Appendix: Creating Your First ESL Video Lesson

Instructions for Creating Your First Video

Plan what content you want to teach, and keep it simple! Choose your examples, and write them on your whiteboard, paper, or so on, if necessary. Think about what aspects of the target language you want to explain, and make sure the examples include those points.

Then, follow these instructions for filming and uploading your video:

Step 1: Make sure you have an active Gmail account.

Most institutions that use Google products will allow you to have a YouTube channel associated with your school email, or you can create a new Gmail account for free. We've both chosen to create new Gmail accounts so that our full names aren't associated with the accounts, and so that we'll retain access to our content even if we leave our current teaching institutions.

Step 2: Download the YouTube app to your smartphone.

Then, log in using your Gmail account. This will prompt you to create your YouTube channel, which means you'll need to choose a channel name. Note: Whatever you choose as your channel name will also become your display name in Gmail, so that's what people will see when you email them from that account.

Step 3: Use the camera app on your smartphone to film.

Open your device's camera app, and select the video function. Choose the front- or rear-facing camera. Always film horizontally (landscape). Tap the record button to begin and end filming. The simplest and most time-efficient way for teachers to make videos is to record them all in one take, without any editing. It's okay to make mistakes and correct yourself just like you would during class! There are lots of ways you can set up your smartphone to film. Here are a few of our examples:



Step 4: Use the YouTube app on your smartphone to trim, upload, and publish your video clip.

- Open the YouTube app, and tap the ricon. You'll need to allow YouTube to access to your camera, microphone, and photos, and then all the videos should show up at the bottom of the screen. Choose the video you want to upload.
- On the "Trim" screen, drag the box to cut off any unwanted beginning and end parts of your video. Then tap "Next" or the arrow button, depending on your phone.

- Give your video a title and description, and choose your preferred privacy setting: Private, Unlisted, or Public. Private videos will only be viewable by you. Unlisted videos can be seen by anyone with a link, but will not show up in public search results. Public videos will be discoverable by anyone in the world. These settings can be edited later from your mobile device or on a computer.
- Tap "Upload," and wait for your video to process and upload.

Step 5: Log into YouTube on a computer.

On a computer, you can edit the settings of your video and share it with your students. You can share it with students by adding it to a YouTube playlist with other videos, or by linking directly to the video via email or on your learning management system.