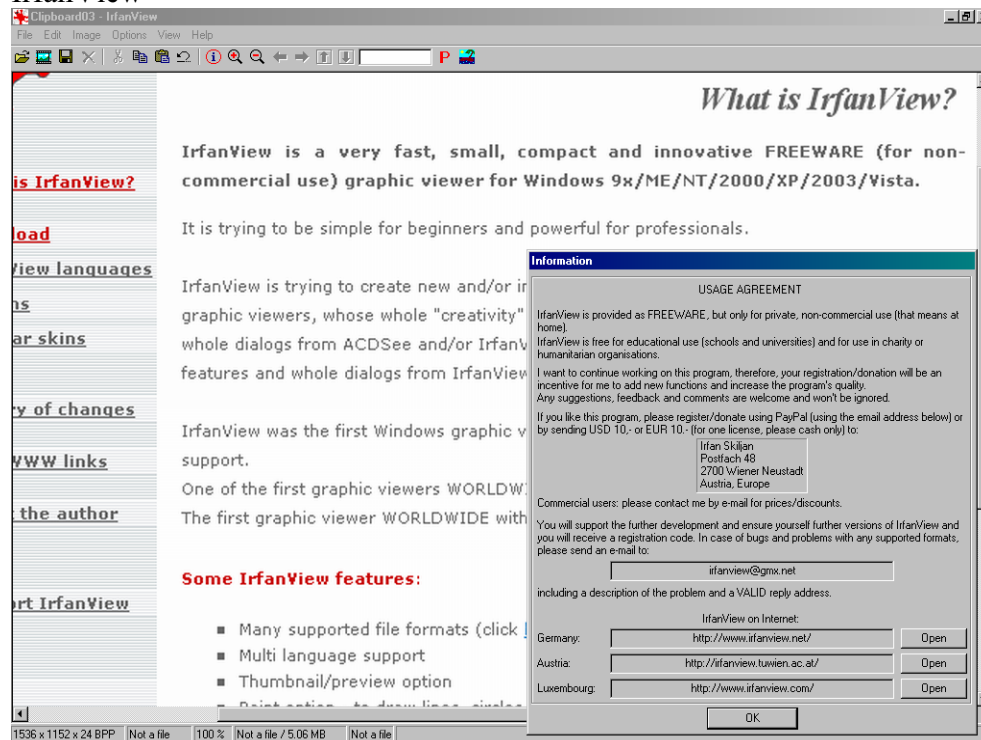
Gerald C. Fulton

_____

Your consent:

☐   I agree to take part in the study and that the data be used in Gerald Fulton's doctoral dissertation for National Chengchi University and subsequent publications

☐   I do not agree to take part in the study and that the data be used in Gerald Fulton's doctoral dissertation for National Chengchi University and subsequent publications

Appendix B- Freeware User Agreement Information

PhotoFiltre

IrfanView

Google SketchUp

Google Model your world
SketchUp

SketchUp Home
Download
Products
Help

Google SketchUp 6

Whether you want to design a dream home, the world's tallest building or just a new backyard deck, Google SketchUp makes visualizing and communicating your design ideas easy.

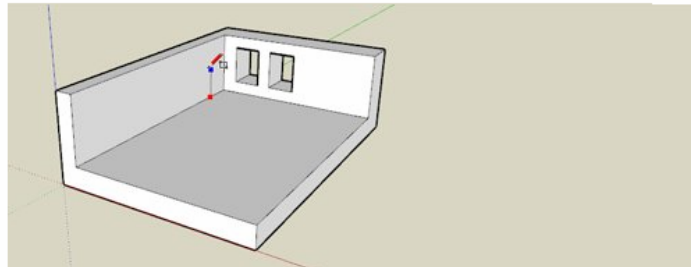**Learn more about:**

Google Earth
Explore popular places in Google Earth

3D Warehouse
3D content created by Google SketchUp users

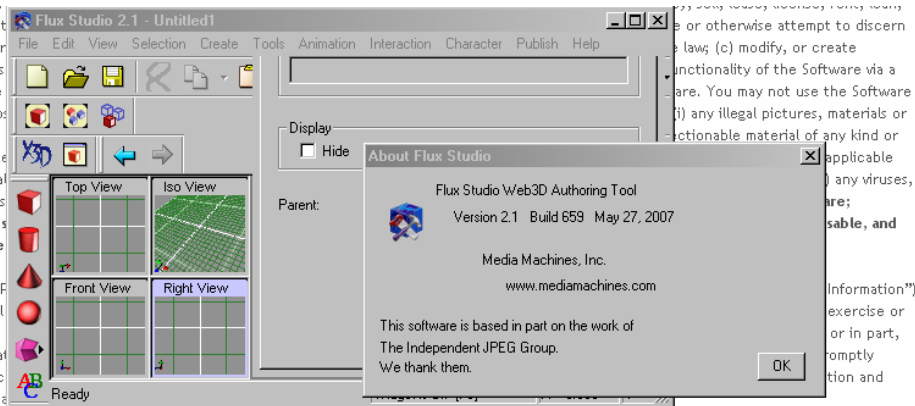| Google SketchUp 6	Free

Google SketchUp 6 is a free, easy-to-learn 3D modeling tool that enables you to explore the world in 3D. With just a few simple tools, you can create 3D models of houses, sheds, decks, home additions, woodworking projects - even space ships. And once you've built your models, you can place them in Google Earth, post them to the 3D Warehouse.

