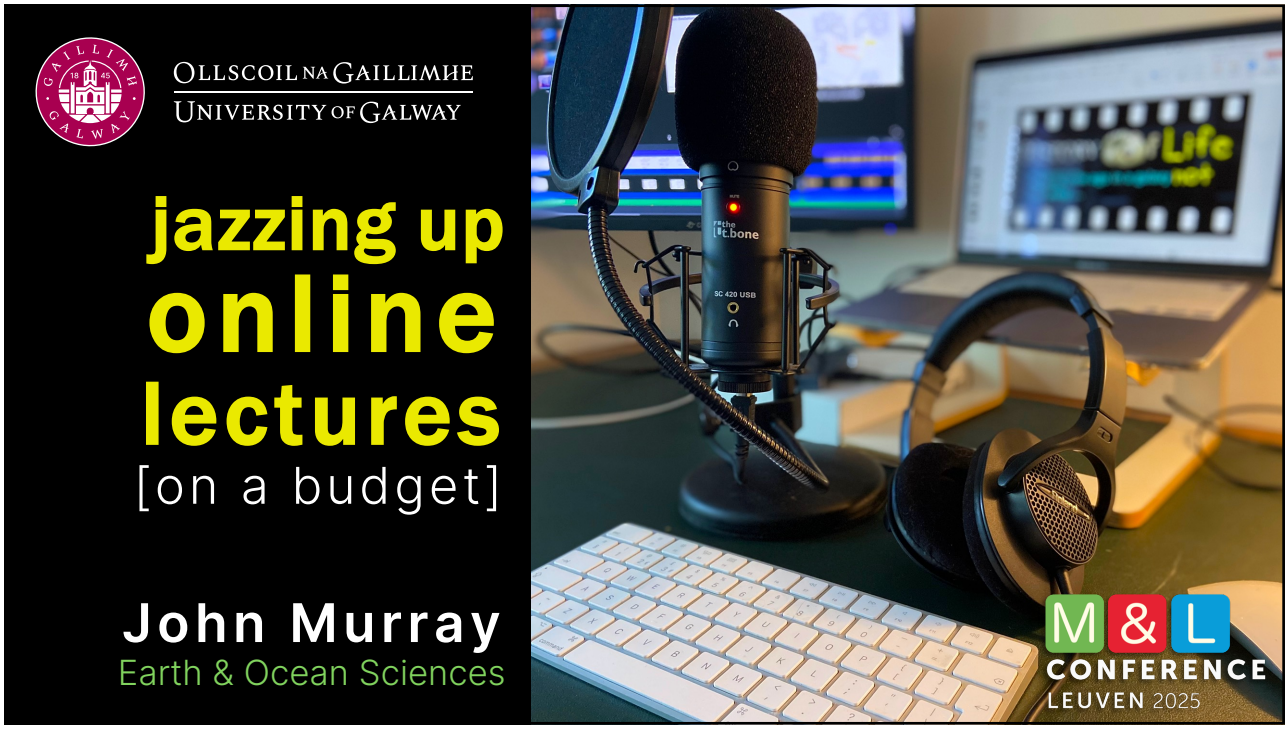
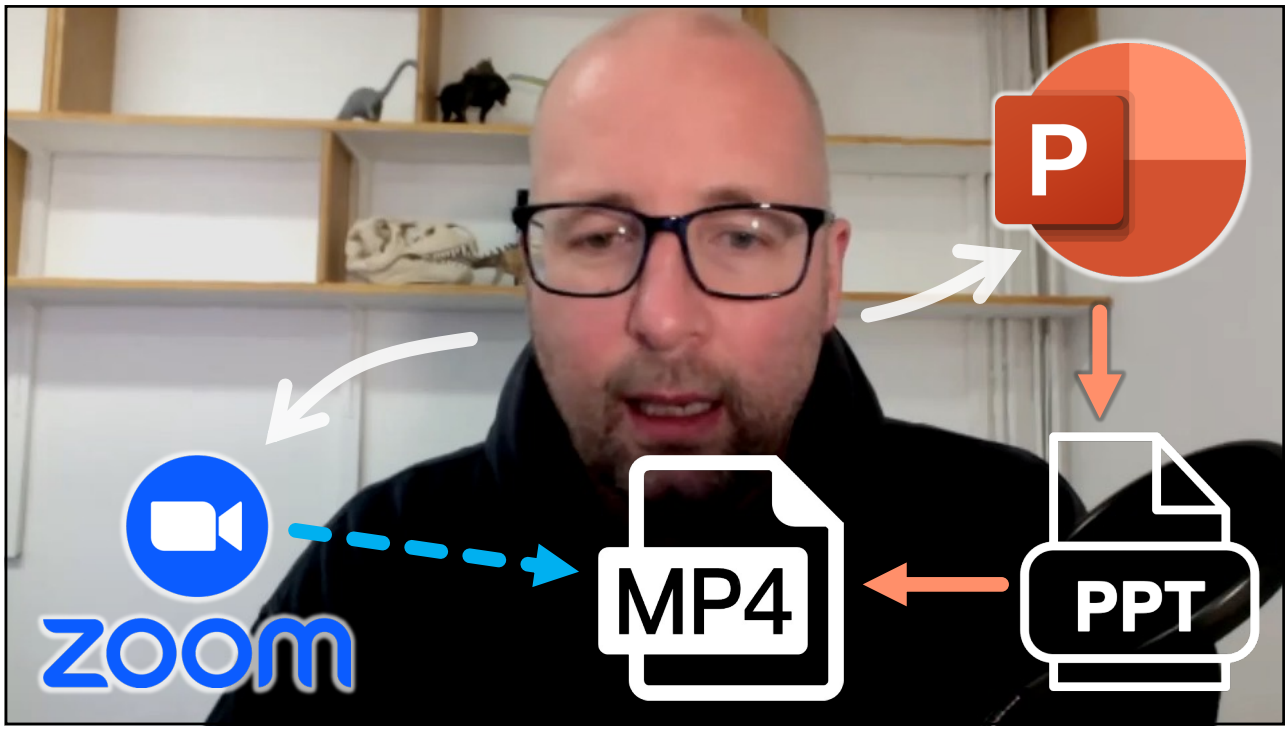
