

Digital Duct Tape for Language Instructors

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<https://blog.teslontario.org/digital-duct-tape-for-language-instructors-part-1>

Digital Duct Tape for Language Instructors Part 1

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Curriculum Planning & Resources, Technology & Innovation



What is digital duct tape?

The act of creating or improvising problem-solving with basic tech tools to solve a teaching challenge. By including digital tools to create solutions to educational problems, you open opportunities to level up your online teaching materials, in class instruction and assessments. The following are a few tools and methods that may assist you as you are creating learning events or facilitating lessons.

Tonight's Issues

1. creating educational templates with place holders
2. colour design to create visual harmony, improve contrast, and identify colours picker
3. optimizing images
4. locate and use open media (images, audio)
5. locating online resources with “sites like”
6. more efficient development with simple text
7. repurpose H5Ps to customizing existing ones
8. duplicate to promote development efficiency

1.educational templates

- lesson plans
- worksheets
- assessments (quiz, assignment)
- online activities
(H5P, Google Forms, Quizlet, Moodle book)
- Slide decks
- vocabulary list / glossaries

Course Outline Template

Course Outline – LINC Apple College



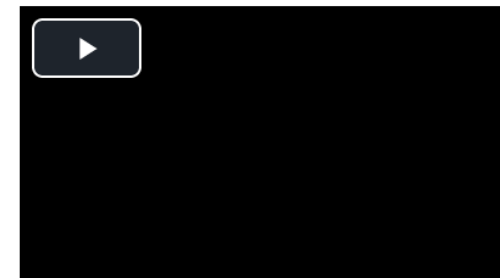
Course Description

Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Nunc pretium metus non egestas porta. Duis et rutrum ante. Duis pharetra eros a ornare consectetur. Aliquam a metus orci. Aliquam pharetra sem non dignissim suscipit. Nunc quis venenatis diam, in dictum nibh. Vestibulum vel enim scelerisque, pharetra leo id, lacinia erat. Proin commodo varius augue non rutrum. Curabitur convallis mi augue, at laoreet eros vestibulum et. Proin elit libero, lacinia euismod nulla ac, porta semper est.

Course Outcomes

- Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit.
- Sed dictum dolor quis iaculis faucibus.
- Pellentesque id dolor sed urna vehicula feugiat vel ac dolor.
- Fusce vel lorem et massa imperdiet dignissim.
- Cras et leo et ligula pretium commodo quis eget dolor.
- Vivamus luctus metus ac lectus feugiat, tempor faucibus dolor

Watch the course Welcome video.





Webquest Structure Template

This is a Webquest template that instructors can use to generate their own Webquests as a Moodle Book.

2. Question (Task)



"The Question" by Corey Templeton is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.

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1. Introduction		↓	⚙	🗑	👁	+
2. Question (Task)	↑	↓	⚙	🗑	👁	+
3. Process	↑	↓	⚙	🗑	👁	+
4. Assessment (rubric)	↑	↓	⚙	🗑	👁	+
5. Conclusion	↑	↓	⚙	🗑	👁	+
6. Resources	↑	↓	⚙	🗑	👁	+
7. Teacher Page		↑	⚙	🗑	👁	+

Describe the end result of the learners' activities will be. The task could be a:

- problem or mystery to be solved;
- position to be formulated and defended;
- product to be designed;
- complexity to be analyzed;

Development - placeholders

Lorem Ipsum

<https://www.lipsum.com>

Picsum Photos

<https://picsum.photos>

Video Placeholder

<https://www.videoplaceholder.com>

2. colour coordination in digital materials

- Why?
 - Match institutional or department colours (branding)
 - Match theme of the materials (earth colours for nature, ...)
 - Highlight CLB Skills
 - ListeningBlue
 - SpeakingRed
 - ReadingGreen
 - WritingOrange
 - Improve readability (accessibility)
 - Influence mood and possibly motivation