Learn more | Download Google SketchUp 6

Flux Studio

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the source code for
Derivative Works bas
timesharing, service
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information; (ii) any
nature; (iii) any mate
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Flux Studio 2.1 - Untitled1

File Edit View Selection Create Tools Animation Interaction Character Publish Help

Display
☐ Hide

Top View   Iso View

Parent:

Front View   Right View

Ready

About Flux Studio

Flux Studio Web3D Authoring Tool

Version 2.1 Build 659 May 27, 2007

Media Machines, Inc.

www.mediamachines.com

This software is based in part on the work of
The Independent JPEG Group.
We thank them.

OK

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e law; (c) modify, or create
nctionality of the Software via a
are. You may not use the Software
i) any illegal pictures, materials or
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6. Warranty Disclaimer. THE SOFTWARE IS PROVIDED "AS IS" AND MEDIAMACHINES AND ITS SUPPLIERS MAKE NO WARRANTY OF ANY KIND, AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OR AGAINST INFRINGEMENT. YOU ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR SELECTING THE SOFTWARE TO ACHIEVE YOUR INTENDED RESULTS, AND FOR THE INSTALLATION OF, USE OF, AND RESULTS OBTAINED FROM THE SOFTWARE. WITHOUT LIMITING THE FOREGOING PROVISIONS, MEDIAMACHINES MAKES NO WARRANTY THAT THE SOFTWARE WILL BE ERROR-FREE OR FREE FROM INTERRUPTIONS OR OTHER FAILURES OR THAT THE SOFTWARE WILL MEET YOUR REQUIREMENTS. Some jurisdictions do not allow some of the exclusions or limitations as set forth above, so some of these exclusions or limitations may not apply to you. In that event MediaMachines's liability will be limited to the fullest extent legally possible under the applicable law.

7. Limitation of Liability. The Software is being provided to you free of charge. ACCORDINGLY, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES AND UNDER NO LEGAL THEORY, WHETHER IN TORT, CONTRACT, OR OTHERWISE, SHALL MEDIAMACHINES BE LIABLE TO YOU OR TO ANY OTHER PERSON FOR ANY DAMAGE OR LOSS OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, LOSS OF PROFITS, OR LOSS OF GOODWILL, EVEN IF MEDIAMACHINES HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES. YOUR EXCLUSIVE RIGHT AND REMEDY WITH RESPECT TO ANY PROBLEMS OR DISSATISFACTION WITH THE SOFTWARE IS TO DEINSTALL AND CEASE USE OF SUCH SOFTWARE. Some jurisdictions do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. The foregoing limitations and exclusions shall be enforceable to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law.

Appendix C- Vircon Web Page

Weeks 10 and After

Week 9

Week 9 - Refine Your Worlds

Sunday, December 16, 2007, 10:40 PM
Posted by Administrator

Finishing Up

This week, you should will be showing your almost finished world to your teacher and to your partner to get some suggestions and feedback.

Feedback

25% of your final project grade will be the story world you show me in our meeting this week. It should be as complete as possible, but it does not have to be totally finished. I want to see if you have completed at least the minimum amount of work for your world, and to give you some suggestions to make your world even better.

Protocol

In order to make next week's presentations go smoothly, please name your final project .wrl file - "story.wrl"

Also, choose an image in your images folder to represent your world and name that file - "gate.jpg" Detailed information on how to do this is in last week's "more final information" page, so please reread that web page.

Keep adding value to your world to make it an interesting and informational place.
Meet your partner in his or her world and provide some feedback and suggestions
You do not need to write anything on the message board, just work on your world and your virtual tour presentation.

Next week :

You will give a virtual tour of your world. You will show your story world to the class, and talk about it for 2-3 minutes in English. You should describe your world, point out the objects in your world, show where visitors can find information, and talk about the story that your world represents.

Your story.wrl and your virtual tour is your **final project - it very important**
Work hard and practice your presentation - good luck!

add comment

Week 8 - Sounds & Animations

Week 8

Week 8 - Sounds & Animations

Monday, December 10, 2007, 02:54 AM
Posted by Administrator

Sounds and Animations
Sound- proximity
If you can find some small "___.wav" files, you can put them in your world.
Add a sound that will start when you get near to a part of your world
Proximity Demo (click)

Sound- touch
Add a sound that will start when you click an object
Touch Demo (click)

Animation
Add an animation (animated .gif) to an object
Animation Demo (click)

Sounds and Animations Directions
Extra sensations in your virtual story world (click)

Add some sounds and animations to give your worlds some extra excitement and realism.
You must meet with your partner in one of the listed worlds and discuss that world with him or her.
On the message board, write something about that world (you will tell me more next week).

Next week :

You will meet with me next week to discuss your final virtual story world- this is 25% of your final project grade.
If you are sick and can't come to class next week, you must make an appointment to meet me or you may fail your final project. This is an important responsibility.
More final project information (click)

add comment

Week 7 - Billboards

Monday, December 3, 2007, 05:51 AM

Week 7

Week 7 - Billboards

Monday, December 3, 2007, 05:51 AM
Posted by Administrator

Information Billboards
Making billboards:

Billboards are "clickable" mini PowerPoint-like presentations. They can provide a lot of information about your world.
Download this file and modify it to make your billboard slides
Slide file (billboardslides.ppt) (click) Download
Here is a demo on how to create slides for your billboard
Slide Demo (click)

Add billboards to your world-

Download this file and modify it to make your billboard object
Billboard file (switchbill.wrl) (click) Download
This demo shows how to add a billboard to your world
Add Billboard Demo (click)

Billboard Directions

Providing Information in your Story World Directions (click)

Your virtual story world should be almost finished; make sure it has a lot of content.

