Practice sheet – UNIT 7

In making our interactive books, one of the important elements will be finding or creating the multimedia files which will be used later in the pages of the book. In these video presentations we will first show you very basic information about music files, and then in the second film how to record voiceover and how to import background music.

We will also say a few words about creating photo and video files. We will present sources for obtaining these files from free resources on the Internet and show simple ways to record and prepare them yourself.

1. Audio files

The key to using files from the internet is to always check what licence the file is under. Are these the so-called Creative Commons or free licences? If so, what restrictions apply to the use of the file. Is it only for non-commercial use? Do we have to provide the source and author, or is the file in the so-called public domain?

Sources of background music and sound files.

FMA

https://freemusicarchive.org/

a site where you can find professional music under Creative Commons licences.

Many professional composers publish their works here. You can search for tracks by genre, but also by duration.

SoundCloud

Another place where you can find music for free is:

https://soundcloud.com/search/sounds?filter.license=to_use_commercially.

Musopen

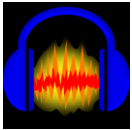A site with music that is also classical and in the public domain is https://musopen.org/.

FREESOUND

You can also find a lot of sounds on https://freesound.org/ , but these are mostly wave files.

Audacity

There are many programmes for recording and processing sound. Very rapid development of digital technology and the availability of fast processors and disk storage space makes sound recording increasingly easy. You do not need an elaborate home studio, the free programme Audacity is enough. It may not look up-to-date and its user interface may not be up-to-date either, but it has all the features we need. The latest version is quite simple to use.

https://www.audacityteam.org/download/

2. Video and photo

Very good quality video and photo material can be found at:

Pixabay

https://pixabay.com/ and https://pixabay.com/videos/

has its own licence which allows you to use the material for free. However, please remember that with all files downloaded from the internet, you should always check under what conditions they can be used and for what purposes. Many times this is for non-commercial purposes only.

MIXIT

If you also need templates and animations, a very good source is https://mixkit.co/

FREEPIK

A large range of free images and video is also available from https://www.freepik.com/popular-photos

However, larger and more interesting resources need to be paid for.

SOME MORE INSPIRATIONS:

https://www.pexels.com/

https://unsplash.com/

https://stockup.sitebuilderreport.com/

https://stocksnap.io/