2. colour coordination in digital materials

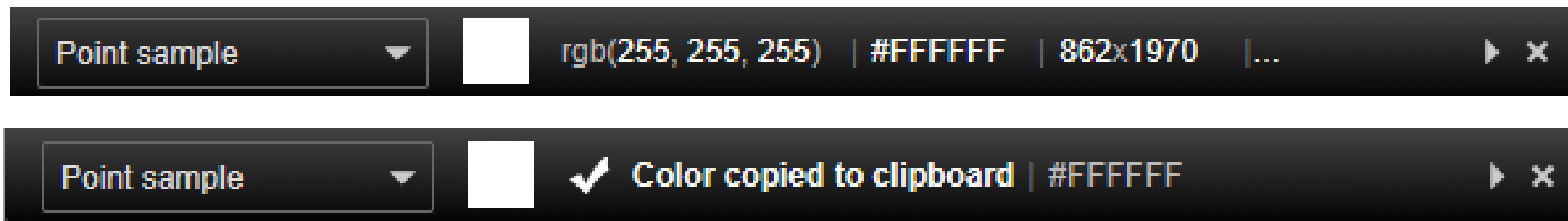
- All digital media require colour treatment
- Language teachers are not normally trained in
 - colour theory
 - colour models
 - colour design
- improve learning materials treatment of color by,
 - picking colours to use from the screen
 - creating harmonious colour sets (palettes)
 - and using a colour contrast checker

colour Selector / Picker

Eye dropper functionality

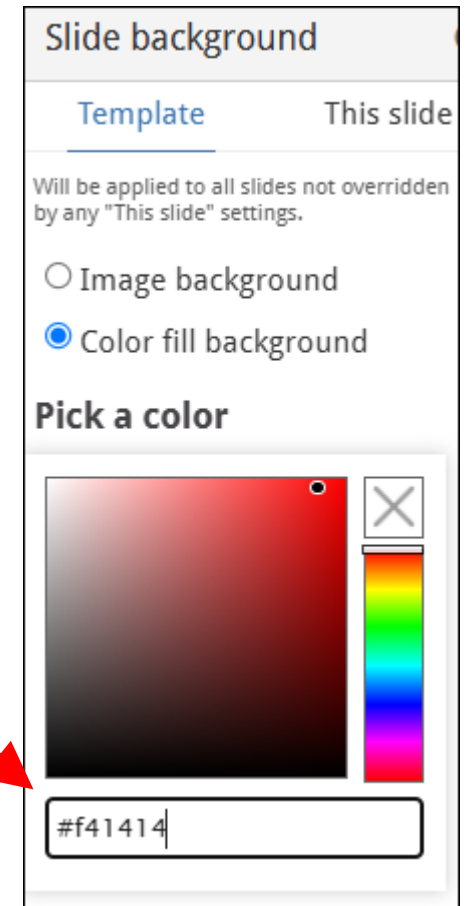
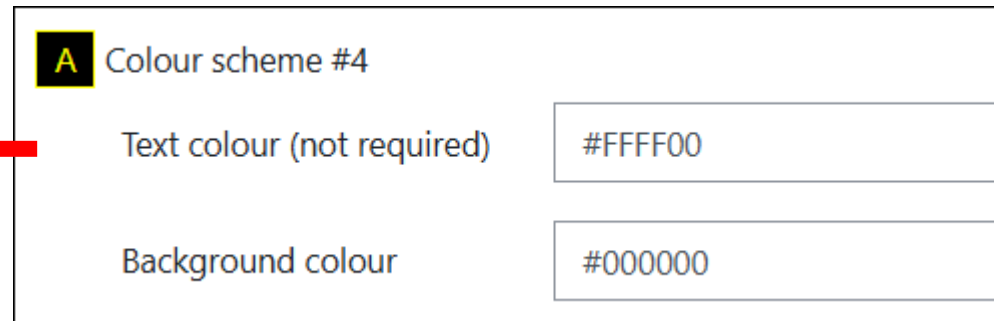
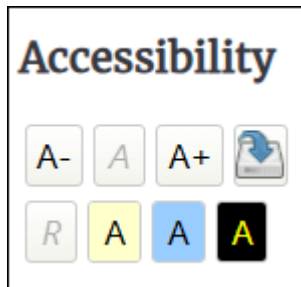
Add-ons, extensions, plug ins

ColorZilla extension (Firefox)