You must meet with your partner in your virtual story world and describe and discuss the billboards and iformation in your world with him or her.
On the message board, list some sounds or animations you would like to include in your virtual story world

---

Next week :

Keep practicing the software and converstation skills you have already used in class.
Keep making objects, buildings, and billboards to put in your story world.

add comment

Week 6 - Buildings

Monday, November 26, 2007, 01:46 AM
Posted by Administrator

Week 6

Next week :

Keep practicing the software and converstation skills you have already used in class.
Keep making objects, buildings, and billboards to put in your story world.

add comment

Week 6 - Buildings

Monday, November 26, 2007, 01:46 AM
Posted by Administrator

Google Sketchup
Making buildings:
In Sketchup you can quickly make interesting buildings and objects
Here is a demo on how to create a "house" object
House Demo (click)
Add more objects and textures-
This demo shows how to add your house object and change the background to your world
Add House and Background Texture Demo (click)

Buildings and Backgrounds Directions
Improving Your Story World Directions (click)

Every week you should make a new mini-story world to practice the new things you can do to make
your story world better.

You must meet with your partner in your better virtual story world and describe and discuss the
buildings in your world with him or her
On the message board, write information you will need to explain your virtual world

Next week :

There will not be any new software
Keep practicing the software you already know how to use.
Make more objects and buildings to put in your story world.

add comment

Week 5 - Better Virtual Worlds

Week 5

Week 5 - Better Virtual Worlds

Monday, November 19, 2007, 06:23 AM
Posted by Administrator

More Flux Studio
Better objects:
You already know how to create a simple oject like an umbrella.
Here is a demo on how to create a more interesting object
Edit Material Demo (click)

2D objects-
This demo shows how to make a 2D object and put it into your world
2D Object Demo (click)

Using found objects-
You already know how make simple objects for your world.
This demo shows how to use found .wrl objects in your virtual world
Found Objects Demo (click)

Better Worlds Directions
Flux Studio Continuation (click)

Keep thinking about the elements of your story and how to create a more interesting and meaningful virtual world

You must meet with your partner in your better virtual world (spend some time outside of class to make it), then describe and discuss the objects in your world with him or her
On the message board, describe a building you might need in your virtual world

Next week :

New software- Google Shetchup (click) download
You do not have to install this software on you computer unless you want to.
It is easy to use. So, you can use it at school if you want to.

add comment

Midterm project - presentation

Monday, November 12, 2007, 02:09 AM
Posted by Administrator

This week you will present and describe the simple virtual world that you have made.

Weeks 4 and Midterm

Midterm project - presentation

Monday, November 12, 2007, 02:09 AM
Posted by Administrator

This week you will present and describe the simple virtual world that you have made.

There are no new tasks to learn, but keep practicing the computer building methods, and virtual world conversation activities that we have already used in class.
Make sure you can do these things well and ask questions (and write comments) if there is anything that you can't do or don't understand.

add comment

Week 4 - Simple World Building

Monday, November 5, 2007, 01:43 AM
Posted by Administrator

Flux Studio
Simple Virtual world:
Flux Studio can be used to create virtual worlds.
Here is a demo on how to create a simple world
Simple World Demo (click)

Objects-
Flux Studio can also make objects:
This demo shows how to make an umbrella object
Umbrella Demo (click)

Combining your world and objects-
This demo shows how to add objects into a simple world
Object and World Demo (click)

Flux Studio Directions
Flux Studio Introduction (click)

Your **midterm project** is to create a simple virtual world with added objects.
Try to add lots of shapes and objects to make your world interesting
You must meet with your partner in the virtual world that you made, then describe and discuss your world with him or her

You also need to choose the story on which you want to build your "final" virtual world (not the midterm project simple world). The story can be from a book, movie, poem, or even a song.
Write about this in your class board.

Next week :
No new software- next week you will demonstrate your virtual world to me.
** Focus on your **midterm project** - spend time thinking about it, working on it, and using it **

Week 3

Next week :

No new software- next week you will demonstrate your virtual world to me.
** Focus on your **midterm project** - spend time thinking about it, working on it, and using it **

add comment

Week 3 - 3D Avatar

Monday, October 29, 2007, 06:01 AM
Posted by Administrator

Avatar Studio

Avatar building software:
You do not have to download or use this software. However, this software will not be installed on the school's computers.
Avatar Studio 2.0 (French version) (click) Download (make sure it is 2.0)
On this page look for the "Avatar Studio French to English" translations" asfr2-eng.zip (click)
Download and unzip in the Avatar Studio folder on your computer
Here is a quick demo of the features Avatar Studio Demo (click)

8 Avatars

Premade set:
Use these avatars, if you don't want to make your own.
8 premade 3D avatars (click) Download

3D Avatar Directions

3D Avatars (click)

Don't forget to write on your class (Monday/Wednesday) "Board"
Don't forget to meet your partner outside of class in a virtual world using a 3D avatar.

Next week:

New software- Flux Studio
Flux Studio (click) "Accept", download and install
Remember- do not install Flux player (make sure you have read the bottom of the "3D Avatar Directions" first- or talked to me)

add comment

Week 2 - 2D Avatar

Week 2

3D Avatar Directions
3D Avatars (click)

Don't forget to write on your class (Monday/Wednesday) "Board"
Don't forget to meet your partner outside of class in a virtual world using a 3D avatar.

