Making Your Own Digital Videos

Another potential source of digital video is to make your own videos. You could videotape your students or even have your students make their own digital videos as part of a language-learning project. You will need a digital video camera and recording media. After recording a digital video, you can download and save that video to your computer, edit it (see below), and then burn the video to a DVD to be watched on a computer or in a DVD player connected to a TV set. Although the idea of creating your own videos might be daunting, once you have done it a few times, it is not an extremely difficult procedure.

Editing Digital Video

Once you have videos saved on your hard drive in the appropriate format, you can use videoediting software to cut out a clip or splice two separate videos together into one file. You can also add extra touches such as putting titles at the beginning, pauses or transitions within the clip, or credits at the end. Windows Movie Maker is software that comes installed on most PCs. Search your applications to see if you have it, and if not, you can also download Movie Maker for free from http://www.soft82.com/download/Windows/Windows Movie Maker or other sites (do a Google search for "Movie Maker download" and you'll find a variety of downloading options). iMovie is Apple software that comes free on new Macs. Both of these programs are good options and are relatively easy to use. Below are some resources for learning to use these programs to edit digital video.

Tutorials for Windows Movie Maker

- Written tutorial: http://www.cortland.edu/filteach/mm-course/vid-wmm.html
- Video tutorial of Movie Maker basics: http://www.youtube.com/watch? v=6DHFKVzG8Zw&feature=related

Tutorials for iMovie

- Written tutorial (very helpful!): http://it.wce.wwu.edu/resources/iMovie.htm
- Video tutorials: http://desktopvideo.about.com/od/imovievideotutorials/
 iMovie Video Tutorials Learn How to Use iMovie From Video Tutorials.htm
- Downloading and editing video from your own camera: http://reach.ucf.edu/ ~pezone/tech/imovie/