Using colour models or codes

- RGB:** (Red, Green, Blue) → for screens
- CMYK:** (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, Black) → for printing
- HEX:** #FF6651
- RGB:** rgb(255, 99, 51)
- Copy the code and paste it into the development tool



Colour harmonies (palette)

- combinations of colours that are pleasing to the eye, balanced and visually coherent
- identify a colour or colours and create a multicolour set
- Colors <https://colors.co>
- generates colour sets from a starting colour(s)
- create colour sets from images
- visualize colours in different design genres



BF0D00

Engineering orange



0E0004

Licorice



E59500

Gamboge



FFFFFF

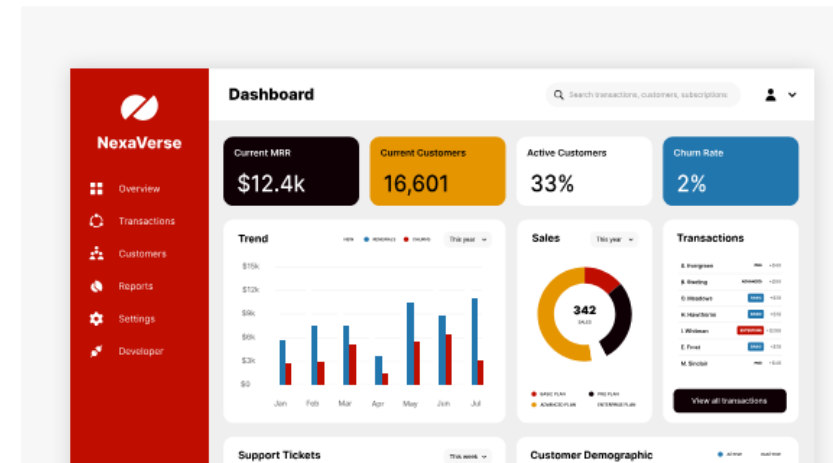
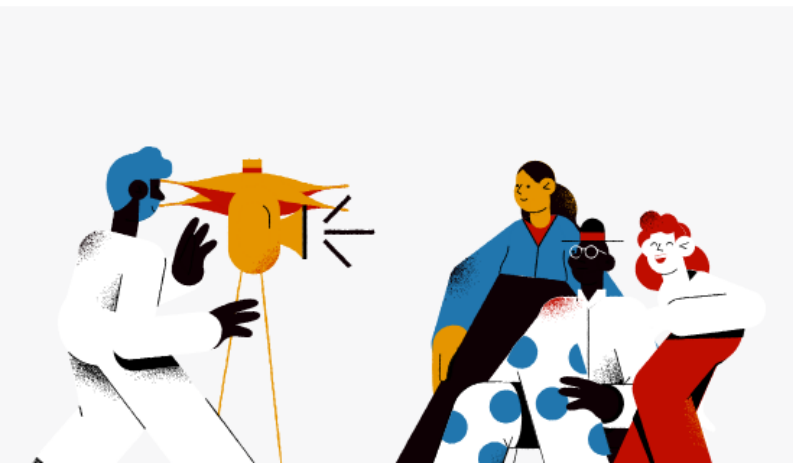
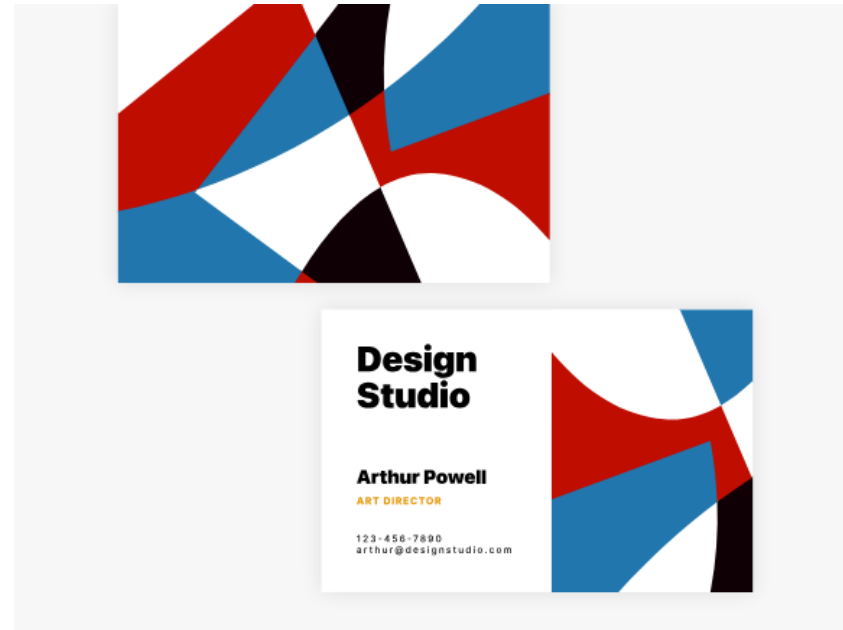
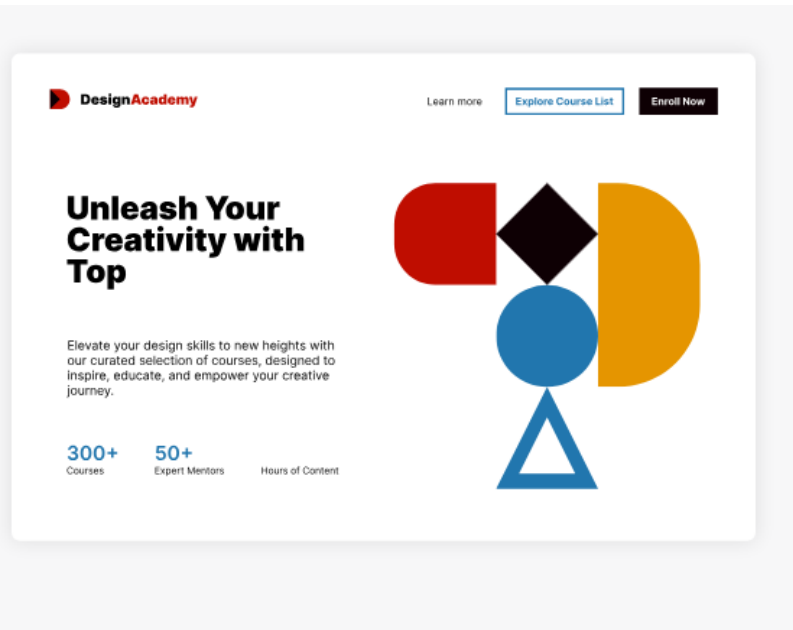
White



