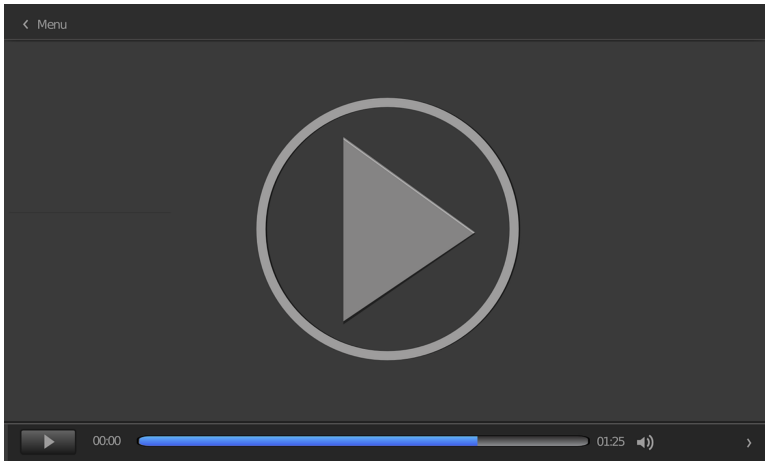
IMPROVING THE WRITING AND ORGANISING OF NOTES ON A FILM

Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4

The Problem

When taking notes on a film:

- I would provide no concrete indication of what point of the film I was referring to, which would require me to scrub through to find it.
- I would spend a lot of time searching my notes for observations on particular ideas (e.g. the use of colour).

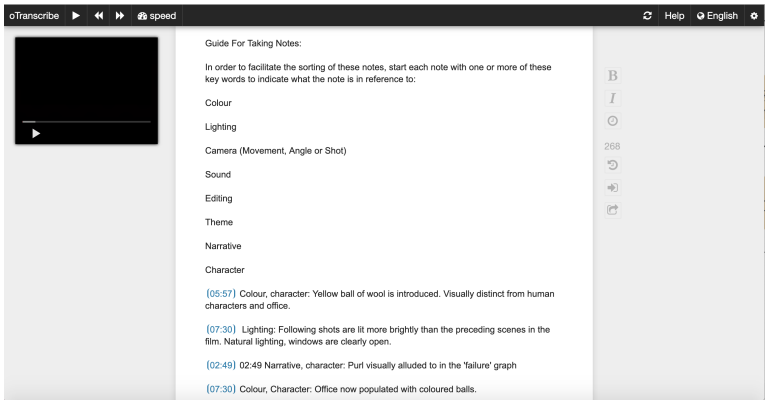


"vector-video-player-movie-player-941434" by Pixel_perfect is licensed under the Pixabay License

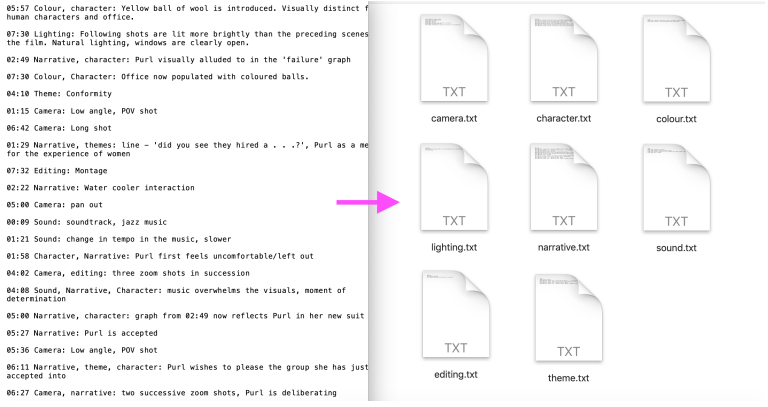
"search-loupe-document-97587" by OpenIcons is licensed under the Pixabay License

IMPROVING THE WRITING AND ORGANISING OF NOTES ON A FILM

Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4



oTranscribe Web Application



Input and Output of Shell Script

The Solution

- oTranscribe – > allows you to take notes while watching a video with a timestamp. I am running the software myself on GitHub, ensuring its availability.
- A shell script to sort notes exported from oTranscribe into separate files based on their mention of the keywords: camera, character, colour, editing, lighting, narrative, sound, and/or theme.

