

Project 1 Presentation

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Animation Design

About my Internship

- Started my internship under CLIX Program (Connective Learning Initiative) in Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- Internship period: May 16 to June 17
- Under the Production department as an animator

About CLIX

- Connective Learning Initiative (CLIX) is a Program in collaboration between the Tata Trusts (India), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT, Cambridge, Mass., USA) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS, Mumbai, India).
- Aims on providing educational opportunities to children through the integration of technology
- Covers Mathematics, three Science subjects, and Communicative English, as well as digital literacy.
- Various projects running simultaneously

Tasks under the internship

- Animating audio visual story
- CLIX logo animation
- Assisting in the scripting for Discourse tutorial

Task 1: Animating audio visual story

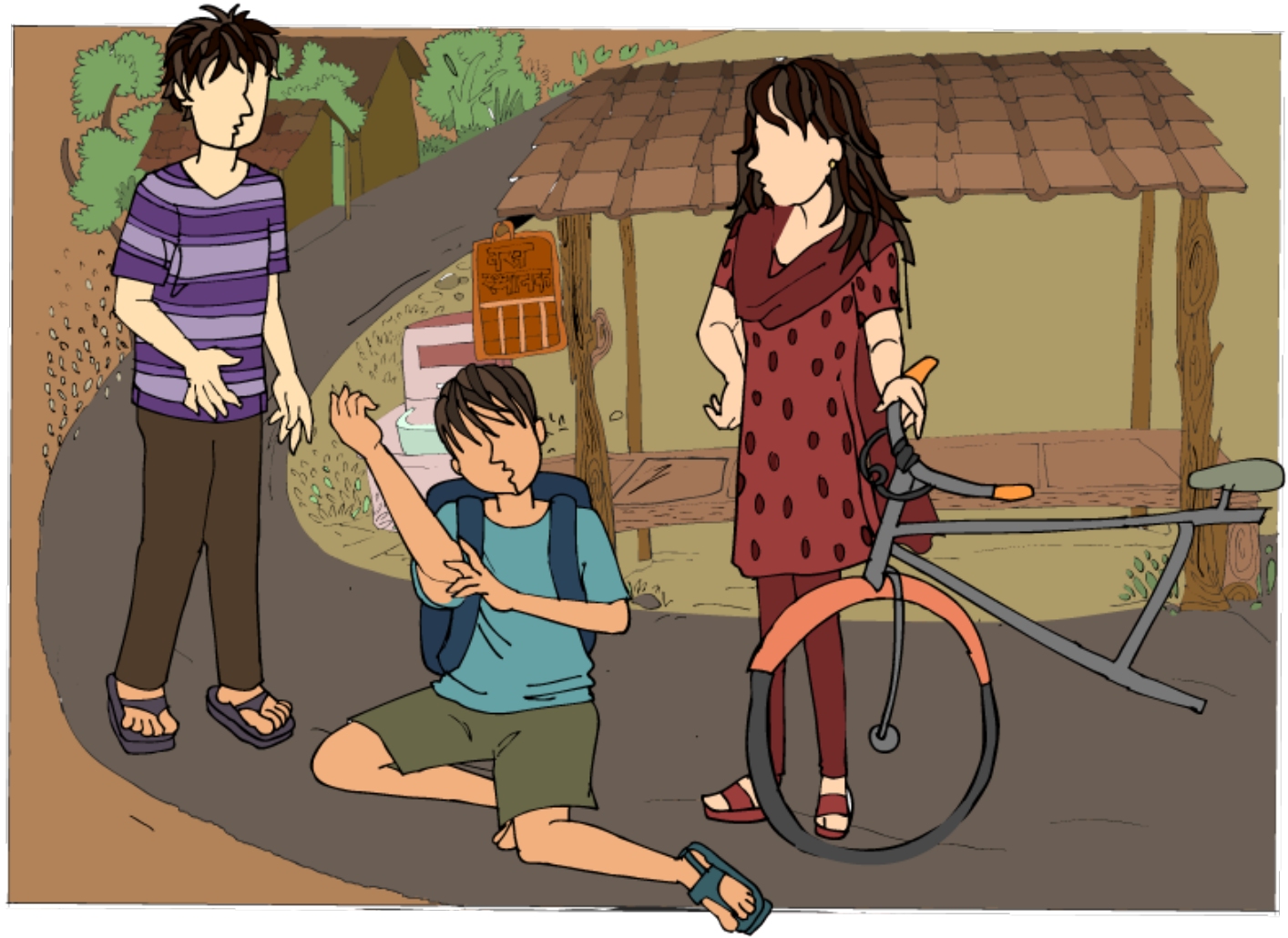
Understanding content

- To create short animations for an audio visual story under the English project
- The animations were to be created from the single illustrations (made by the illustrator) to portray the specific actions that mimicked the audio.

