Title of Session: WebQuests - The Holocaust
Moderator: Bernie Dodge
Guest Speaker:
Title of File: 20030327wq
Date: March 27, 2003

Tappedin transcript for BjBe, 2003.03.27 17:07:44

BernieD joined the room.
BjBe waves to Bernie
BernieD: Greetings, all!
BernieD waves back
JamesC: Hi Bernie
BernieD: Hi JamesC
BjBe: we need to give people a little extra time to log in tonight. While you're waiting, please read the helpful hints note
BernieD: Man... I like this new interface
PatriciaD joined the room.
BernieD: Welcome, Patricia
PatriciaD: hello!
JamesC: Yes, especially when the old one doesn't work for me the last two times I tried to log in. The new interface is great.
JamesC: Hi Patricia
PatriciaD: hi james...what interface are you referring to?
JamesC: Tapped In 1
PatriciaD: oh yes, i agree!
PatriciaD: this is the discussion on webquests, right?
JamesC: That correct.
BernieD: Yup. WebQuests on the Holocaust, specifically.
BjBe: How about if we start with introductions because I'm sure Bernie has lots of material for us
BernieD agrees
BjBe: I'm a teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for TAPPED IN
BernieD: I'm a professor of Ed Tech at San Diego State.
PatriciaD: i'm an instructional designer at a community college in CA
PatriciaD: i'm also a doctoral student in ed tech
KarlaB joined the room.
JamesC: I teach middle school math and science for "At risk" students in Southern CA.
BernieD: Hi Karla! We're doing introductions.
KathrynV: I'm a HS teacher who is currently working for a private company to design curriculum and professional development for teachers.
BernieD: Karla is just getting the hang of things here, but I hope she'll be chiming in later.
KarlaB: Yeah, I found you. I am a graduate student in the Masters of Educational Technology Program at SDSU. I have been working with Bernie Dodge to create a

WebQuest on the St. Louis for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum conference

BernieD: OK... I've got a small glitch here so please give me 20 seconds.

JamesC: On the St. Louis?

BernieD: This evening we'll be examining some WebQuests that take on the grim topic of the Holocaust.

BernieD: You'll see it soon, James.

KarlaB: Yes the students will research the experience of one of the Jewish passengers onboard the St. Louis.

BernieD: We're going to look at several of the WebQuests she found while wearing the hat of critical friend. The question to keep in mind is this: how could these WebQuests be made even better?

BjBe: if you just joined us, please read the Helpful Hints note at the top of your screen

Jan_NS joined the room.

BernieD: Hi Dr. Jan.

BernieD: Tell us who you are.

BernieD: We'll start with some of the simpler examples.

BernieD: Take a minute or so to look at
http://www.greenepa.net/~wgsd/computerlab/Holocaust/Holocaust.html

BjBe . o O (click on the hyperlinked url to open a new window)

BernieD: What do we think about this one?

SusanR joined the room.

KathrynV: Interesting and flat

Jan_NS: Putting on my seventh grade hat, this site seems a bit overwhelming. Not sure where I would start.

JamesC: Lots of links. Cooperative groups are not defined. Seems to be just an answer the questions activity.

KathrynV: one dimensional, but I have questions...

BernieD: Welcome Susan.

PatriciaD: i have a hard time reading text on a black background

KarlaB: It is very basic, just doing factual recall, directions are poor and it is not easy to look at.

Jan_NS: I agree Patricia

BernieD: Ah, but 13 year olds have better eyes.

KathrynV: Absolutely, Karla

KathrynV: hmmmm...okay what did we miss?

BernieD: Well... I can see that it's based on the very first WebQuest template.... that goes back to 1995. We had a separate section called "learning advice".

Jan_NS: doesn't fit the broadest definition of a Webquest, IMHO.

BernieD agrees

KathrynV: Jan, can you give that definition

PatriciaD: where is your most recent webquest template? would you place the url here please? :)

BernieD: Momentito, por favor!

