



Retribalizing Literary Style: Virtual Book Clubs and Bookcasts

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McLuhan's vision dichotomized the future into "literary man" and "electronic man" and predicted we would have to leave the bookworld behind to be "with it" in the electronic or tribal world. With social media and Web 2.0 tools, we can make the most of new tools to develop new literacies while strengthening those traditional ones of reading for personal enjoyment and fulfillment, creativity, perspective-taking, empathy, and critical thinking.

Tools for virtual bookclubs

Free online chatrooms - rooms can be saved for duration of the bookclub
<http://www.chatzy.com>

Free Etherpad-like tool for up to 16 collaborators
<http://titanpad.com>

Audio or video or text conferencing (free accounts available)
<http://www.skype.com/intl/en-us/welcomeback>

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140 character messages to individuals or communities or networks (free)
<http://twitter.com>

“One Book, One Twitter” - world-wide book club using Twitter
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2010/may/04/one-book-one-twitter-book-club>

Twitter-like only with longer messages (free)
<http://amplify.com>

Exemplary Bookcasts

“A Hard Choice,” Ramapo Island (Suffern, NY) middle schooler’s response to “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srQzAr_KXY

Ramapo Island Middle School’s Storyworld in Second Life (Please note that you must have the Second Life browser on your computer for this link to open)
<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/Eduisland%206/33/222/21>

Bookcasts by ECI 521 graduate students
<http://ncbookcastfestival.wikispaces.com/Exemplary+Bookcasts>

Tools for creating bookcasts

Your photos into cartoons for integrating in iMovie or Moviemaker (free)
<http://www.pikistrips.com>

Create cartoons to then import into iMovie or Moviemaker (free)
<http://www.toondoo.com> and <http://www.pixton.com>

Cartoon characters perform in videos you direct (free)
<http://www.xtranormal.com>

Tools for creating audio slideshows (free); PC only
<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/photo-story/default.aspx>

Special free accounts for educators of Animoto, a music video-style tool
<http://animoto.com/education>

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Collaboration Tools

Wiggio - all-in-one collaboration tool with web meetings, chat rooms, and more

<http://wiggio.com>

Ning - original Facebook-like private network (fee-based now)

<http://www.ning.com>

SocialGo - Facebook-like private network (free version)

<http://www.socialgo.com>

Learning and Teaching Creativity

Dan Pink's A Whole New Mind

<http://www.danpink.com/whole-new-mind>

Introduction to Pink's theory by Garr Reynolds of Presentation Zen

http://www.presentationzen.com/presentationzen/2006/08/from_design_to_.html

NC State University's ECI 521 "Learning Through Literature with Young Adults"

Learn about the open course . . . <http://bookhenge2011.wikispaces.com>

ECI 521 virtual classroom -- Bookhenge on USDLC's beautiful Star Island in Second Life

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/USDLC%20Star%20Island/96/62/23>

Archived sessions from the Bookhenge

<http://www.bookosphere.net>

North Carolina Reading Association's Bookcast Festival

<http://ncbookcastfestival.wikispaces.com>