CC BY

Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4

Steps to Run oTranscribe

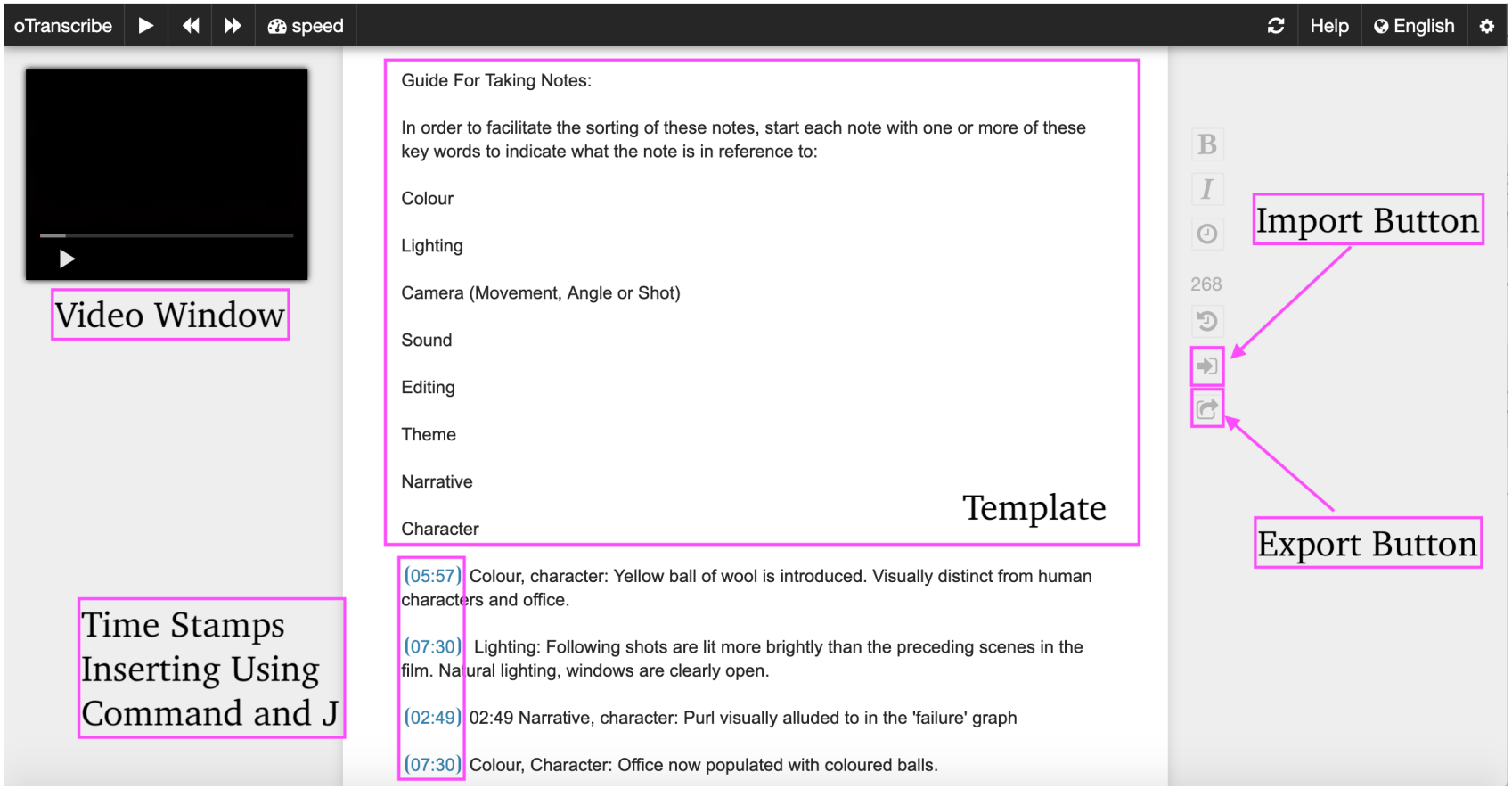
- I downloaded oTranscribe's GitHub Repository.
- Using the files downloaded from the repositoy, I compiled a dist folder using NPM and Node.js.
- I installed Jekyll.
- I copied the contents of the complied dist folder to a folder called docs and pushed this to my Hunt-Exercises repository on GitHub.
- I created index.md in my repository and within this file, created a link to the docs folder. I then selected that GitHub pages run off the master branch of my repository.
- This can be accessed with my entire proof of concept at `https://mq-foar705.github.io/Hunt-Exercises/`

