

Create Your Photo Essay Using StoryMapJS Software

If there are different locations in your story, even different locations such as different streets in a town, use StoryMapJS. Otherwise use Timeline JS.

There are PowerPoint slides to help show you how to work StoryMapJS. You can find them at <http://professorjacobs.weebly.com/> (go to the Influence of Mass Media tab and scroll down the page)

- **You will need to have all your photos available on your computer so you can upload them to StoryMapJS.**
- **I strongly advise you to compose all your text in Word. Use an Arial font without any special formatting, such as bold, italics, etc. Spellcheck and then paste your text into the appropriate boxes as you upload each photo. Points are deducted for errors with spelling, grammar, etc.**
- **Create a Google Drive (email) account which you will need to save and publish a copy of the StoryMapJS file of your story.**

Here is the link to StoryMapJS <http://storymap.knightlab.com/> Click on “make a storymap now”.

Click “new” and then “map”. Name your StoryMapJS file to your Google Drive account.

The first slide is the title slide. You will upload the image that comes first (the first of five photos) in your photo essay and type information to give an overview of the story.

1. You are required to create a title for the photo essay and you place that in the “headline” section of the title slide. Type a few words that represent a (newspaper) headline such as – “A Long Drive On Day Two”. The headline will come in all capital letters.
2. On the left side of the screen under “media” click on “upload an image”. Click on “choose file” to find the photo (file) on your computer, and then double-click on the photo (file) from your computer that serves as the first photo in the photo essay. Double – click will upload the photo and it becomes the photo used for the “title” slide.
3. Under, “credit”, type in your first and last name. (You will enter your full name under “credit” with every photo you upload.)

4. Leave “caption” blank.

Notice that you can click between the “edit” and “preview” tabs at any time during the editing process.

5. In the “headline” area type a few words that explain the photo (just like a newspaper headline). The text here is in all capital letters.
6. Below the “headline” area is a blank text box. Type your two to three paragraph introduction to the photo essay story. This introduction must provide information so the reader will know what your photo essay story is all about.

In the lower right hand corner is “slide options”. A background color can be chosen but it is optional. Do not insert a background photo.

7. With the title slide complete now go to the left hand side of your screen to “add slide +”. When you click on “add slide +” it creates a slide below the title slide and you are now preparing to place the information and location of the second photo of your photo essay.
8. With this new slide you will see a “search” box in the middle of the screen with a map. Type the location, anywhere from the name of the town or city to even the street address and hit enter. You will see the location come up on a Google map and you can adjust the view from the slider on the left hand side of the screen. This process places the location of your story on the map, along with the photo, in your story.

Now repeat the process of steps 2-8, starting with “media”, “upload an image” which you will do so for each of the three remaining photos for the photo essay.

Remember to use the “preview” tab to check your work as you progress.

Once you have created your photo essay with all five photos and the appropriate information you can now prepare your StoryMapJS file for publication on the CCC Times Wordpress site.

When your photo essay is complete in StoryMapJS, look in the upper right hand corner of StoryMapJS to find the “share” button. Click on “share”.

Copy the entire “link”.

Open Wordpress.

Follow the directions to paste your “link” into the CCC Times Wordpress site.

Posting Your Photo Essay in StoryMapJS to the CCC Times Wordpress Site

You have been sent an email invitation to join the CCC Times blog as an author. Accept the invitation for the CCC Times blog. When it asks for an email make sure you use your student email address unless you have a preexisting Wordpress account. After you accept the invitation you will get another email admitting you to the CCC Times blog. Very important - click on the link from the second email that takes you to the CCC Times home page (CCCTimes.net). **IMPORTANT:** *You are joining and submitting to the CCC Times Wordpress blog. Do not create and do not post work in your own Wordpress blog.*

*(An author can edit, publish and delete their posts, as well as upload files and images. Authors do not have access to modify, add, delete, or publish pages. Please remember, you will do the work to prepare your photo essay **but will not publish** it to the blog. You will save the work to the blog in queue and the instructor approves it for publication. Save your photo essay but do not publish it.)*

On the upper right hand corner, hover over your account name. A box will appear showing you "CCCTimes", hover over it and then another box will appear with "new post", click on "new post" to take you to the "add new post" page.

1. In the "post title" box type a brief (two to five word) title of your photo essay followed by a "-" (dash) and the words "Photo Essay" (do not include the quotation marks).

Immediately below is a text box.

Paste your embed code from TimelineJS/StoryMapJS into the box and hit the "enter" key on your keyboard. Very important to press "enter" and make the embed active otherwise the link will not open.

Under "categories & tags" make sure "Influence of Mass Media Photo Essay" and at least one other appropriate category is checked. It is in this area that you must create a total of 20 "tags" (four for each photo). Type in the four "tags" for each photo that describes and/or identifies what the viewer sees in the photo.

Under "featured image" click on "featured image" and upload the same photo that is the first photo on your TimelineJS/StoryMapJS story. You should have this image (file) on your computer and will be able to use the upload function from Wordpress. This featured image is important. The image will appear on the blog as a way to identify your story from others. Preview the image in Wordpress and crop the photo to make sure it fits properly into the space provided.

Now you need text for the "excerpt". Scroll down until you see "sharing". Click on "sharing". First, identify yourself using your full name as the author of the story. Type "By: (first name, last name), and then type "Influence of Mass Media" (don't use the quotation marks!). Also, include the first sentence that appears as part of your two to three paragraph description found with your first image from StoryMapJS.

Once you have proofed your work click the "preview" button which takes you back to the edit screen. If you need to make any edits or changes (check your work) you can preview as many times as you need to make sure it is correct. Work is automatically saved.

Do not publish your draft!

You will have completed all the necessary steps to prepare your photo essay for publication.

Do not press the publish button.

Your work must be approved.

Publication is administered by the instructor.

If for some reason you could not finish your draft and in your confusion started a second draft, please finish preparing your work to complete the assignment but let the instructor know of the error so the first draft attempt is deleted.