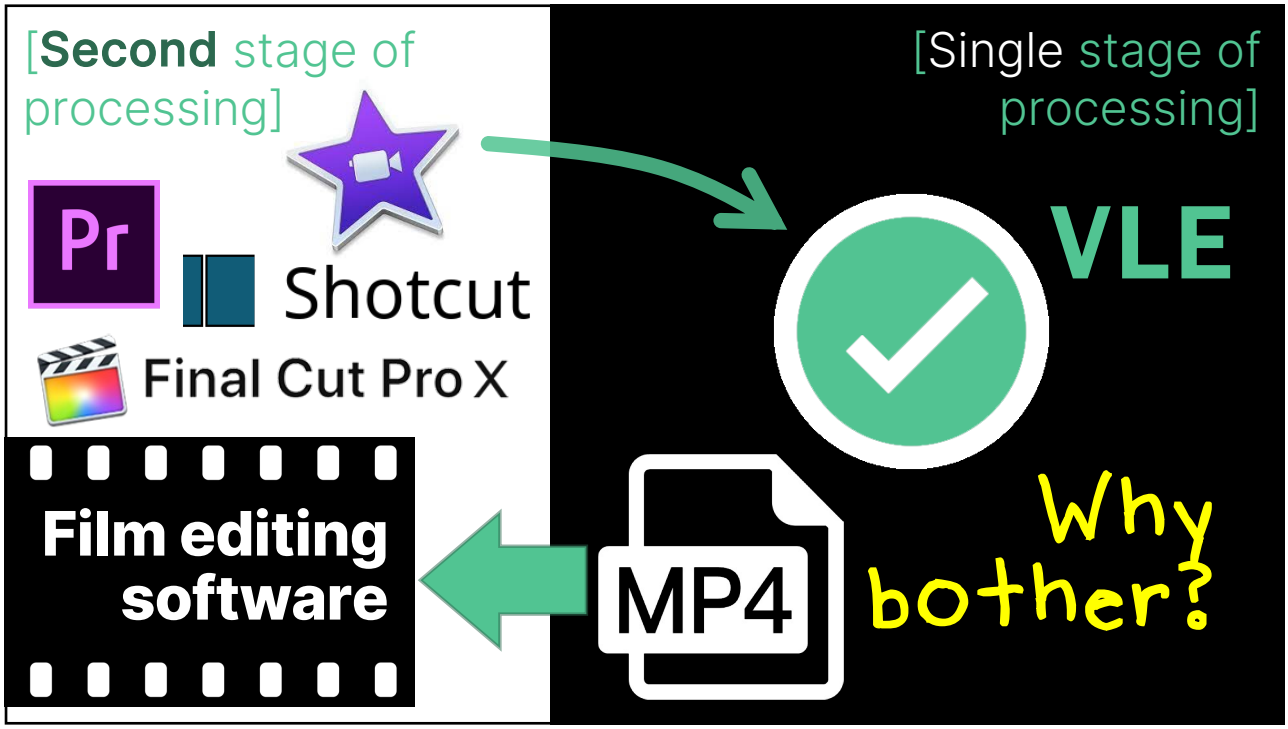

Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
University of Galway
jazzing up
online
lectures
[on a budget]
John Murray
Earth & Ocean Sciences
M&L
CONFERENCE
LEUVEN 2025

1


zoom
MP4
PPT

2



3

History of Life

A long time ago in a galaxy not far away....

- **5 ECTS** undergraduate module
- Taken by final year **science students**
- 6 weeks / 6 themes / **flipped** classroom

Tips

4

5

2. Insert [free] clips/stock footage to **augment core message** + **immerse** students

px St

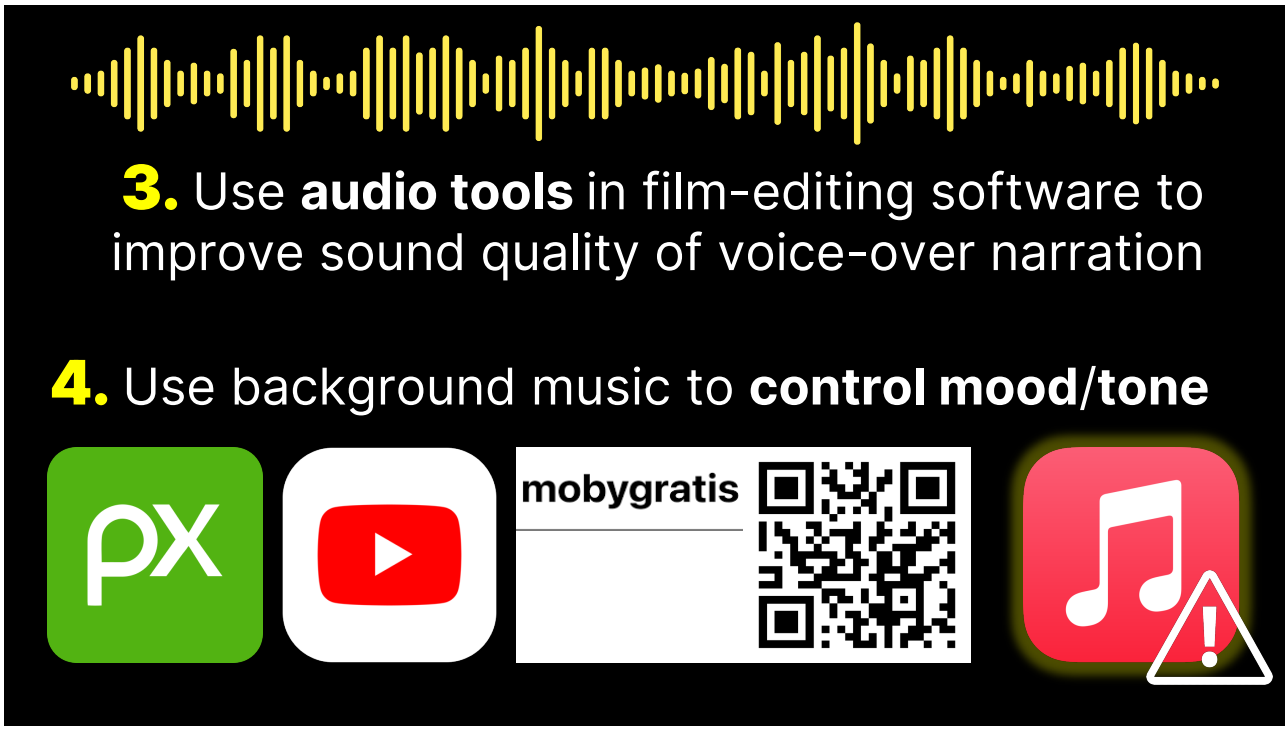
[main clips or overlays]