oTranscribe Interface

IMPROVING THE WRITING AND ORGANISING OF NOTES ON A FILM

Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4

. . . back to steps

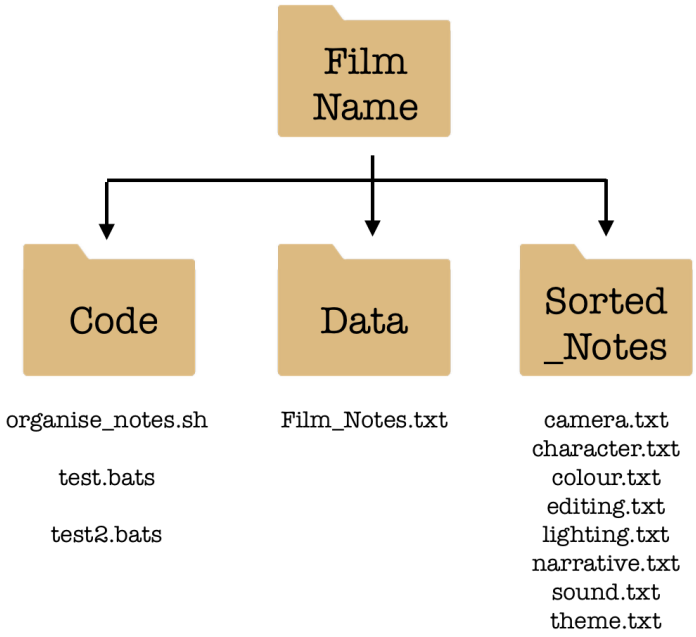


Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4

Shell Script

The below right is my shell script to sort a txt file exported from oTranscribe into eight separate txt files based on their mention of keywords. With the Film Name folder in a directory set up like the one in the image on the below left, run

`bash code/organise_notes.sh data/Film_Notes.txt`




```
# Script to sort notes in a txt file from oTranscribe into
separate txt files on the basis of their mention of
specific keywords
# Run this script with the filename of the notes as the
argument
# Usage: bash organise_notes.sh Film_Notes.txt

for keyword in colour lighting camera sound editing theme
narrative character
# Edit these words to search for different terms
#Editing the number of terms will result in test2.bats
failing.

do
grep -i $keyword $1 > Sorted_Notes/$keyword.txt
done
```

"Antu folder-brown.svg" by Fabián Alexis is licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0

Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4

Automated Testing

Requires the installation of bats-core

```
#!/usr/bin/env bats

@test "making sure there is a single file for the
script to be run on" {
  result="$(ls -1 data/*.txt | wc -l)"
  [ "$result" -eq 1 ]
}
```

Ensures there is only one txt file in the Data folder for the script to be run on. Usage: with Film Name as the working directory, run

`/path to bats-core on your computer/bats-core/bin/bats code/test.bats`

```
#!/usr/bin/env bats

@test "making sure eight files were produced" {
  result="$(ls -1 sorted_notes/*.txt | wc -l)"
  [ "$result" -eq 8 ]
}
```

