

Abstract

Educational television has proven useful for early childhood education, but has not been adapted for secondary students. Secondary students would benefit from educational video lessons. According to a study by Lunsford and Connors, there are 20 grammar mistakes that persist through the secondary years into first year college composition courses (Huston and Wright 11). Because of the recurring errors, current instruction might not be properly addressing these issues; a video lesson could fill in the gaps. In this thesis, I propose that secondary school teachers should create and utilize video lessons about grammar that are based on a digital narrative, utilize a visual scaffold or metaphor, and rely on conversation and social interaction. These are the ideals established in Jeff Anderson's *Mechanically Inclined* grammar teaching philosophy and in Shalom Fisch's research about *Sesame Street*. To support this new approach to grammar instruction, I have produced a 20 minute educational video titled "Finding Mrs. Write" that teaches the use of semicolons, colons, and the em dash. Preservice teachers provided feedback. The majority concluded that video lessons offer an engaging and practical alternative to current approaches.

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