Next week:
New software- Flux Studio
Flux Studio (click) "Accept", download and install
Remember- do not install Flux player (make sure you have read the bottom of the "3D Avatar Directions" first- or talked to me)

add comment

Week 2 - 2D Avatar

Sunday, October 21, 2007, 07:44 PM
Posted by Administrator

PhotoFiltre
Graphics software:
Use this to remove the background from your picture
PhotoFiltre Demo (click)

IrfanView
Graphics software:
Use this to make the background transparent
IrfanView Demo (click)

2D Avatar Directions
2D Avatar file (click) Download and save
2d Avatar directions (click)

Don't forget to write on your class (Monday/Wednesday) "Board"
Starting this week, you have to meet your partner outside of class in a virtual world.

Next week:
wait- we need to talk about it first

add comment

Week 1 - Home Computer Setup

Week 1

Week 1 - Home Computer Setup

Friday, October 12, 2007, 02:31 PM
Posted by Administrator

BS Contact
3D world and object viewing software:
3D install (click)

ABNet2 Client
3D chat software:
ABNet2 client download (click)

Setup Directions
Intro Setup (click)

Don't forget to write on your class (Monday/Wednesday) "Board"

Next week:
New software- download and try
PhotoFiltre (click) Downloads-> PhotoFiltre 6.2.7 English Version (not PhotoFiltre Studio)
IrfanView (click) Download

add comment

Attention

Thursday, October 11, 2007, 09:39 AM
Posted by Administrator

It is very important for you to do the work **every** week.

If you can't come to class for any reason, you **must** come to my office and talk to me before your next class (the earlier the better). We can decide what you need to do to catch up.

My office is   -1, and I am here Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. (Check with the department office to find my class schedule)

add comment

Appendix D- Background English Education and Computer Use Survey

Identity Code: _____   Date: _____

Basic Information:

1) Age: (years) _____

2) Sex: M ☐   F ☐

3) Number of years studying English in school: (elementary, junior high, high school, university-total) _____

4 Number of years studying English in out-of school lessons: (bushiban/after school, private lessons- total) _____

Please mark the answer that closest matches your feeling or opinion. There are no correct answers.	Very poor	Poor	Average	Good	Very good
5) Self-rating of English conversation ability	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please mark the answer that closest matches your feeling or opinion. There are no correct answers.	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Very often
6) **Computer usage:** (9 statements)					
a. Email	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
b. Instant messaging (ex. MSN, etc.)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
c. Online information sites (ex. Wikipedia)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
d. Online communities (ex. Myspace, Facebook, Fan Clubs)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
e. Photo sharing (ex. Flickr)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
f. Video sharing (ex. Youtube)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
g. Personal web pages	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
h. Online games (ex. World of Warcraft, Halo 2)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
i. Virtual worlds (ex. Second Life, Active Worlds)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

7) Hours spent online each week: (school and social usage combined) _____

Appendix E - Computer Motivation Pretest/posttest Survey

Please mark the answer that closest matches your feeling or opinion. There are no correct answers.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Attitudes toward computers (14 statements)					
1. Learning to use a computer gives me a feeling of accomplishment.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. Writing by computer makes me more creative.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. Using a computer gives me more chances to read and use authentic English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. I want to continue using a computer in my English classes.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. Using a computer is not worth the time and effort.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. Using a computer gives me more control over my learning.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. I enjoy the challenge of using computers.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Learning how to use computers is important for my career.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. I can learn English more independently when I use a computer.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10. Computers keep people isolated from each other.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
11. I can learn English faster when I use a computer	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12. Using a computer gives me more chances to practice English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13. Computers are usually very frustrating to work with.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14) Computers make people weak and powerless.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Appendix F - English Motivation Pretest/posttest Survey

Motivation (3 parts, 22 statements) Motivation Intensity (MI)	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. Compared to my classmates, I think I study English relatively hard.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. I often think about the words and ideas which I learn about in my English classes.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. If English were not taught at school, I would study on my own.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. I think I spend fairly long hours studying English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. I really try to learn English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. After I graduate from college, I will continue to study English and try to improve.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Desire to Learn English (DLE)					
1. When I have assignments to do in English, I try to do them immediately.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. I would read English newspapers or magazines outside my English course work.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. During English classes I'm absorbed in what is taught and concentrate on my studies.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. I would like the number of English classes at school increased.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. I believe absolutely English should be taught at school.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. I find studying English more interesting than other subjects.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Attitudes toward Learning English (ALE)	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
1. Learning English is really great.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. I really enjoy learning English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. English is an important part of the school program.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. I plan to learn as much English as possible.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. I love learning English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6. I hate English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7. I would rather spend my time on subjects other than English.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8. Learning English is a waste of time.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9. I think that learning English is dull.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10. When I leave school, I shall give up learning English entirely because I'm not interested in it.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Appendix G- Constructivist Multimedia Learning Environment Survey (CMLES)