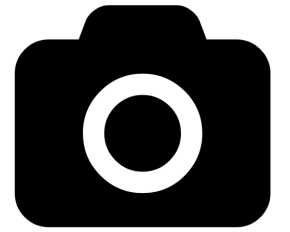
2176AE

Honolulu Blue

Visualize the palette

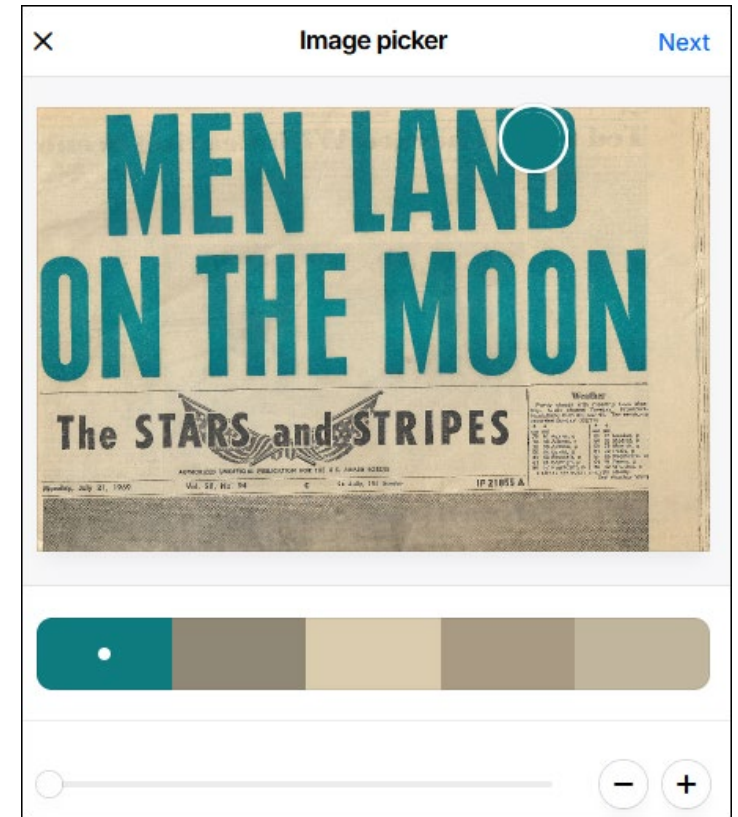


Visualize the palette



"Camera font awesome" by Dave Gandy is licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0.

- Create a palette from an image



0E7C80

Teal

8F8774

Battleship gray

DACCAE

Dun

A89A83

Khaki

C1B69D

Khaki

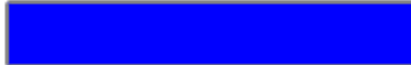
Colours - Accessibility

Color Contrast Checker


<https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker>

Foreground

Hex Value
#0000FF


Color Picker



Alpha
1

Lightness


Background

Hex Value
#FFFFFF

Color Picker


Lightness


Contrast Ratio
8.59:1

3. optimizing images

- the practice of changing digital images to achieve a balance between visual quality and storage size
- memory usage
- image dimensions
- balance

3. optimizing images (memory use, dimensions, esthetic balance)

Webresizer

<https://webresizer.com>

Images Optimized successfully!				
Image Name	Original Size	Optimize Size	Savings	Download
Coloors_picture.png	12.65 MB	4.30 MB	8.35 MB	Download Resize

3. Optimizing images

Webresizer

Further optimization

Edit



Resize

Rotate

Flip

Crop

☒ By Dimensions ☐ As a Percentage (%)

Width

Height

3311

2188

☒ Lock Aspect Ratio

Download

4. locate and use open media (images, audio)

Openverse

<https://openverse.org>

offers 800 million images, photos, and audio files.

- a Creative Commons project

Load more results

Explore more than 800 million creative works

An extensive library of free stock photos, images, and audio, available for free use.

