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How to use storytelling in eLearning

Some examples to create effective eLearning courses thanks to storytelling.

In a previous article we talked about the reasons for using storytelling in eLearning. But how could you actually use stories in online learning? Let's see some examples.

1. Use the stories to illustrate the topics of the course

Boring content can be made attractive through short, engaging stories. For example, you can provide the learner with theoretical information on a given topic and then you can present a **case that can be solved** with the application of the knowledge you have just transmitted.
People empathize with the character presented in the case and try to help him in the best possible way, thus learning and absorbing the necessary information. When they make mistakes the character will suffer: this will bring them to experience a feeling of failure that will force them not to repeat the same mistake twice.

2. Use stories to drop students into context

Student can be exponentially turned into the protagonists of the training through the **immersive experience** in stories where they're asked to play the leading role. For example with a **role play** where they're asked to virtually face the challenges and responsibilities of a typical day in a given job role. With different quizzes and with the projection of various scenarios, students can learn, explore different options and touch the consequences of their decisions. All of this is emotionally engaging, immediately applies to the practical application of concepts and is motivating.
In short, it is gamification.

3. Use the stories because they are exactly what you want to teach

It may happen that you want to teach learners a story. With online learning you can **contextualize the story and provide it with an interactive aspect**. Students watch the video and can get more information when and if they wish to: for getting access to definitions of specialized terminology, or insights on the characters.

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