Please mark the answer that closest matches your feeling or opinion. There are no correct answers.	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Part I: The Process of Learning with the Multimedia Program (15 statements)					
Learning to Communicate In this class. . .					
1. I get the chance to talk to other students	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2. I discuss with other students how to conduct investigations	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3. I ask other students to explain their ideas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4. other students ask me to explain my ideas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5. other students discuss their ideas with me	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Learning to Investigate In this class. . .					
6 I find out answers to questions by investigation	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7 I carry out investigations to test my own ideas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8 I conduct follow-up investigations to answer new questions	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9 I design my own ways of investigating problems	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10 I approach a problem from more than one perspective	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Learning to Think In this class. . .					
11 I get to think deeply about how I learn	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12 I get to think deeply about my own ideas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13 I get to think deeply about new ideas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14 I get to think deeply how to become a better learner	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15 I get to think deeply about my own understandings	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Part II: The Multimedia Program **(15 statements)**					
Working with the multimedia program, I find that it. . .					
16 shows how complex real-life environments are	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
17 presents data in meaningful ways	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
18 presents information that is relevant to me	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
19 presents realistic tasks	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
20 has a wide range of information	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Ease of Use Working with the multimedia program, I find that it. . .	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
21 has an interesting screen design	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
22 is easy to navigate	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
23 is fun to use	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
24 is easy to use	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
25 takes only a short time to learn how to use	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
Challenge Working with the multimedia program, I find that it. . .					
26 makes me think	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
27 is complex but clear	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
28 is challenging to use	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
29 helps me to generate new ideas	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
30 helps me to generate new questions	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Appendix H- Computer Chat Log Page

>>send[4698a673]:[<event type="onUserCountChanged" value="3"/>]
>>send[25e8d1ae]:[<event type="onUserCountChanged" value="3"/>]
>>send[46a85315]:[<event type="onUserCountChanged" value="3"/>]
>>send[25e8d1ae]:[<event type="onZoneCountChanged" value="2"/>]
>>send[46a85315]:[<event type="onZoneCountChanged" value="2"/>]
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<<rcvd[4698a673]:[<event except="4698a673" from="4698a673" type="onPC" value="215.456 27.8533 110.9" />]
<<rcvd[46a85315]:[<event from="46a85315" to="25e8d1ae" type="getLocation" value="" />]
>>send[25e8d1ae]:[<event from="46a85315" to="25e8d1ae" type="getLocation" value="" />]
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Appendix I- Open-ended Interview Questions

First Interview:

How did you become student in our Applied English department?

How do use computers in your daily life?

Second Interview:

What do you do actually do during the conversation class?

What activities related to the conversation class do you outside of class time?

Third Interview:

How can you use what you have learned in this class help you to reach your goals as a student in our Applied English department?

How can you use the computer knowledge and tools used in this class in other areas of your life not related to school?

Appendix J- Student Interview Narratives

Annie: I.

I used a very short time to choose my school because I didn't pick this school at first. But, I thought I needed a school that I could really learn English very well. My [high school] teacher told me I should try to take the interview, and … after the interview I thought [this school] was great.

I've spent over ten years to learn English, from my elementary school. I think it's more useful and helpful to find a job or anything. But, the actual reason is that I really love English. I would like to go abroad to study.

I have my own website. I will type my diary on it. [Daily, I use computers] eight to ten hours. If you are a student living in the dorms, that's really important for us. I think using computers is not that easy for me; especially not for listening or downloading something because I think I didn't do very well in computer class.

II.

Most of the time, I always ask other students in class because I really don't understand sometimes, and maybe they will help me to do. Sometimes we will go to the virtual world and chat with classmates.

We will go to the website, and then try to do some homework. We usually do it at home but perhaps we will finish it in class. Going to Google SketchUp and drawing 3D. I try to make something in there, but it's not really easy to make- especially about the position of the object, or IrfanView. – to try to make different file names.

Most of the time is making 3D about my final presentation. Make a world about your story. [In the world there are] some objects, maybe some sounds like music or atmosphere about that story, and people, backgrounds and practice. When you figure out how to use those systems and you practice more and more, it's not really hard, but maybe sometimes we just don't like that very much.

 [Outside of class time, I] describe the worlds of Vircon. We will go to the virtual world and try to chat about that world or something that happens in the place; for example, the ocean or sometimes the worlds with forests or some people.

III.

[When I am in the virtual world, I] feel it's kind of fun and interesting because I never have done that before. And, the most interesting is – there's a person in there and you can walk around or- like sightseeing in a different world. For the virtual worlds, I've learned that the fastest way we get progress in our English is we chat in that world and just like we're chatting in life. We don't speak English a lot in school- but we chat a lot maybe about worlds or about our daily life. I think it's useful for practice- not only vocabulary or words.

We're always asking questions in class- how to use this or that, so we didn't chat about other [things]. After class, we always wonder how to use the system, so we didn't chat too much not about school in class- just always wondering how to use the system.

[Outside of conversation class purposes], for now I only think about it as a messenger for chat. We can use that for advertising -maybe in the future for a job, like commercial or design.

It also makes me feel like I'm studying in America because English plays a different role there. Because the teacher uses English to teach our courses and if [teachers] use English to teach any other courses, we will also be interested in it. Just like studying in America- like studying in an English environment country.

Barbara: I.

The teachers are very good here, my friends told me. My good friend is also interested in English, so we are here together. [I have a part-time job] and many foreigners will go there, like Americans or Europeans. I talk to them sometimes- but not very often.

After I graduate, I want to go abroad to promote my English ability because my sister has been studying in Canada for ten years and her English ability becomes very good. I just want to learn about the country and to learn about everyday life.

I also search some information about English or history about Egypt because {Student name} and I would like to go there – many years later. I use computers daily about 2 hours to 3 hours. It's too much.

II.

I use the computer to do 3D images or 3D avatars- but I think that can not practice your conversation. You should think of a world about a movie you are interested in and use the computer software to create the world – as our final exam. The teacher will teach us to use some software to do, and we follow his teaching to do the world. We can choose something from the links- a website- the backgrounds or buildings or sounds.

