

Digital Storytelling

Sabine Geller, danube connects

What is storytelling?

STORY

CORPORATE STORY

...using STORIES in a targeted, deliberate and skilful way to make important content easier to understand, to support the audience's learning and thinking, to spread ideas, to encourage intellectual participation and thus add a new quality to communication.

STORYTELLING

STORYMAKING

What do I need to bring with me?

- Research skills
- Creative writing (dramaturgy, screenplay, description contrasts, red threads, text person)
- Communication skills contact/connection with protagonists
- Visual/technical skills (images, video, image composition, editing)

Examples for storytelling with pageflow

- Danube Women
 - https://breitseite1819.pageflow.io/danubewomenstories_en#329613
- Youth Camp 2024 Bulgaria/Romania https://breitseite1819.pageflow.io/danube-confluence
- https://www.pageflow.io/en

Further examples:

https://demokratiegeschichte.pageflow.io/meilensteine-der-demokratie-geschichte#311857

https://reportage.wdr.de/onkel-willi#8644

https://reportage.wdr.de/tschernobyl#18241

Generate ATTENTION with Storytelling

- Stories are entertaining
- Stories are playful learning and playful concentration
- Stories arouse emotions
- Stories target our subconscious and anchor information there
- We can remember stories better than pure facts
- We think in stories!

WHY Storytelling?

- Information overload
- Instead of taking in more knowledge and information,
 we have to filter and block out more and more in order to be able to concentrate.
- It is becoming increasingly difficult to grab the **audience's attention** and to reach them

5 building blocks of storytelling



1. every story needs a good reason to be told.



2. every story
has a hero
who follows the
call of destiny.



3. every story contains an arc of suspense.



4. every story is emotionally moving.



5. good stories are shared!

The 7 elements of digital storytelling

- Point of view: What is the main point of the story? What is the author's perspective?
- A dramatic question: a key question that captures the audience's attention and is answered at the end of the story.
- Emotional content: serious topics that come to life in a personal and powerful way.
- The gift of your voice is a way to personalise the story. It helps the audience understand the context.

- The power of the soundtrack: music or other sounds that support and embellish the story.
- Economy: Just enough content to tell the story without overwhelming the audience.
- Speed: The rhythm of the story and how quickly it progresses.

RESOLUTION

Every story should end with a positive feeling: a new realisation, a product that can solve problems and needs, a change for the better, etc.

How do do an interview:

- Research the facts (person, position, facts & figures)
- Prepare a questionnaire (structure the topics, reflect yourself, ask open questions)
- less yes/no-questions,
- take pictures, audio and video, also details of the surrounding
- prepare your technical equipment, microphone for the sound

How do do a reportage:

- Vivid and lively reporting:
 A reportage not only provides factual information, the audience gets the feeling of being right there.
- The reporter reports from first-hand experience, often on location
- The report is written in the present tense
- Informative and entertaining
- A report usually begins with an exciting introduction (e.g. a scene or a quote)

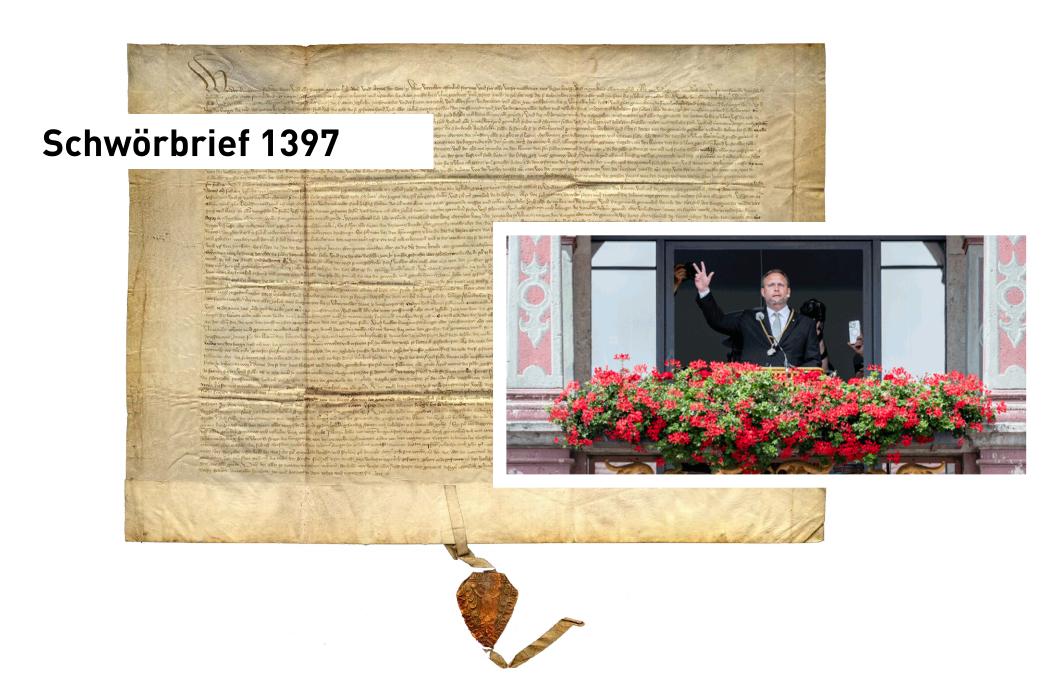
Your work

Teams of 2 or more people

One team = a topic related to the people being interviewed. e.g. Major of Ulm /Schwörmontag/ tradition of the city and democary/ Schwörbrief 1397 / the oldest city constitution in germany

Text (reportage) + interview, audio/video elements

We will summarise all the stories in a multimedia storytelling project dedicated to the topic of democracy and the development of democracy.





Digital Storytelling Sabine Geller, danube connects 10.07.2025