

Mashups 2.0

A Rich Internet Application for Language Learning

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Overview:

A "mashup" is a web page that combines data from two or more data sources on the same page. CLEAR's mashups combine media elements from services that host media and exposes the HTML code that embeds the media into web pages. Services such as Viewpoint and YouTube provide this functionality. In addition to media, mashups also include a SMILE activity and formatted text.

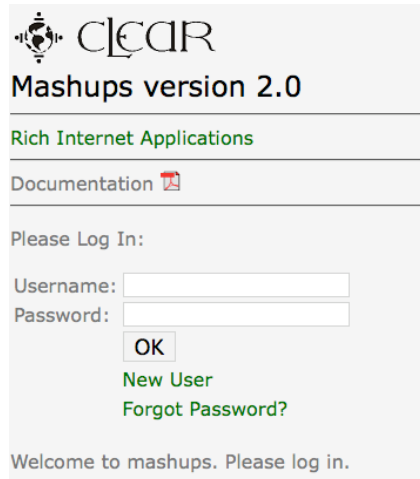
The elements of a mashup are housed outside the mashup itself. Since mashups are made up of links to external resources, they are vulnerable to data loss. If the owner of the external resource changes, moves, or deletes the resource, the mashup will no longer contain that resource. For that reason, it is advisable that mashups be created from resources that are stable, or owned and controlled by the creator of the mashup.

Mashups can be created by instructors to provide language practice exercises for students, or other learning resources. Students can create mashups containing their own work, demonstrating their language skills. The interaction, feedback and record-keeping functionality of SMILE also allow mashups to be used for assessment purposes.

The program is free for non-commercial, educational uses. The program can be accessed from this URL: <http://ria.clear.msu.edu/> .

Log In:

You can log in from the RIA home page, or from within Mashups. To log in from with Mashups, type your CLEAR username and password in the login screen:



CLEAR
Mashups version 2.0

Rich Internet Applications

Documentation

Please Log In:

Username:

Password:

OK

[New User](#)

[Forgot Password?](#)

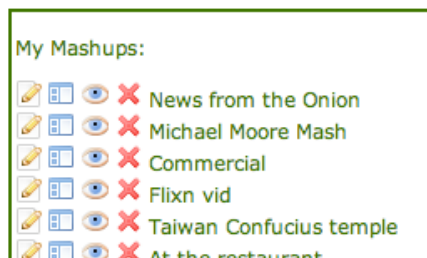
Welcome to mashups. Please log in.

Create an Account:

If you do not yet have an account, simply click the link “New User” on the login page and you will be redirected to a page where you can create an account instantly. Your password will be mailed to you.

The Interface:

The left-hand side of the window is the navigation area. All of your mashups are listed here.



Creating a New Mashup:

Create a new mashup by clicking the icon labeled “New Mashup”



Your mashup will be created, named “Untitled Mashup,” and listed automatically.

Editing Mashups:

Next to the name of each mashup is a list of icons, representing functions that you can perform on the mashup.



Edit the mashup



Delete the mashup



Position elements on the screen



View the mashup in a separate browser window

Edit a Mashup: 

Clicking the edit icon displays a screen where you can the name and content of your mashup.

Edit your Mashup

Mashup Info:

Title:

Add a SMILE Activity?

SMILE ID:

Text Areas:

Add a text area

Embed Elements

Add an embeddable element

Picture

Picture
(Paste in a URL from the Internet or from your Snapshots account.)

Add a picture

Audio Dropbox

Include an Audio Dropbox:

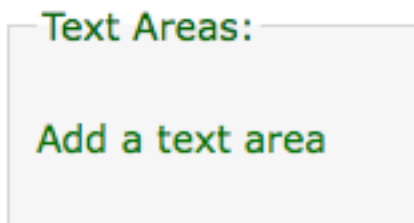
Save your work

Save

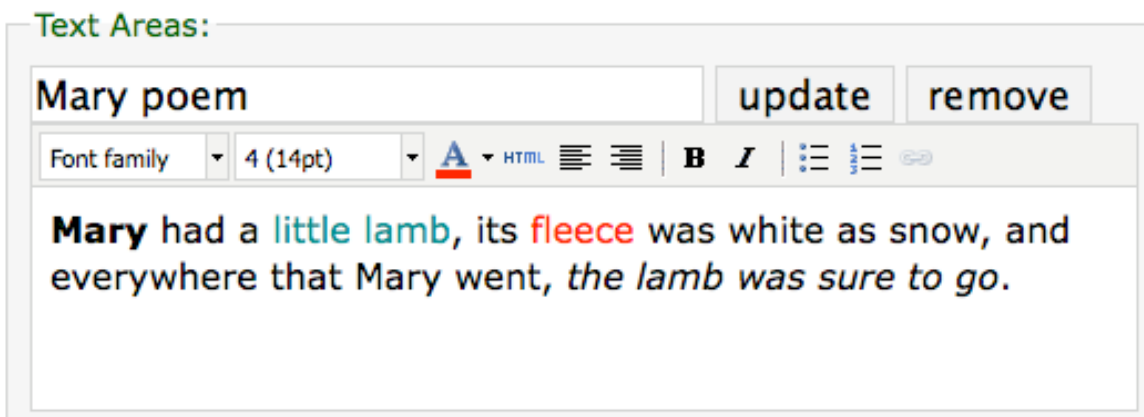
Adding Formatted Text Using the Rich Text Editor:

The rich text editor allows you to add text to the mashup. The text could be an introduction, explanation, or instructions for the user.

Your mashup can contain any number of text areas. Add a text area by clicking the link



The editor allows you to change the font, size, color, and layout of the text. Use the menu bar at the top of the editor to make the format changes.



After editing your text, be sure to click the “update” button to save your work.

When you save, you will get a “growl” indicator message. It will fade away in a few seconds.



You can have any number of text areas. Add a text area by clicking the link “Add a text area.”

[Add a text area](#)

Adding links to media elements using the embed code:

Audio or video clips hosted by any web service that exposes the HTML code for embedding the media resource can be included in a mashup.

In YouTube and Viewpoint, the HTML code is in a text box that looks like this:

```
Embed <object width="425" height="350"> <param name="m
```

Create an embeddable element by clicking the link “Add an embeddable element.”

Embed Elements

Add an embeddable element

Simply copy the HTML code from the service such as YouTube, and paste it into the box.

Embed Elements

item label	update	remove
New Content		

Embed Elements

YouTube Video	update	remove
<pre><object width="480" height="385"><param name="movie" value="http://www.youtube.com/v/O2KU021sfH8&hl=en&fs=1&rel=0& color1=0x234900&color2=0x4e9e00"></param><param name="allowFullScreen" value="true"></param><param name="allowscriptaccess" value="always"></param><embed src="http://www.youtube.com/v/O2KU021sfH8&hl=en&fs=1&rel=0& color1=0x234900&color2=0x4e9e00" type="application/x- shockwave-flash" allowscriptaccess="always" allowfullscreen="true" width="480" height="385"></embed> </object></pre>		

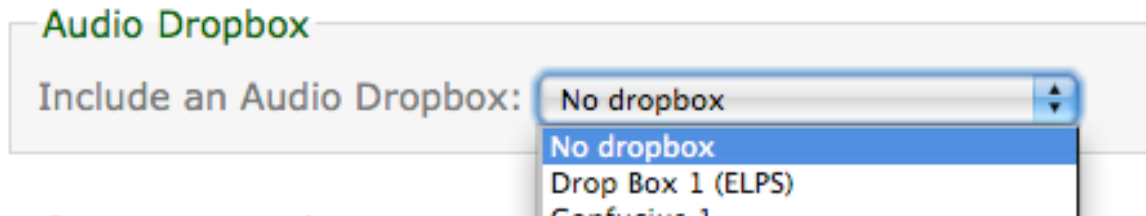
Click the “update” button to save your work.

You can have any number of embeddable items in a single mashup. Add an item by clicking the link “Add an embeddable element.”

Add an embeddable element

Adding an Audio Dropbox:

If you have created an Audio Dropbox, you can include it on your Mashup page. From the dropdown list of all of your dropboxes, choose the dropbox that you want to use.



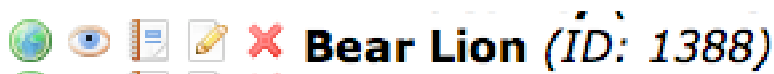
Adding a SMILE Activity:

If you have created a SMILE activity, you can include it on your Mashup. You can also include someone else's activity.

From within SMILE, locate a SMILE activity from your account. Click the "My Activities" link in the navigation pane on the left.

[My Activities](#)

Next to the name of each activity is an ID number in parentheses. This is the number that you will enter into the mashup edit page.



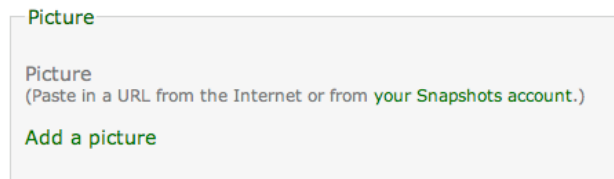
Type the number of the activity in the Mashups editor:

A screenshot of a form titled "Add a SMILE Activity?". Below the title is a text input field labeled "SMILE ID:" which contains the number "1081".