[Outside of class], on holidays, I will go to the Vircon system. If I don't go there, I will just read the messages, listen the demo and practice. [The website has] the directions and you can see the steps. [I do this] at my home and there is also some work. We put our answers to our website - describe your images, sounds or worlds - every week.

III.

I like {Student name's} world best. Her world is very colorful. There are many images and pictures there, and they are very creative. When I have free time, I invite my friends to go the virtual world. We can chat with other people about school things, such as reports- final exams and discuss our homework. It is like MSN, but in MSN you can't have many people discussing together- but in a virtual world you can.

[Outside of conversation class purposes] some computers can use the buildings or virtual things for work or a job.

Calvin: I.

I took my second choice and I got this chance, so I enter this university. My uncle told me he didn't get very [high] pay because his English was not very good. Before I entered senior high school, my mom wanted me to go to a cram school. My parents also told me if I want to study hard they can allow money to let me go to school. I don't want to waste a lot of money, so I think if I want to enter this school, I just have to study hard. They didn't give me pressure. Now, I want to be a cram school teacher because I think I can get good pay from it. And, I don't want to spend too much energy to raise money.

[I also use] a blog and your friend can leave some messages to you and I will say something to back to him or her. I also use my camera to make pictures about my family, my sister and my friends and save it in the computer and send it to my friends. [Every day I spend] about 2 hours to 4 hours [using computers] with 50 percent [school related]. At home this semester, I share [a computer] with my older brother.

II.

We will write down some sentences about this computer homework and the teacher will correct some grammar mistakes and after he teaches me, I will change it and will key it in the computer. There is a lot of computer software in the self-education classroom and I don't know it very well, so I will check the vocabulary and try to understand what function it is and know how to use it and ask my classmates how to use it.

At the beginning [of each class], the teacher will teach me about what we are going to do today and teach me this function. If the teacher gives us maybe two or three examples, I can understand what function it is easily. Because we are Applied English [students] and the software is also English words, we can learn something from it- maybe vocabulary. And, maybe after a few years if I go abroad, I have a chance to do it.

Everyone has his own world, I go to my friend's world and talk to him and he is describes what his topic is or what building it is. And, I will know what his topic or subject is and I can make conversation with my friends. I think it is helpful for my English.

I think it is important before I describe the world, I understand what [the characters] are doing and what happens in the story and what gestures they do and what buildings and what furniture is necessary in the {forest} because they are {fighting} in the {forest}.

We will do the computer homework together on Friday and Tuesday nights. At school I can find [my friends] easier than at home because after school I have my own things I have to do. So, I think in school, I can concentrate on the homework and they can teach me easily. Sometimes the school's [CIP] site has a little problem and I can't use it.

III.

The first time I went to {Story world }because of the background, colors, his billboards, and his sounds make me know he spent a lot of time to do it and his storyline also makes me feel good. I think I can learn many things by the software and the teacher and some books because the software is all typed in English –so I can learn a lot of vocabulary which I didn't know.

I don't use the software very much out of school, but I have used it at my cram school and I showed it to my friend. Maybe in the future, because I am going to the cram school, I can open my world and invite a foreign English teacher to my world. Maybe he can teach me some {fighting}knowledge and I can put his opinion in my world. I think this is a way to use the worlds and the software and I also can learn English from it.

[If] I am in architecture, maybe in the future, I will use Google SketchUp to do some special building and maybe put [it] into PowerPoint and show my boss or show my friends.

Doug: I.

I just want to stay in Taipei. There's no reason I [study] English because actually my best subject is math. After college maybe I will go out to America or somewhere- not in Taiwan.

This summer, I went to America to visit my cousins. Actually, I went to a summer program. I lived in America for fifty days, but the program was only three weeks. My cousins only speak English. When I watch movies, I will choose the English subtitles [sometimes] because, the [translated] meaning's not the true meaning. My older brother's wife is Japanese. She can only speak Japanese and English. He wants us to practice [English].

[I use computers in my daily life] with MSN or some kind of online game. Actually, I usually use the computer on Wednesdays and Thursdays- but I use it a lot in that time- three or four hours [daily]. Because my dad will come home on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, so I can't play online games [then]. Maybe one half hour each day for reports and for MSN maybe one hour. [In general] when I play games, it's fun. When I try to finish the report, it's convenient.

II.

I try to use the program and talk with friends, but in Chinese. I'm trying to build a story world. I use a lot of programs- like Flux Studio and Google SketchUp and search some pictures to put in my world. I use Irfan, I take out the background and use Flux Studio to put a box in there. Every student has a world and my world is [Story world].

I want to make it like the movie- the movie always in the city at night. Of course you can move in the world. If you come to the world, you can have conversation with other people about this world, or something you want to talk with them. If the teacher doesn't ask you to do anything, or you've already done that- you can meet with your friends. The programs are always in English, so the teacher shows us how to use the program and we do [it] - so we learn.

[Outside of class time], it's the same. Build worlds and talk with friends. But, you can't build in two hours so you have to search for some pictures. You have to do it outside of class time. Actually, I spend a lot of time when the teacher says that he wants to see our world tomorrow or next week, so I will spend a lot of time in that week.

At first, it's just for class. I do that for the class- but, actually its fun, it's not boring. When you try a lot of things, you do a lot of worlds, you build a lot of buildings in your world and you hit Ctrl + F5 - you can see the world. It's nice – you see what you did - fun.

III.