3. Use opening sequences to **grab attention**

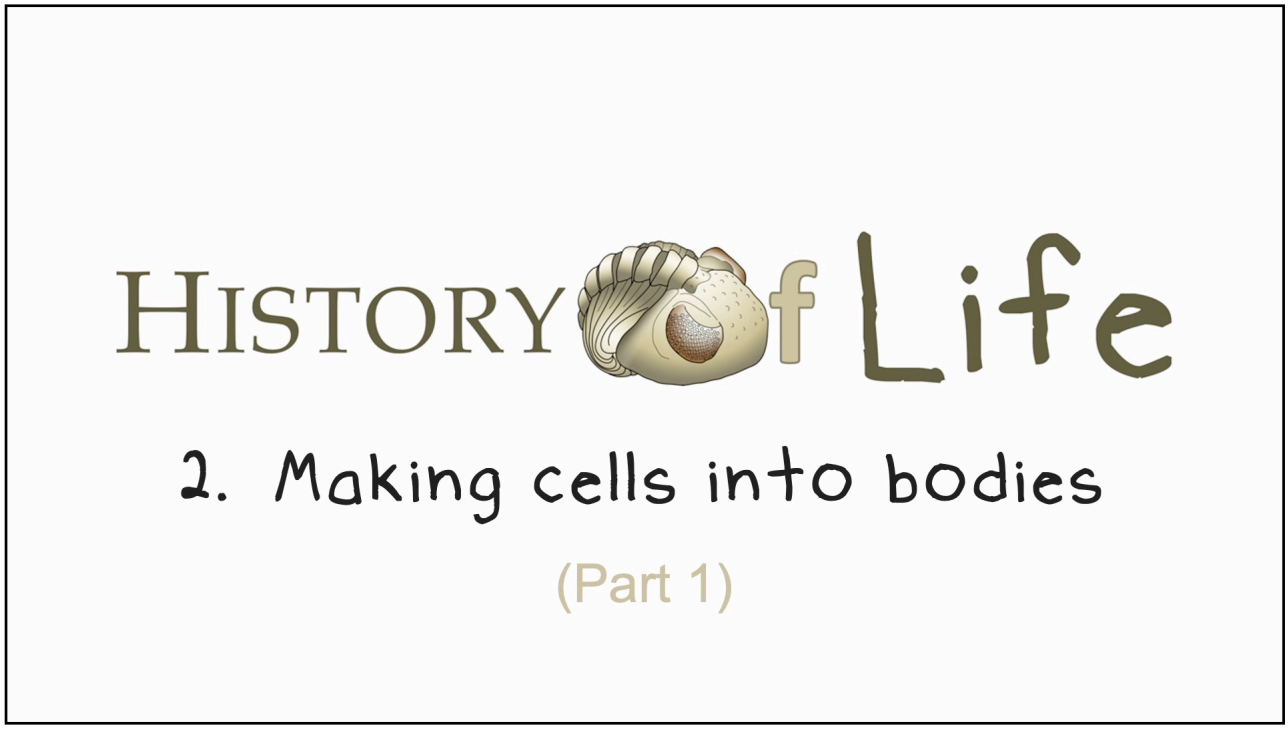
6

History of Life
6. Mammalian Revolution
(Part 1)