PatriciaD: no problemo :)

SusanR: Thanks I got it

BernieD: If you start here: http://webquest.sdsu.edu/designsteps/index.html you'll be directed to the design patterns page when it's time to get a template. Instead of one template, there are now 21.

PatriciaD: mucho thanks :)

BernieD: One of the reasons I've switched to the design patterns approach was to try to avoid more WebQuests like this one being spawned. It's just an exercise in retelling. Though it has great links!

BernieD: Here's another such case:

PatriciaD: on the holocaust wq...it needs clearer instructions

BernieD: http://home.sullivan.k12.il.us/teachers/lawson/webholocaust1.htm

BernieD: Is this one any better?

PatriciaD: on first glance, yes...much clearer

PatriciaD: and easier to follow

KathrynV: Bernie, these web quest templates are much better.

BernieD: The new ones? Thanks!

KathrynV: Yep the new ones

KathrynV: The sullivan has almost too much text

BernieD: Back to this all-white page, though.... what's happening conceptually here? What are we asking the kids to do?

KathrynV: read

BernieD: read and....

KarlaB: I found the templates were a great help when I created my WebQuest

PatriciaD: yes, agreed, could use more spicing up graphically, but instructionally it is clearer

BernieD: (as y'all will soon see....)

Jan_NS: Quest 2 - still too free-floating, not enough structure for a reasonable student product or outcome

JamesC: The final project has no structure.

KarlaB: Reading it I can't quite figure out what the teacher wants exactly for the final product.

BernieD: To me it's just another retelling, I'm afraid. A pretty standard kind of assignment. No transformation of information required.

KathrynV: work together to synthesize information not only from multiple perspectives,..

KathrynV: but from their multiple perspectives?

BernieD: You're reading a lot into it Kathryn, I think.

KathrynV: maybe I was hoping...

KathrynV: just a cursory glance

BernieD: Let's kick it up a notch.

BernieD: Compare this one with the previous ones:

Jan_NS: I'm ready!!

BernieD: http://www.hercomputers.com/holocaustweb/

Jan_NS: Creates a motivational scenario that will create student interest.

KathrynV: okay so here is what I was talking about before! woo-hoo!

PatriciaD: i like the different roles/perspectives taken

BernieD: Roles are good.

KathrynV: I really like the model pieces chosen for each role.

BernieD: Could do a bit more with the denial sites, maybe.
KarlaB: The author allows the students to personalize the topic a bit more, not just repeat facts. I would like more synthesis and personalization maybe.
BernieD nods.
KathrynV: I think it loses its momentum a bit on the final project.
BernieD: Maybe there's another one in the pile here that does that. Let me see...
BernieD: Here's an unfinished lesson with a lot of potential:
BernieD: http://www.rockwood.k12.mo.us/itech/webquests/freese/holocaust/
BernieD: What do you think?
JamesC: For the powerpoint in the last quest I would have the students decide to declare a hoax or try and change history based on what they learned.
BernieD: Change history? Describe how things would be if the Holocaust didn't happen?
PatriciaD: i like how the students need to decide on personal issues if they were in this situation
KathrynV: definitely like the personalization
KathrynV: like the idea of a rubric
PatriciaD: i also like the choices with the case studies
KathrynV: but I still liked the last complexity of thought of the last one
BernieD: Personalization is a good thing. One of my doc students is going to focus on that for her dissertation.
KathrynV: great!
PatriciaD: this one has some potential
KathrynV: not to bring up more controversy...
KathrynV: but it would be interesting to look at holocausts today
PatriciaD: good point kathryn
BernieD: Indeed.
BernieD: To piggy back on what I think James was saying, take a look at
JamesC: The task seems to be one of evaluation. The final presentation should reflect what was learned.
The students will decide if the holocaust happened or not based on the resources. Their presentation should support their decision.
BernieD: To piggy back on what I think James was saying, look at
KathrynV: very interesting and also dangerous ground, no?
BernieD: http://webquest.sdsu.edu/designpatterns/AH.htm
KarlaB: My St. Louis webquest explores recent and current acts of genocide.
BernieD: (As you all will soon see.....)
KathrynV: karla would like to see it
BernieD: The Alternate History design pattern could be the basis of an interesting WebQuest about this
topic. As far as I know, no one has tried this yet.
KathrynV: Why?
KarlaB: I think Bernie will show you soon. Simulated Diary Entry Template #8 deals with recent genocide.
BernieD: OK... one more, then we'll look at Karla's.
BernieD: http://www.ahsd25.k12.il.us/Curriculum%20Info/Holocaust/holocaust.htm
KathrynV: Karla, this is yours?