I think about the {Story world}, it's so white and you walk around there you can see the witch, the lion and there's a castle. I like the music. I like it because it looks clear. My world is dark and has too many buildings.

I use the English programs like Flux Studio, Google SketchUp- I think the most important is the web page- the Vircon web page- it's all English, so I start to read the NBA web site in English. Usually I will go to Chinese NBA web site, but after the conversation class I started to try to look at the English NBA web site.

[Outside of conversation class], I guess Photofiltre and IrfanView maybe can be used, but Flux Studio I guess only can be used in this class. If I'm working and the manager asks me to do some report or presentation, I can use those programs to change the [image] to a .jpg file or .gif file - whatever.

If everybody has the program Flux Studio and the AB2net, maybe we can have conversations in there like in MSN. That would be great. When you click others in MSN it's only a little page, but when you want to talk to others with Flux Studio you can build a world- it will be fun. Maybe I could do- where is a beautiful place in Taiwan? like Danshui.

Eddie: I.

I love English so I just choose here, and it's not so far from my house - my first ambition is here. [Also], I went to America [for] elementary school, and I studied there about one and a half years- fifth and sixth grade. First, I just went there with my granddad and grandmom because my aunts live there, so I just went there to play and visit. But, my aunts asked me if I wanted to study there - I just answered "Yes". People there were so friendly, and helped me a lot.

I think I will teach English; teach elementary school or kindergarten. I have a part-time job at a cram school. I don't play games much; I use computers for chatting with people, and doing some reports. [I use computers] about two hours per day. I don't really like them because I like to go out for playing or something.

II,

We have some computer lessons for our virtual world and we use the virtual world to practice our conversation or our writing skills. Then we discuss in English - sometimes in the class- how to make the virtual world. [In] our presentation, we have to talk about what we have made. To tell the story, to present the story to the class and in English, so I think that can improve our English.

[I use] Flux Studio and something that can do the image things – like PhotoFiltre, IrfanView. We use those things to create our world on the computer. And, Vircon is our basic web site. Everyone has to pick a subject for use in your virtual world, like a story or a movie or music- with all the things we just make a story.

In the class, sometimes we just forget the steps that we learned, but we ask friends or classmates or- basically, we just ask the teacher a lot. He taught us step-by-step to use this software and we can learn from him the same way that he taught us, so we can practice more and more and we can make it very clear.

[Outside of the class time], we usually work on the scene of the virtual world that we were taught in class. And we use the software in our home or in school with some of our classmates, and we practice it out of class and use the Vircon system to have conversations with each classmate to improve our English. Talking and playing with the virtual world at the same time, and [using] the virtual world we made in the class or out of class.

We can use the virtual people, like avatar, and move and talk and describe the things that we made- like {trees} or {wolves} or something. And, can ask a friend in the computer, how you like my world, or what's the feedback about my world.

III.

I feel very calm and very peace in that world. The scenery in that world is very bright and beautiful and calm. I can see a lot of snow and trees that are full of snow and a castle and some mountains and the characters in there.

I learned about how to use the computer- I learned a lot. I learned a lot of vocabularies in Flux Studio and we can talk to each other like- in the MSN, but not the same. We have to describe the things we have seen, and that can improve my English speaking. I made a house with another program – Google SketchUp and just put in Flux Studio. I think Flux Studio is just a lot of fun.

I think maybe in some company I can use the Flux Studio to do a presentation or something like that. If I go to church, I can use the Flux Studio and show the people what I made and just can have a party in the virtual world. I could use it to communicate with my foreign friends. [Talking with] strangers is OK- just speak in English and get more practice with any kind of people – just communicate with them.

Francine: I.

We had two times for tests, but I didn't want to take the second because the test took place in August and I didn't want to study. Everybody speaks English because English has become a skill to communicate. I've been to America to study English, but only in the summer, two months, because I want practice my English and talk to Americans. I went to Florida because my uncle lives there and New Jersey for the same reason [to study]. I Listen to ICRT or [read] magazines- but not "Everybody Talks" that kind of English- more like gossip magazines.

[I use computers for] online chat- chatting with my friends and sending emails to my cousin- my uncle's daughter. At home, I have a laptop and use it about three hours a day. I think it's not healthy because using the computer is bad for your eyes.

II.

I use the software to make virtual worlds, and pay attention to what the teacher says and what to do. He tells us how to make every step to build a virtual world and discuss with classmates. The teacher tells us to create the world about a story- any story that you want. We use software- for example like, Flux Studio and PhotoFiltre to make the virtual worlds. We download the software from teacher's web site and then we use PhotoFiltre to make the pictures different, and then we put them into Flux Studio to make the world more interesting. We saved those pictures into the images folder, and then we open Flux Studio- and then we open the file and then put images to the Flux Studio. You can put anything you want to- like characters, animals, anything models, buildings, trees, bridge- stuff like that. [The virtual world] is realistic.

[Outside of class time], I met my classmates in the chat room, but it's the virtual world chat room. So, we can discuss and look around each other's virtual worlds. You can have opinions and talk- "How do you make this tree? Your world is not-so-good. Your world is boring. Your world is pretty. Your world is better than mine." There is a small person that represents me- so I can walk around and see what's there. [I do this] at home or school- both.

III.

[In the virtual world], I feel lonely and scared and dark because I'm in {Story} world and it's kind of creepy because no one's there for me; there is the forest, the scary night, the wind, and some screaming. I learned how to use search skills- know better how to search for information that I want or I need, or go to the search website in the English version, understand how to download the software in English step-by-step.