Search for content

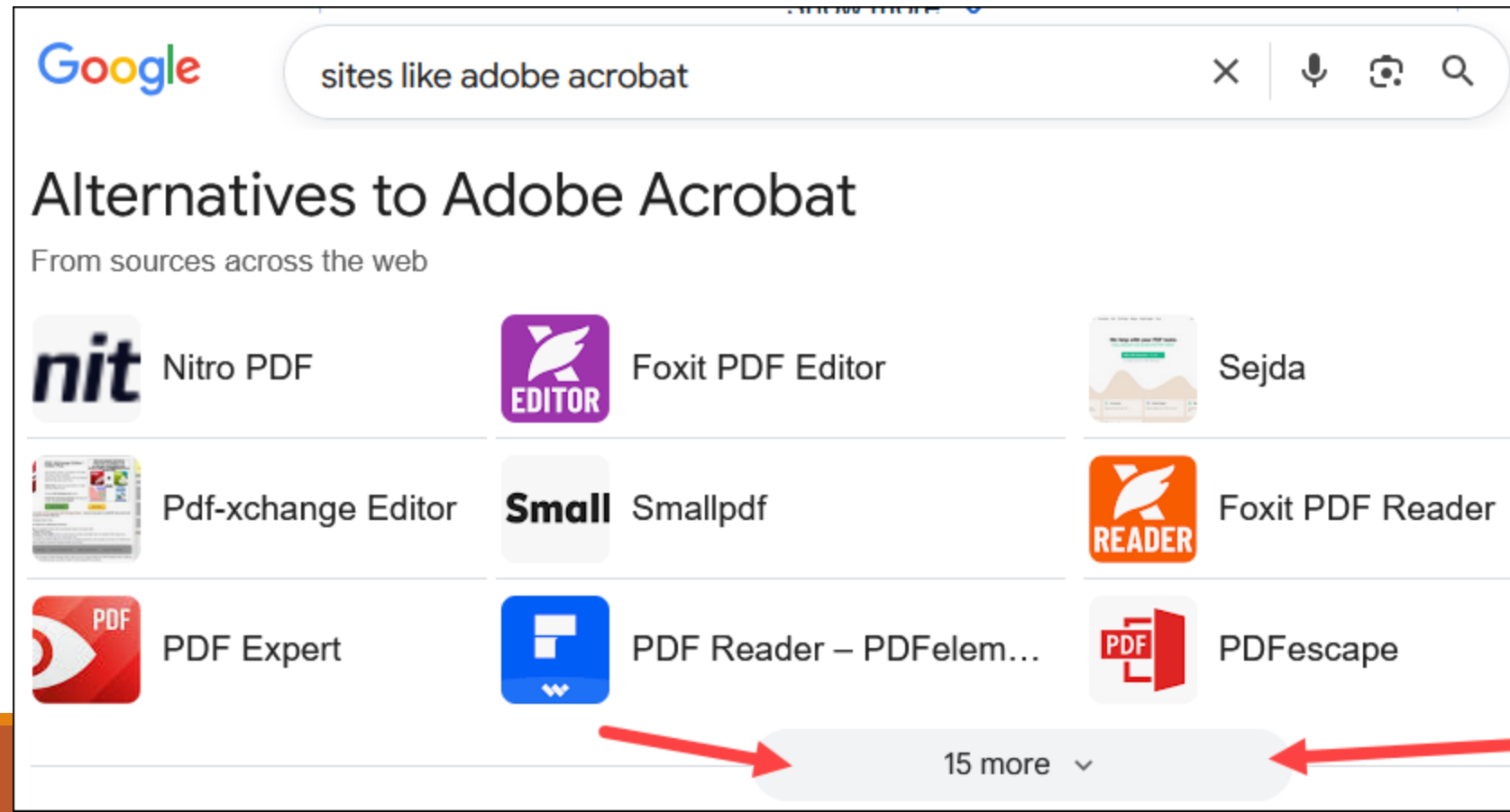
☰ All content ▾