JamesC: My idea wasn't an alternate history but do students feel history needs to be revised. Of course we don't want students to accept a hoax, but if one is comparing real history to a hoax a view has to be chosen.

BernieD understands James now.

BernieD: What do you think of this last one?

KathrynV: Holocaust as hoax? Maybe I'm missing your point?

KathrynV: I would love to see us ask students to use the technology we are using. In other words, if they have to think about the media used to get subversive messages across back then, what do they think might be the media used today to get the word out.

BernieD left the room (signed off).

Jan_NS: Bernie probably had connection difficulties. Let's carry on.

KathrynV: Media like email, webpages, etc.

JamesC: I have been thinking about a design pattern to explore hoaxes.

KathrynV: Ahhh..like truth or fiction.org

Jan_NS: Just hoaxes, James?

Jan_NS: Misconceptions, too?

SusanR: I like this one..values. morals..kindness..courage ...relevant to todays' issues!

BernieD joined the room.

Jan_NS: Welcome Back bernie

BjBe: welcome back, Bernie!

BernieD: Sheesh! I closed one to many windows.

Jan_NS: happens to the best of us!

JamesC: Some sites say that the holocaust is a hoax. The one Quest explored this.

BernieD: OK... at long last... Let see what Karla has been up to.

BernieD: Karla is developing this new lesson as part of her culminating graduation project and it's shaping up nicely. Next week we're going to show

PatriciaD: drum roll....

JamesC: I haven't seen truth or fiction.org

KarlaB: Please let me know what you think, it is still a work in progress...

BernieD: it at a workshop for 200 teachers here.

Jan_NS: Karla has created clearly defined roles for the students, with a realistic synthesis product.

BernieD: Wait... are you already looking at it?

PatriciaD: what's the url?

PatriciaD: i don't have it

BernieD: http://eprentice.sdsu.edu/refuge/index.htm

Jan_NS: oops, maybe I have the wrong URL

Jan_NS blushes

BernieD: Spend a few minutes looking at this and the teacher page as well. Karla would love to hear your feedback.

Jan_NS: Very glad that you have included a teacher page, Karla

KarlaB: You're welcome Jan.

Jan_NS: Karla - just in case you are still in editing mode, you have a spelling error on the teacher page.

PatriciaD: so the students would have access to the teacher page as well?

BernieD: Roll, right?

KarlaB: Yes I am still editing, thanks.

Jan_NS: Right,

Jan_NS: Guess I have been doing too much grading lately!

BernieD: This will be pasted into frames and decorated soon.

BernieD: Comments for Ms. Bell?

JamesC: Has the "no frames" crowd died out?

Jan_NS: On the teacher page, I appreciate the differentiation of the actual text from the student page and the material that relates to the teacher.

KathrynV: Pasted into frames?

KarlaB: I thought that might be helpful, Jan.

JamesC: The diary gives it structure and a clear task.

KarlaB: Yes I will paste it into frames using a template from the WebQuest page.

KathrynV: It is meant to take how long?

BernieD: It will end up looking more like this:

BernieD: http://webquest.sdsu.edu/templates/TL/mywebquest/index.htm

KathrynV: okay, a little easier on the eye

KarlaB: Kathryn it will take one and a half to two weeks, there is some description of this on the teacher page.

BernieD: Less scrolling, easier to navigate.

KathrynV: Sorry, closed out the teacher page

JamesC: A class period for each day of the diary?

Jan_NS: awesome rubric for this webquest. very well described and criteria are manageable.

KathrynV: Is there a way to incorporate more than just read and write for multiple learning styles?