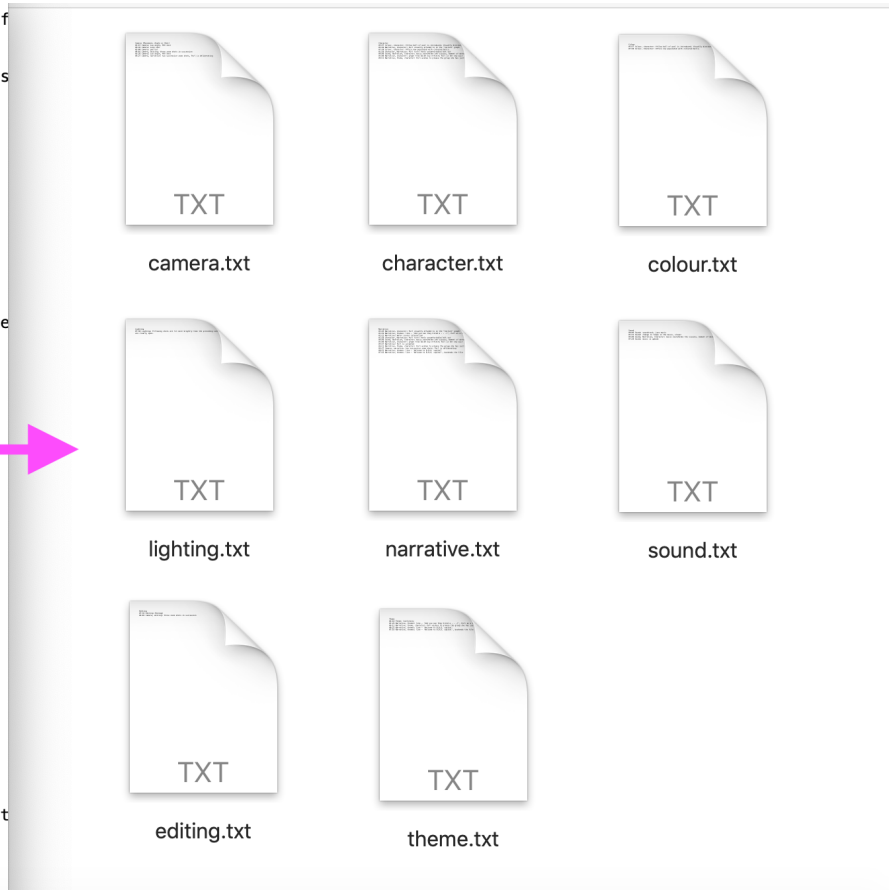
Ensures there are eight txt files produced by the script in the Sorted_Notes folder. Usage: with Film Name as the working directory, run

`/path to bats-core on your computer/bats-core/bin/bats code/test2.bats`

IMPROVING THE WRITING AND ORGANISING OF NOTES ON A FILM

Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4

```
05:57 Colour, character: Yellow ball of wool is introduced. Visually distinct f
human characters and office.

07:30 Lighting: Following shots are lit more brightly than the preceding scenes
the film. Natural lighting, windows are clearly open.

02:49 Narrative, character: Purl visually alluded to in the 'failure' graph

07:30 Colour, Character: Office now populated with coloured balls.

04:10 Theme: Conformity

01:15 Camera: Low angle, POV shot

06:42 Camera: Long shot

01:29 Narrative, themes: line - 'did you see they hired a . . .?', Purl as a me
for the experience of women

07:32 Editing: Montage

02:22 Narrative: Water cooler interaction

05:00 Camera: pan out

00:09 Sound: soundtrack, jazz music

01:21 Sound: change in tempo in the music, slower

01:58 Character, Narrative: Purl first feels uncomfortable/left out

04:02 Camera, editing: three zoom shots in succession

04:08 Sound, Narrative, Character: music overwhelms the visuals, moment of
determination

05:00 Narrative, character: graph from 02:49 now reflects Purl in her new suit

05:27 Narrative: Purl is accepted

05:36 Camera: Low angle, POV shot

06:11 Narrative, theme, character: Purl wishes to please the group she has just
accepted into

06:27 Camera, narrative: two successive zoom shots, Purl is deliberating
```



Input Into Script ———> Output Of Script

Emily Hunt DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/MRNW4

Some Concluding Points:

- My project addresses the collection as well as data processing & analysis stages of the research data lifecycle (Corti et al. 2014 17-18)
- It also exists within the intersection of 'the fields of Digital Humanities and Cinema & Media Studies (which) are an increasingly fruitful pairing' (deWaard 2016: n.p.)
- By allowing me to better organise my notes based on their content and have an associated timestamp with each of these, my tools will save me a lot of time.

Corti, Louise, den Eynden, Veerle Van, Bishop, Libby, Woollard (2014) *Managing and Sharing Research Data: A Guide to Good Practice*, United Kingdom: SAGE.

deWaard, Andrew (2016) 'ClipNotes in the Classroom: Video Annotation Software for Instruction and Collaboration', *DH and Media Studies Crossovers Cinema Journal Teaching Dossier*, vol. 3, no. 3, accessed at http://www.teachingmedia.org/clipnotes-in-the-classroom-video-annotation-software-for-instruction-and-collaboration/