Podcasting Reflections by Students

**The aim of this task is simple**:

For **Part 1**, provide a detailed description of your podcasting experience, including all the stages you went through, everything you did, your feelings throughout the experience, the challenges you went through, and suggestions to overcome these challenges.

For **Part 2**, share your own views about different aspects of the podcasting approach. ===============================================================

Part 1:

1. Describe in detail your podcasting experience in the following 3 phases :

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| Phase 1.  **Describe in detail how you prepared for the podcasting experience?**  (e.g., how you started; resources you used to learn how to create a podcast; what assistance you received in the early stages; etc) |
| …  The first thing I did was to get to know more about Google podcasts. I started to listen to many podcasts and search for topics that match the theme I chose. Then, I started searching for a script for my podcast from many resources and I ended up using this resource. I made a beginning and an ending. I created a table in Google Docs and copied the script in it. We kept updating our instructor of our work and some shared some of the problems they are facing. |
| Phase 2.  **Describe in detail the process of creating the podcast?**  (e.g., tools you used; decisions you made; changes you had to make; etc.) |
| ...  **Scripting:** I searched the internet to get a topic that matches my theme and that is long enough to fit in 10 minutes. The second thing I did was to watch a lot of tutorials, whether the ones that were provided by the instructor or the ones I Searched by myself. The moment I found the topic I copied it in a document and created an intro and outro for it. Also, I searched for suitable music from the |

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| websites the instructor provided.  **Recording:** I started recording immediately after I prepared the script. I didn’t record the script immediately. I started recording random things then editing it to see how Audacity works. When I learned the basics I immediately recorded the script I prepared. I chose to record at mid\_night because it was the quietest time. I recorded myself for many times as each time I recorded I got interrupted. This step was the worst for me as it was too difficult to record it at home, so I kept recording over and over again. Each time the recording got worse than the previous one till I decided to stick on the last one I recorded and just move to the next step.  **Editing:** This was my favorite step . At the beginning I was worried because the recording had many pronunciation mistakes, a lot of pauses, background noise, people talking and the sound of door knocking. Surprisingly, I was able to get rid of most of the mistakes in the recording. Then, I started cutting the recording into 10 parts as I decided to add music between each point I add. When I finished editing the recording, I added the music for the intro, middle and the outro. This step was hard for me because I felt it was difficult to edit the music especially in the middle. |
| Phase 3.  **Describe in detail what you did after you finished the podcast?**  (e.g., evaluating your work; seeking feedback, etc.) |
| ..  The moment I finished I downloaded my work then shared it with my family to give me feedback. After that, I edited it again based on the feedback they gave me. I took one day before submitting it just to ensure that I don't want to add or edit anything else. |

2. What challenges did you face in the three phases?

Phase 1.

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| **What challenges did you face while preparing to create your podcast?**  (e.g., issues with scripting, finding the right resources, lack of motivation, uncertainty, etc.) |
| …  1) It was difficult for me to find the suitable script that matches my theme and at the same time it is long enough to be read in 10 minutes. I spend most of my time on it. |
| Phase 2.  **What challenges did you face during the process of creating your podcast?**  (e.g., issues with software, time, editing, etc.) |
| ...  2) Lack of time management: I didn’t manage my time well, so for example I took a long time in the steps that don’t really need that much like scripting while the editing step is what I should spend most of the time on.  3) I watched many tutorials on how to use Audacity while I haven't even downloaded it, thus the first time I used it I felt super confused and I was only left with 4 days which really made me panic at that time.  4) I kept deleting what I record for so long even if there was only a slight mistake and forgot that it actually can be fixed in the editing stage till at the end where I recorded the last one that was full of mistakes like background noise, door knocking sound, long pauses and me repeating some words twice because I was too tired. |
| Phase 3.  **What challenges did you face after you finished the podcast?**  (e.g., fixing mistakes, evaluating the podcast, dissatisfaction with the final outcome, exporting the file to MP3, etc.) |
| ..  The last step was the easiest as I didn’t really face any problem in downloading my work.The first time I downloaded my work I gave some of my family members to listen to it and they told me that it was loud, has a lot of Ssss sound in the background and the music at some points was covering my voice. At the beginning, I didn’t take action toward that feedback as I was disappointed because I worked hard on it. I just decided to leave it the way it was, but the next day I edited it again and searched about how to reduce the noise till I got a better |

result than the first one.

3. What suggestions do you have to overcome the challenges you faced?

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| Phase 1.  **What can you suggest to help overcome the challenges faced in phase 1?** |
| …  Use reliable resources where you can find accurate, variety and long texts. Take your time to find the best script, but don’t spend all of your time on it. |
| Phase 2.  **What can you suggest to help overcome the challenges faced in phase 2?** |
| ...  Give each step the suitable and sufficient time for it. Plan what you want to do before doing it.  Watching tutorials is important, but not as important as practicing to podcast by yourself. So give yourself the chance to discover it and you might end up saving your time instead of watching lots of tutorials that may even have the same information.  Choose a calm place and a good recorder to get the best results. Slight mistakes can be edited, so no need to rerecord. |
| Phase 3.  **What can you suggest to help overcome the challenges faced in phase 3?** |
| ..  Be patient. Use the feedbacks to improve your work. |

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Part 2.

1. What do you think about student-generated podcasting as a learning approach?

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| Podcasting is a type of learning by doing (or experiential learning). **a. What do you think about this type of learning?**  **b. Does it present any challenges to you?** |
| …  A. I used to be taught how to do something then imitate whatever the instructor did. Those classes ended up to be so boring and most of the time I got lost or confused as all what I was doing was listening to a bunch of steps.Thus, learning by doing gave us the chance to discover by ourselves and activate creativity.  B. It's more challenging indeed especially when the program/app is totally new for us as students like podcasting , however, the support from the instructor and the materials s/he provides of course clarify how we should start and make the process much easier. |
| Podcasting requires students to create a digital output (or artefact). **a. What do you think about this type of learning?**  **b. Does it present any challenges to you?** |
| …\  a. It’s important to vary the ways and techniques we use to teach or learn, thus creating digital output is a good way to vary the teaching/learning experience and make it more memorable and interesting.  b. Not everybody will be able to access it or interested in the digital output. |
| Podcasting requires a student-centred learning approach. **a. What do you think about this type of learning? b. Does it present any challenges to you?** |
| ..  A. Using teacher centered learning will not guarantee that the students are learning. From the perspective of a student, I don't really understand when the teacher keeps talking for a long time. I like to be involved as much as possible, especially for the practical parts.  B. Sometimes it feels overwhelming as you are totally responsible for your |

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| work, so you should really do your best and work hard. |
| Podcasting requires learning through technology.  **a. What do you think about this type of learning? b. Does it present any challenges to you?** |
| …  a. Technology gives many creative and interesting options and ideas to deliver a lesson which will make students want to cooperate and share their ideas.  b. The technical problems are the main challenge when using technology. |