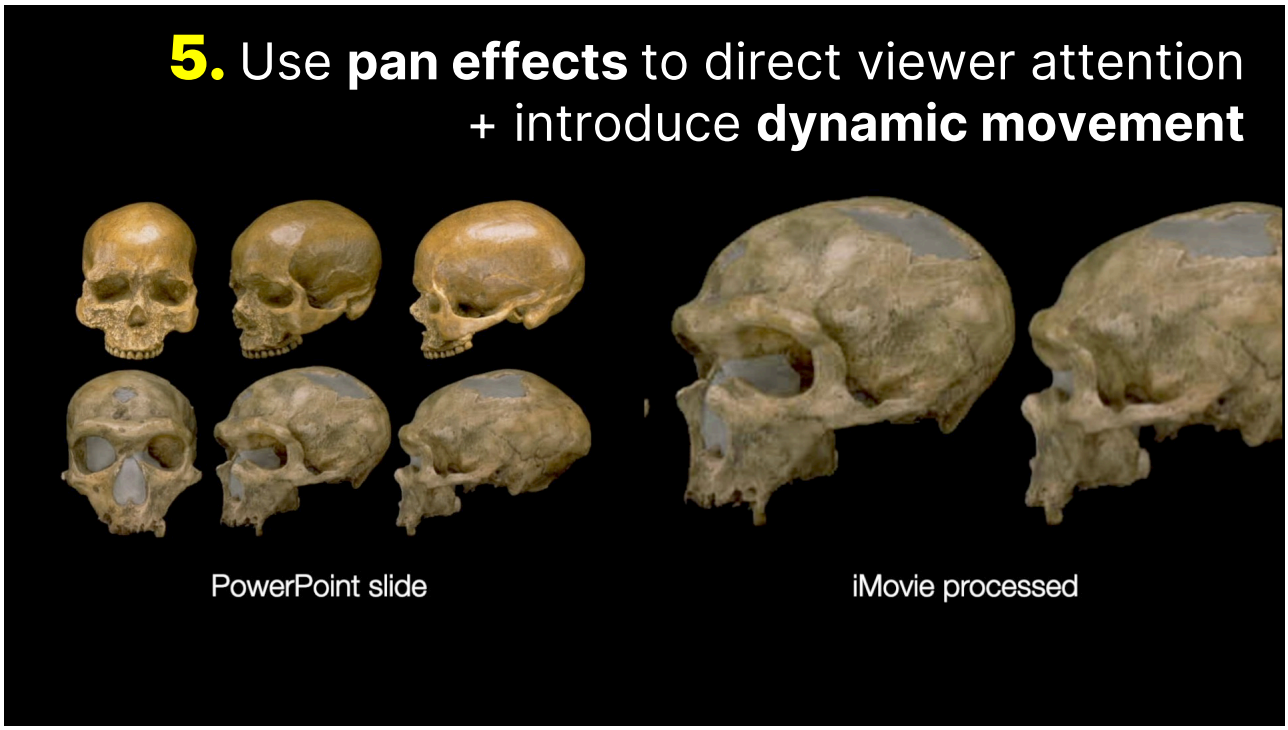
7


3. Use audio tools in film-editing software to improve sound quality of voice-over narration
4. Use background music to control mood/tone
mobygratis

8


HISTORY of Life
2. Making cells into bodies
(Part 1)

9


5. Use **pan effects** to direct viewer attention
+ introduce **dynamic movement**
PowerPoint slide
iMovie processed

10

Student feedback

How did you find the pre-recorded lectures?

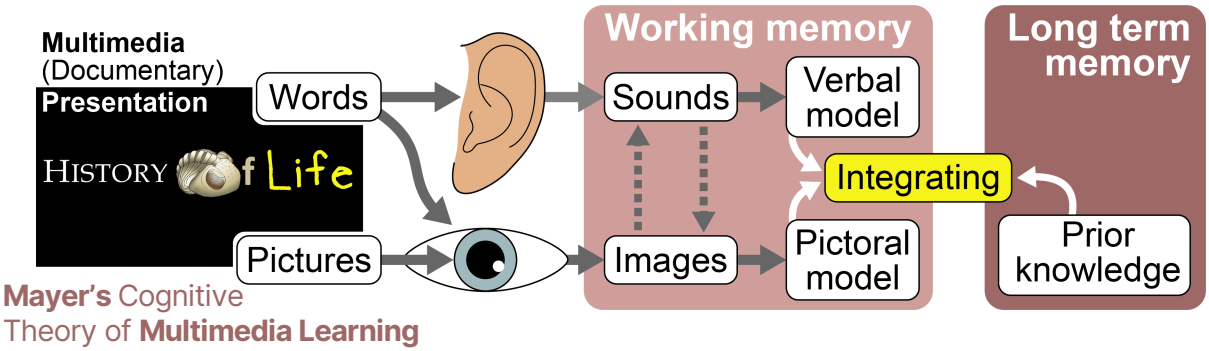
Do you think they improved your understanding of the topics explored?

How did they compare with more traditional 'in-person lectures', or prerecorded lectures in other modules?

5. Digital storytelling: **powerful communication tool**

Why?

Emotional response



Mayer's Cognitive Theory of **Multimedia Learning**

6. Funding is not important. The only limiting factor is imagination

"If it can be written, or thought, it can be filmed."

13

Full human evolution lecture:

john.murray@universityofgalway.ie

14