

Making it Meaningful: Writing Feedback with Videos and Hyperlinks

Solution 1: Screencast feedback

- *Technology:* Screencasts recordings, which are video recordings of the actions on the computer screen paired with audio, are used to give feedback.
 - Jing or Screencast-o-matic (SCO)
- *Activity:* With the free versions of Jing and SCO:
 - Created short videos highlighting areas students needed to work on.
 - Posted those videos online through Jing/SCO.
 - Shared those videos with students by providing the link.
- *My Experience:* Screencast feedback was used in an upper intermediate reading/writing class:
 - Students watched screencast videos an average 1.3 times.
 - Students significantly improved Higher Order Concerns after receiving the screencast feedback.
 - Student feedback on screencast videos:
 - 83% thought helpful (4.3)
 - 92% improved perception of teacher (4.6)
 - 75% more comfortable discussing paper with teacher (4.2)
 - Teacher required a quiet space to work and approximately three minutes per student.

Solution 2: Hyperlink feedback

Coded grammar feedback was hyperlinked to focused grammar activities for students based on problems present in their writing.

- *Technology:* Macros in Microsoft Word created shortcuts for adding hyperlinked feedback to students' papers.
 - Example: You press CTRL+WO and it enters WO hyperlinked to http://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/grammar/satzstellung_2.htm.
- *Activity:* In Microsoft Word:
 - Created twelve macros/shortcuts to link coded grammar feedback to online activities.
 - Used macros/shortcuts when giving feedback on students' papers.
- *My Experience:* Hyperlinked feedback was used in an upper intermediate reading/writing class:
 - Macros are easily created.
 - No additional time to use.
 - Macros can be shared.
 - Difficult to assess students' use.
 - Student feedback on hyperlink feedback:
 - 60% used the hyperlinks sometimes, often or always (2.8)
 - 60% thought it was helpful (3.9)
 - 60% thought it improved their grammar (3.7)
 - 70% improved perception of teacher (3.8)