I think chatting in English can help my English, but I don't think building a virtual world can improve my English. Because the virtual world system is all in English, so you have to know how to open the file and how save the file in English- not in Chinese. When I am chatting with my friends in MSN, because in MSN the system is Chinese so when you get on the line- just talk in Chinese naturally, but the virtual world is in English, so it seems I have to type in English and chat with my friends in English.

[In the future], I'd probably keep practicing building the world. Practice makes it better because the first {Story} world that I made was not good enough. [I would just] show it to my friends or maybe the teacher.

Grace: I.

It's only school I could come to. My mom taught me English when I was very young. I watched every video tape- cartoon. I went to an academy when I was just a kid and my mom home-taught me English. She's a manager in a trade company [and sometimes travels] in America or Hong Kong for business. [At the academy], they teach new words and grammar and they also train you in listening and writing, reading. I stopped to go to academy when I was 16.

Sometimes I talk to my friends. I have friends in like Canada or America through MSN or Skype- mostly MSN. I met them when I was kid - my Mom's friends' children- and they were born there, so we met each other. I sometimes stay [in America] for like two months – the whole summer vacation. I stay at my friend's place- just hang out with them. Sometimes I go to summer school, but it depends. I have [relatives] in Canada. I think the environment is pure, clean and the people are friendly.

[I use computers in my daily life] to chat with my friends, email or sending files - like music. I guess that's it. I use computers sometimes two hours per day, sometimes five, at home on a family computer.

II.

[During conversation class], I use 3D world design computer programs. We find stories and find the pictures that we want and we try to build the stories in 3D worlds. I make 3D world out of [Story name] to show other people my story. Everyone has their own story- they can decide on their own. It has like buildings and many functions that you can use it – [you] decide what to use in your world to design. We turn on the computers, and we follow the instructions that the teacher gives. He shows us every step on the screen and then we do the things.

I kind of hoped conversation class would be just like a traditional conversation class like maybe having a textbook and people can talk to each other because I'm kind of lazy in using computers to design programs or stuff like that.

[Outside of class], we complete the story world that we are doing in the class. And, every week we have homework that we are supposed to write on the Internet – like a message board. There's a sort of like chat room and we can go there to chat with classmates about our 3D world. How are we going to do it or what's the story about by typing on computer with classmates in English. But, I don't spend much time doing that. I usually do it at school, I seldom - never- do it at home.

III.

[When I am in the virtual world] I am comfortable and relaxed because I can hear the sea wave sounds and the background is some sets which I like very much. And, the place is big.

[In this class], I talk to the teacher or classmates in English on computers or face-to-face. I think I prefer face-to-face because when I type on computers I have time to think about the grammar, but when you talk you have to say it immediately. Probably, my friend would want to talk with me in that world because I have talked about the virtual worlds with my friend and he is kind of interested in 3D. I played hide and seek with {Student name} because it's kind of big. And I told him it was kind of like Internet games.

Besides chatting- maybe we can write diaries in virtual worlds. I can use it on the billboard and people could just click on that, but I would spend a lot of time which I think I probably won't.

Heather: I.

[I chose this school] because there aren't many Applied English [departments] in Taiwan and because this school is close my home.

When I was eleven years old my mother took me to a cram school to study English. I like English and my math is too bad. We can use English for work in the future. In my part-time work, I sometimes –seldom- use English to talk with Americans or French.

I use my computer for homework, talking by MSN, or research to find information- a lot of homework. Recently we use MSN a lot because we have to talk some homework - Research Methods. I listen to some music or play a game sometimes. I use computers about 2 or 3 hours every day, at home.

II.

[During conversation class] we use the computer, Flux Studio software, to arrange some 2D or 3D to do to my story. My story is about {Story name}, so I put some {flowers} or {rainbows} or water, sky and make some {birds}. I use Flux Studio and I put some sky pictures into there.

Because I know what I want, so I find some pictures on the Internet about my story.

We can go to these worlds to have conversation with classmates and to use English to talk about some things using that. But, I think I can't learn a lot of conversation. I want to learn some conversation just like some book- some textbook. In the worlds, I just talk about nothing. How are you doing? I'm fine- just talk. Sometimes, because I don't know what to do in my world, so I ask my friends how to do that.

The lessons about Flux Studio are interesting because this is first time to learn that, so I feel interested.

[Outside of class], sometimes I talk about the conversation. I talk about Flux Studio with my friends and we can talk about what to do or do I need some things. My computer does not work so I can't do it at my home, so I want to do it at school.

III.

When I'm in the world- and the world's name is {Story name} and I go there just walking and walking and I see a lot of big pictures. And, the pictures have some celebrities in there and there is one billboard in there and that billboard tells me what happens - so, I can understand this world. I can understand the meaning this world. Because this is a music movie and puts basketball sports and music together, so I think it is lets me relax, and feel very high in my mood so I like it.

In the virtual world, I use the person. It's the not real person in there. I use him to walk around this world. I think I can learn some information with English and I can talk to exchange the information to others.

I think in the future- I want to use it with my friend or I can make a friend in American or England. Just not Taiwanese friends- I can use these virtual worlds to talk - not just use MSN. We can use the virtual worlds to use English and to talk to them. I can introduce [my world] to my friends and say – this is my world and I make it from nothing, and I have this world - I did it. And finally, I know what to do and I can teach my friends how to do [things]. I don't know everything, but a little- about pictures and billboards- I can teach my friends. I can do it.