Adding a Picture:

If you have the URL of a picture that is on the Internet, you can include it in your Mashup. You can also upload pictures to your RIA account, and include them in your Mashups.

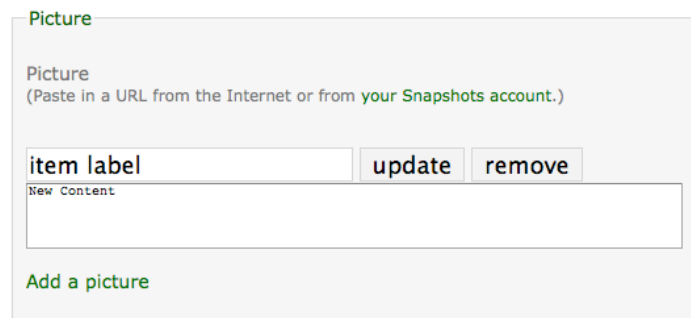
First, click the link “Add a picture.”



A screenshot of a dialog box titled "Picture" in green text. Below the title, the text "Picture" is followed by "(Paste in a URL from the Internet or from your Snapshots account.)" in a smaller font. At the bottom of the dialog, there is a green link that says "Add a picture".

You can type a label for the picture. This is just for your reference: the label will not appear on the Mashup page.

In the box below the label is a larger box in which you type the URL of the picture to embed in the Mashup. Note that the URL must be for the picture, NOT for the web page that contains the picture. The URL must end with the extension for a graphic format, such as JPG, GIF, or PNG.



A screenshot of the "Add a picture" dialog box, showing an updated version. It has the same title and instructions as the previous screenshot. Below the instructions, there is a text input field containing the text "item label". To the right of this field are two buttons: "update" and "remove". Below the input field is a larger text area with the placeholder text "New Content". At the bottom, the green "Add a picture" link is still present.

You will also see a link to “your Snapshots account.” This link will take you to another RIA, “Snapshots,” which is an online repository for your pictures. You can use Snapshots to store pictures for use in Mashups.

When you click on a picture's thumbnail in Snapshots, you will see a full-sized version of the picture, with the URL under it.



DELETE


<http://clear.msu.edu/teaching/online/ria/snapshots/dumpster/pic.443.jpg>

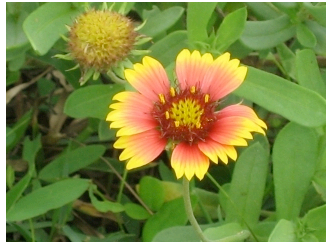
Highlight and copy the URL, then close the window to return to your Mashup, and paste the URL into the picture embed code box.

Click the “update” button to save your work.

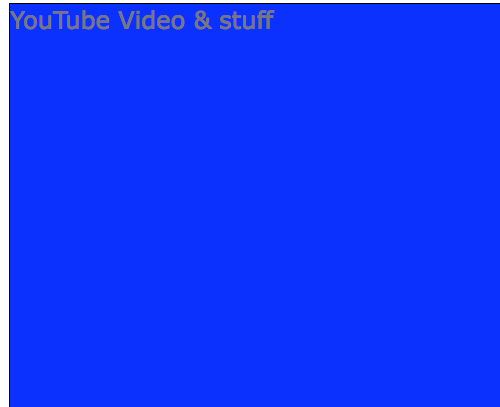
Picture	<input type="button" value="update"/>	<input type="button" value="remove"/>
<pre>http://clear.msu.edu/teaching/online/ria/snapshots/dumpster/pic.44.jpg</pre>		

Positioning elements on the page:

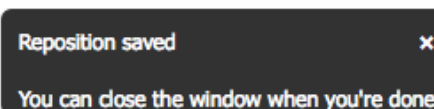
Click the “position” icon () to open the mashup in a mode in which you can position your elements on the screen. Drag elements around the screen to organize the mashup as you want it to appear in final form.



Mary had a little lamb, its fleece was white as snow, and everywhere that Mary went, the lamb was sure to go.




As you move items on the screen, the system will update the position of the elements, saving your work dynamically. Each time you finish moving an element, this message will appear briefly:



When you are done with the layout, you can close the browser window to return to the main Mashup screen.

Linking to the mashup:

Click this icon to view the mashup in a separate browser window. This allows you to recover the unique URL of the mashup. You can then copy this URL and link to it, so that others can access the mashup directly.

 <http://clear.msu.edu/teaching/online/mashup/view.php?ID=MTE>