KarlaB: Probably James but you might be able to fit two diary entries into one class period.

BernieD: Ah... got any examples, KV?

Jan_NS: Good point, Kathryn

PatriciaD: will this be used primarily in a F2F class or an online class?

KathrynV: Okay, thinking....

KathrynV: voyage theme?

KathrynV: I think I am thinking of something along the lines of a small project?

BernieD: Paint a mural, write a song?

KathrynV: something more than just paint a mural or write a song

KarlaB: Kathryn do you mean like create a play or...

KathrynV: something that might utilize those things but puts them all together into a project

BernieD: Paint a mural AND write a song?

Jan_NS: maybe an iMovie piece.

KathrynV: so the diaries become a piece of it

KathrynV: I like the iMovie idea

BernieD: Ah... using the new Ken Burns effect with iMovie and a bunch of stills....?

Jan_NS: that is what I was thinking

KathrynV: each individual could be responsible for a piece of it

BernieD thinks "cool!"

KathrynV: from a different perspective
KarlaB: Like a commemorative iMovie.
KathrynV: and the students would have to figure out how to blend perspectives
Jan_NS: right!
KathrynV: to convey an intended message to an intended audience
KathrynV: maybe from the perspectives they have been assigned
KathrynV: but in today's format
Jan_NS: Now we are talking.
JamesC: News briefs or press releases on the progress of the ship. Video taped with question from the audience.
Jan_NS: and diary pieces included possibly
BernieD: I'm thinking about the Woody Allen movie where survivors were interviewed in little snippets at the end of the movie.
KathrynV: oh I like that
BernieD: Which film was that?
KathrynV: not sure
KathrynV: Thank you everyone for allowing me to participate. Great group! Gotta run. Day care issues
BernieD: Well... though we have this joint mostly to ourselves, I see that the clock on the wall is saying it's time to go.
BernieD: Thank you all for dropping in.
KathrynV: Thank you Bernie
PatriciaD: thanks for hosting this discussion. bye all!
KarlaB: Thanks for the feedback everyone.
Jan_NS: thanks bernie!
Jan_NS: good luck Karla
BernieD: Hope to see some of you here again next time.
SusanR: Thanks for a stimulating discussion!
JamesC: Bernie, I have a quesiton about QWs.
Jan_NS: topic for next month yet, Bernie?
JamesC: Are the activities limited for a WQ?
BernieD: What do you mean, J?
BjBe: You have a date and a topic, Bernie...
BernieD: ooohhh. I wonder what it is?
BjBe: April 17/Blogging
Jan_NS: cool
BernieD: Ah! That will be great fun.
JamesC: I wrote a quest that mixes in science activities. I was wondering if it was still a WQ.
BernieD: Sure, as long as it includes constructivist use of web resources.
Jan_NS: gotta run, only one more night in Myrtle Beach for spring break!
Jan_NS: night all
BernieD: Enjoy... thanks for coming Jan.
Jan_NS: it was great
Jan_NS: as usual

JamesC: I think it does. The URL is:
http://www21.brinkster.com/jimsideagarage/dragsterwqstudent.htm
BjBe: Thanks, Bernie.
KarlaB: A WebQuest can be a science one. Check out the science webquests on the Webquest page.
BernieD: Wow, James. I like it!
BernieD: Would you submit it to the matrix?
JamesC: Thanks. It was my first WQ.
JamesC: Should I try and do it first?
BernieD: Don't wait.
JamesC: It is more of a concept?
BernieD: Put it out there and you'll get more feedback.
KarlaB: That is a cool WQ James, my nephews would love it.
JamesC: I think Ken Decroo may run it also. I will submit it.
BernieD: Great!
JamesC: I have to do something to keep my students coming to school.
BernieD: OK... gotta go. Good night to you all.
JamesC: Good night.
KarlaB: Good bye, Bernie.
JamesC: Thanks for the feedback.
SusanR: A fascinating idea for a WebQuest!
BernieD: Good work, Karla. Let me know if you need help on the framing.
KarlaB: Thank you, I will.
BernieD left the room.