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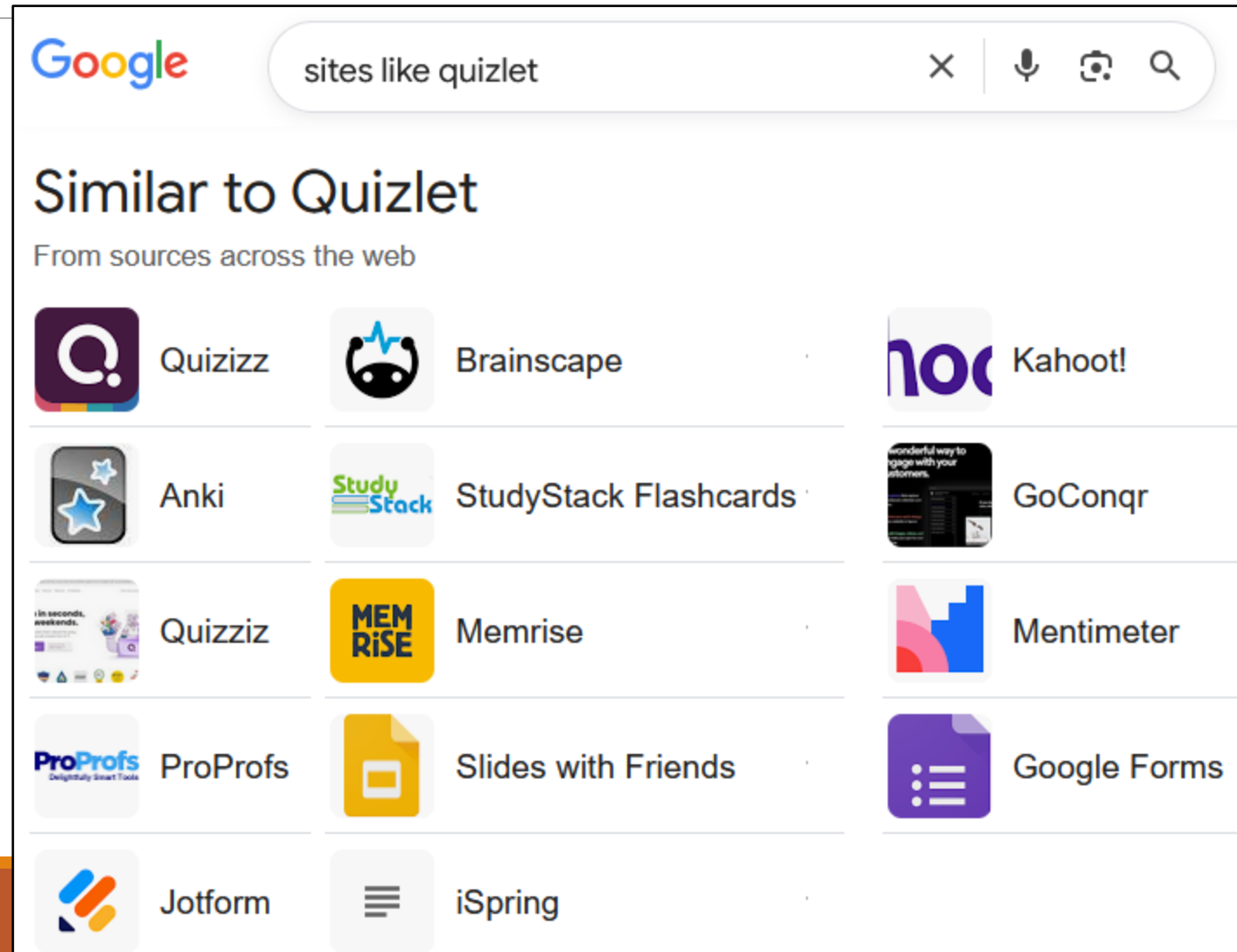
5. sites like

