

Welcome to Vidfest!

This document will help you get ready to run your own Vidfest in three sections:

EQUIPMENT: The minimum equipment and software you'll need to run a Vidfest

RECOMMENDATIONS: Recommended equipment and software and how to use them

PRACTICE: Practice all the skills you'll need to run Vidfest student workshops

MAC USERS: please note that the **links to Vidfest video files in these PDF documents will not work on your computer**. You will have to open the video files manually using VLC from the 'Workshop Videos' folder of the Vidfest package.

EQUIPMENT

These are the devices, software and materials you'll need to run a Vidfest:

- A digital camera able to record video and sound for each group of 4-5 students
- Access to one Windows (or Mac) computer per group of 4-5 students during workshops 4 and 5
- An 'Educator' computer with these **free** programs installed (click links to download)
 - VLC PlayerMedia [Mac](#) [Windows](#)
 - Quicktime player [Mac and Windows](#)
 - Mpegstreamclip [Mac](#) [Windows](#)
 - Adobe Acrobat reader [Mac and Windows](#)
- Computer speakers
- A projector or large TV for each workshop session- If you need assistance with this ask your tech-helper or watch this rather cheeky [YouTube clip](#)

PLEASE NOTE: Internet access for students is **NOT** a major requirement of this project, however, the Educator running Vidfest will need access during workshops 4 & 5

If you have access to these resources- you can run a Vidfest with your students

Recommendations

These recommendations make Vidfest workshops, video recording, editing and uploading as easy as possible for an educator to manage. If you are a novice they will make running a Vidfest much simpler.

If you are confident using other tools please do so.

Educators wishing to use Mac iMovie will find excellent tutorials [here](#).

1. **Identify a tech-helper** before you start- someone who can help if things don't work.
2. **Use Windows Movie Maker (WMM) to edit student videos.** WMM 2.1 is included with Windows XP. [WMM 2.6 is a free download](#) for Windows Vista or Windows 7. ***Be aware, however, that 2.1 and 2.6 are not compatible-*** projects started in one WMM version must be completed in that same version. **For full instructions on using WMM** see [here](#)
2. **Use digital cameras with memory cards that you have a card reader for.** This will make moving files from camera to computer easier and *faster* during workshops. Watch **Video 1** to learn about memory cards and readers.
4. **Use digital cameras whose video files work in Movie Maker.** Many (not all) Canon and Fuji Finepix cameras output files that work directly in WMM. Try importing video from cameras you wish to use into WMM to see if they're compatible. If you are unable to find cameras that output files which work directly in WMM you may have to convert files using Mpegstreamclip. Watch **Video 2** to find out about video files and their conversion
5. **Use VLC media player for playback of all videos,** both in preparation for, and during your Vidfest. **It plays all Vidfest video files on both Mac and Windows** Watch **Video 3** to learn about VLC and VLC playlists

When you've identified and obtained the equipment and software you'll use, move on to the next part of the teacher preparation workshop: how they are used during the workshops.

Practice (2 ½ Hours- can done in parts)

1. Before taking video it's necessary to think about how to frame shots. To practice framing shots, open the **student framing pdf** from workshop 3 using Adobe Acrobat Reader. Use the 'take a snapshot' tool in Adobe Acrobat to practice framing photos as students will in workshop 3.
Watch *Video 4* to learn how to use the 'take a snapshot' tool.
2. Watch *Video 5* (Lighting), *Video 6* (Stability) and *Video 7* (Sound) from workshop 3. These videos illustrate other essential skills for simple video-making. Now take your camera and make a very simple short video. Your topic could be as simple as 'Making a cup of tea' - however, it must follow the Orientation/ Complication/ Climax/ Ending convention explained in the resources section of this workshop. The video must also be made to these guidelines:
 - It must have 4 shots and be made using a string tripod (explained in Video 6)
 - Each shot must start/ stop as close as possible to the beginning/ end of action
 - Any shots that are not to be used are deleted from the camera
3. After you have made a 4 shot video, take the footage off your camera and play the four shots in order with VLC media player's playlist as shown in *Video 3*.
4. Open Windows Movie Maker and **set it up correctly** so that your project can be moved between computers **and** you lessen your chances of losing work due to computer failure.
Watch *Video 8* to learn set-up, structure files and move WMM projects
5. Insert a simple title at the beginning of your video and simple transitions between each shot. If you need to learn how to use WMM, there are full instructions [here](#).
5. When you're happy with your video, export it using the settings in *Video 13* (.wmv for Movie Maker/ .mp4 or .mov for Mac)
7. Familiarise yourself with the requisite information and and process for registering for Vidfest. Full registration details are in the resources section of this workshop (you'll register after workshop 4)
8. Familiarise yourself with the process that you'll follow to upload students' video to your Vidfest page after students have made their videos.
Watch *Video 15 for full instructions*
7. Familiarise yourself with all the Video resources in the **Workshop Videos folder** and student workshops 1-5.

Resources

Orientation, Complication, Climax, Ending Convention

In the Vidfest workshops, students will be asked to deconstruct video using the commonplace storytelling convention Orientation, Complication, Climax and Ending.

Here is a simple explanation of this convention:

The Orientation gives the viewer the setting of our story- where are we? Who is there? It allows the viewer to identify when the complication enters the story.

The Complication: The complication is something that changes in the setting that makes the viewer want to know how the story turns out.

The Climax occurs when the situation created by the complication is close to playing out. It is the moment where we wonder will this work out okay?

The Ending is where the viewer finds out what happens. Was the complication solved? If so, how? What's the ending of the story?

Here's an example of a story that uses the convention...

Orientation: Girl at school walking to canteen saying 'I'd love a hamburger...

Complication: Girl arrives at canteen, but is 50 cents short. She starts searching for a friend to borrow money from. She asks a few friends who don't have any change. Her blood sugar starts to plummet, she feels weak...

Climax: It gets closer and closer to the time that the canteen will close, she asks another friend who gives her 50 cents...She rushes to the canteen...

Resolution: The canteen is closing but she manages to get her burger... finally, she bites into it, but it's cold.

Resources

Registering for Vidfest

Vidfest registration takes place after student workshop 4 is completed- by that time you will have all the information you need to register for Vidfest .

24/48 hours after registering you'll receive your own Vidfest page and login by email. Your Vidfest login will allow you to upload videos and personalise your Vidfest page.

Register at syn.org.au/vidfest/register once you have the following information:

-Educator/ organiser name

-Educator/ organiser email

-Educator/ organiser phone number

-School/ organisation name

-Year level/ age group

-Learning/ curriculum area

-Your Festival name and a short description (2-3 Sentences)

-A logo for your festival (can be a photo or scan of *your* festival logo)

-A custom URL of your choice i.e. www.syn.org.au/vidfest/schoolx (replace 'schoolx' with your festival name- HINT: make it short!). This will become the web address of your Vidfest.

-Whether you want your Vidfest to be public or private (Public means anyone can look at your festival/ Private means only people with the URL will be able to find it). For further clarification about private/public Vidfests, contact SYN on 03 9925-4747 or email education@syn.org.au

-Whether you're using MACs or PCs

-Any other queries you have about Vidfest