

## SECTION ONE: Project/Lesson Overview

**Grade:** 11

**Subjects:** French (10331-10332), Information Technology and Society (63311A), Introduction to Computer Programming (02411E)

**Lesson Title:** [Geology Online](#)

**Themes:** summaries, programming, programming languages (HTML and CSS)

### Lesson Description and Objectives:

The ability to summarize, synthesize, and take notes properly are indispensable skills for every discipline. In the case of new information and communication technologies, the need to shorten a text in order to reduce it to its essential information comes up frequently. This is useful for home pages on websites, for instance.

Putting themselves in the shoes of web designers working on a home page, students will determine the essential information on one of the subjects presented on the Magnificent Rocks website, in order to write a clear and concise summary of the subject.

With the help of an HTML tutorial, they will then be able to publish their text on a web page which they will design themselves.

**Time Required:** Four 60-minute periods

### Learning Outcomes:

(French)

*Document facts and events precisely and, where appropriate, concisely, and describe people and places accurately.*

- Communication skills
  - Distinguish the guiding idea of the text to be summarized.
  - Identify the other main ideas.
  - Summarize the text in own words.
  - Demonstrate objectivity.
  
- Language skills
  - Connect phrases together using relationship markers of conjunction, time, place, cause, purpose, opposition and condition.
  
  - Focus on use of the fewest, most meaningful words to achieve a concise style.

(Information Technology and Society)

*Use various information systems to gather, evaluate, adapt and share information appropriately.*

- Use information systems to locate information effectively.

(Introduction to Computer Programming)

*Understand the role of computer programming in society.*

- Be aware of advances in technology in the area of computer programming on the Francophone Web (Web 2.0 tools).
- Communicate ideas using current and appropriate vocabulary in the area of information technology.

(Transdisciplinary)

*Communication: communicate clearly in correct and appropriate language according to the given context.*

- Demonstrate an understanding of various topics orally and in writing through oral presentations, summaries, laboratory reports, field descriptions, etc., using appropriate language specific to each topic.

*Information and communication technology: Use information and communication technology (ICT) sensibly in a range of situations.*

- Use Internet tools and information sources responsibly while showing confidence and a critical approach to ICT.
- Use electronic information presentation and Web editing software independently, and learn about use of data analysis and management software.

## **SECTION TWO: Project/Lesson Implementation**

### **Equipment/Materials Required:**

- Computers with access to the Internet and to the “Magnificent Rocks” website
- Note-taking materials chosen by the student

### **Lesson Procedures/Teaching Strategies:**

1- Begin the lesson with a discussion on the value of reading and writing skills that enable us to summarize a document in our own words.

- *What are the characteristics of a good summary? (Contains all the important information in the original document, reduces the original volume of the text,*

*respects the point of view of the author, is consistent, uses accurate vocabulary, is objective, etc.)*

*- In your everyday life, where might you find a summary? (Example: home page on a website)*

*- What usually appears on a home page (or introduction) of a website?*

*- Have you ever made your own web page?*

2- Provide the context for the activity by telling the students: You are responsible for the design and creation of a web page about an important figure in the history of geology in our province, Abraham Gesner. This will be a home page (introduction) for a fictitious website.

3- Invite the students to explore the “Magnificent Rocks” website and find all the information presented about this historical figure and other related details. Once they have gathered all the information, ask them to compile it into one document.

*\*Students do not have to be limited to the subject of Abraham Gesner. You may want to ask them to summarize all the information about a particular geological time period (Precambrian, Devonian, Neogene, etc.), including people, community connections and/or familiar landscapes related to it. This is your choice.*

4- Reading the document carefully should give students a good overview of the subject. However, students should be encouraged to reread the document several times in order to identify all the important information in it and to determine its main idea.

5- In order to help them condense the document, suggest different techniques to organize the main ideas and new vocabulary: word clouds, mind maps, charts, note-taking, etc.

6- Once they are confident they have understood the important ideas in the document, students will be ready to write a summary in their own words.

*- Try to reduce the document to at least one-quarter of its original length*

*- Be objective*

*- Respect the order and chronology of the document, if applicable*

*- Avoid repetitions and redundancy*

7- Once the summary has been written, the students can begin planning the layout and design of their web page, choosing the colours, images, headings and fonts they want to use.

8- Spend at least a full period on designing the web page. Using a computer lab

would be ideal. Students should follow the steps shown in the HTML tutorial (see supplementary resources) to put their design online.

*Other instructions:*

- *Inserting a hyperlink directing visitors to the “Magnificent Rocks” website is necessary in order to cite their information source properly.*

- *A minimum of two images is suggested in order to illustrate the subject presented.*

9- If some of the students are further ahead in their work, you can suggest that they enhance the esthetic appearance of the page by using CSS programming language.

- *Suggested resource for CSS: <http://html.net/tutorials/html/lesson12.php>*

10- If time permits, students can present their summaries and web pages in front of the class (3-5 minute presentations).

### **Suggested Assessment Strategies:**

Students should be assessed on their research and presentation using a scale developed by the teacher in advance, based on the learning outcomes he or she has set as priorities for the students (presentation of the web page, quality of the summary, language skills, etc.).

*Vocabulary:*

- HTML
- CSS

## **SECTION THREE: Project/Lesson Resources**

### **Supplementary Resources:**

Magnificent Rocks:

[http://www.nbm-mnb.ca/magnificent\\_rocks-roches\\_magnifiques/home-accueil-eng/](http://www.nbm-mnb.ca/magnificent_rocks-roches_magnifiques/home-accueil-eng/)

HTML guide:

<http://html.net/tutorials/html/>

CSS guide:

<http://html.net/tutorials/html/lesson12.php>

### **Disclaimer:**

The online resources recommended in this document have been selected according to their relevance in terms of the age and grade level of the students. However, given that the content of online materials is subject to change at any time, teachers are

advised to consult the websites before recommending them to their students.

**Extension/Enrichment:**

(Other activities which may be added)

**SECTION FOUR: Additional Information**

**Credits:** Sophie Auffrey and Sara Waitzer