- Google “sites like *resource name*”



5. sites like

- Not all are free, but...



6. simple text

- Why edit in simple text?
- When pasting from Word to an LMS,
 - fonts look inconsistent across pages
 - bullets or numbering misalign
 - extra blank lines appear
 - tables lose borders or break layout
- When pasting from Word to an H5P,
 - text size or colour changes randomly
 - bullets disappear
 - apostrophes and quotation marks appear as â€™ or â€œ

6. simple text

- Create copy in plain text mode
- Paste the plain text into the development tool (H5P, Hot Potatoes, D2L, Quizlet, ...)
- Format the text

6. simple text tools

- EditPad - <https://www.editpad.org>
- NotePad on a PC
- TextEdit on a Macintosh
- Word, Save as Plain text **.txt** and then paste from the txt document.

7. Repurpose H5Ps

- 1000s of relevant H5Ps available
 - Tutela collections
<https://tutela.ca/Collections?query=h5p>
 - Avenue Course Builder
https://avenue.ca/classroom/local/csi_coursebuilder/library.php
 - eCampusOntario H5P Studio
<https://h5pstudio.ecampusontario.ca>

Repurpose open H5Ps

H5Ps “54” editors



Interactive Video

Create videos enriched with interactions



Course Presentation

Create a presentation with interactive slides



Branching Scenario

Create dilemmas and self paced learning

7. Repurpose H5Ps

- These are legal and copyright normally allows reuse/repurposing
- Check each H5P's copyright to be sure
- H5Ps by nature are reusable
 1. Locate an H5P
 2. Download it or use the Reuse link
 3. Repurpose it
 4. Add it to your course



8. duplicate – save time & energy

- Think recycle, duplicate and copy-paste
- Look for the **Duplicate** or **Copy** buttons when using new tools
- Many tools are form based with Copy/paste features
- Why?
 - Develop more efficiently / quickly
 - Enhance consistency
 - Reduces errors

8. duplicate – examples

- PowerPoint – duplicate slides in the Slides pane
- Moodle – duplicate activities and resources on the main course page
- H5P – copy and paste elements on Course Presentation slides
- LMSs – duplicate courses
- H5P – Duplicate questions in Question sets

Questions