Constrictions/ Challenges

- Minimalistic (not full fledged) in style so they can be understood easily by children when played sequentially
- Should not distort the illustrations fully but the animation should just be enough to explain the movement that should comply with the running audio.

Initial illustration



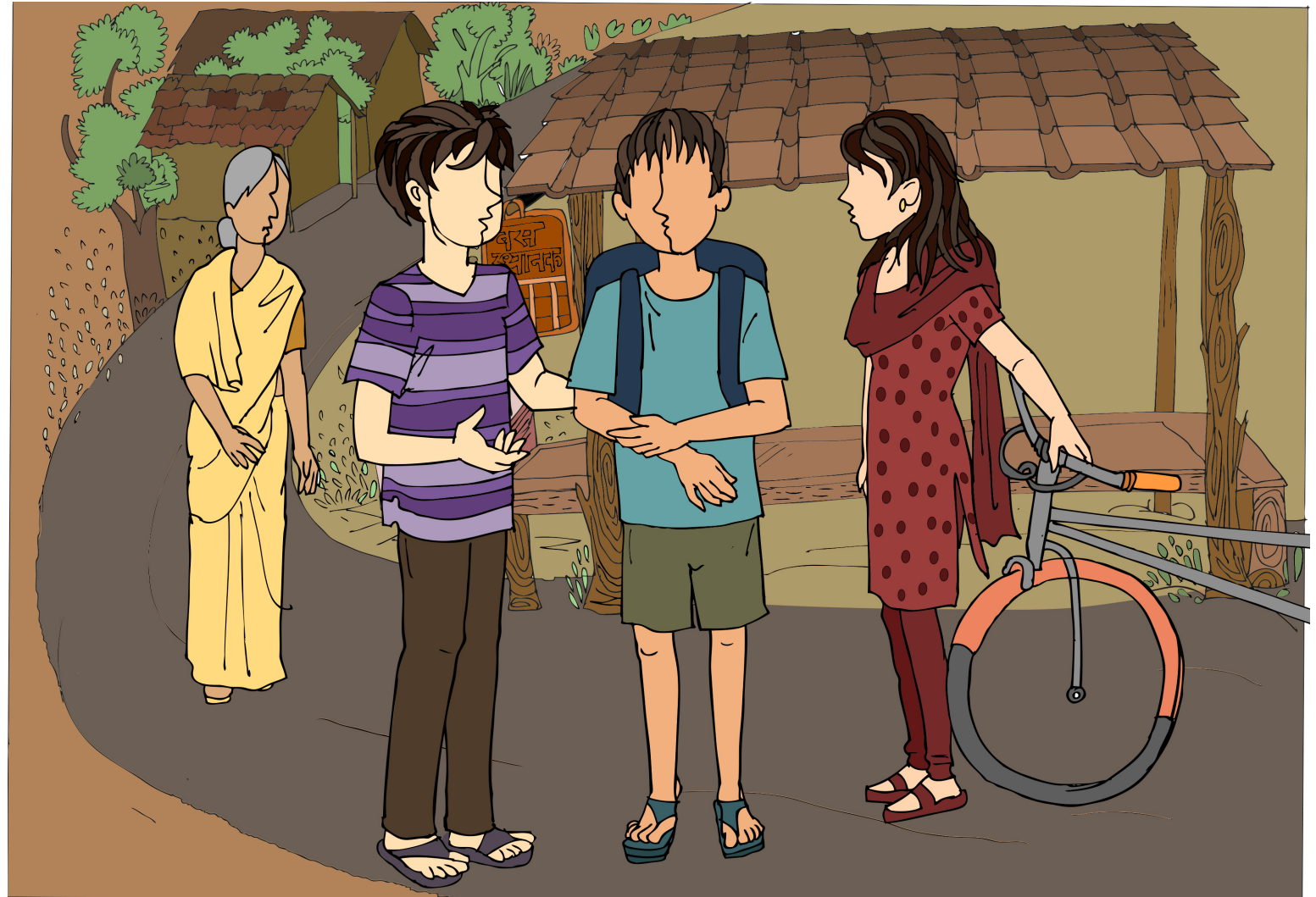
Animating the illustration



Process

- Each audio visual story is a part of series of stories, ten in total
- The stories takes in a village around three main characters- Sahir, kansu (belonging to a small town Chotapur) and Zo (Belonging to a city Badapur)
- Zo comes to Chotapur to meet his grandmother where he meets the other two characters too

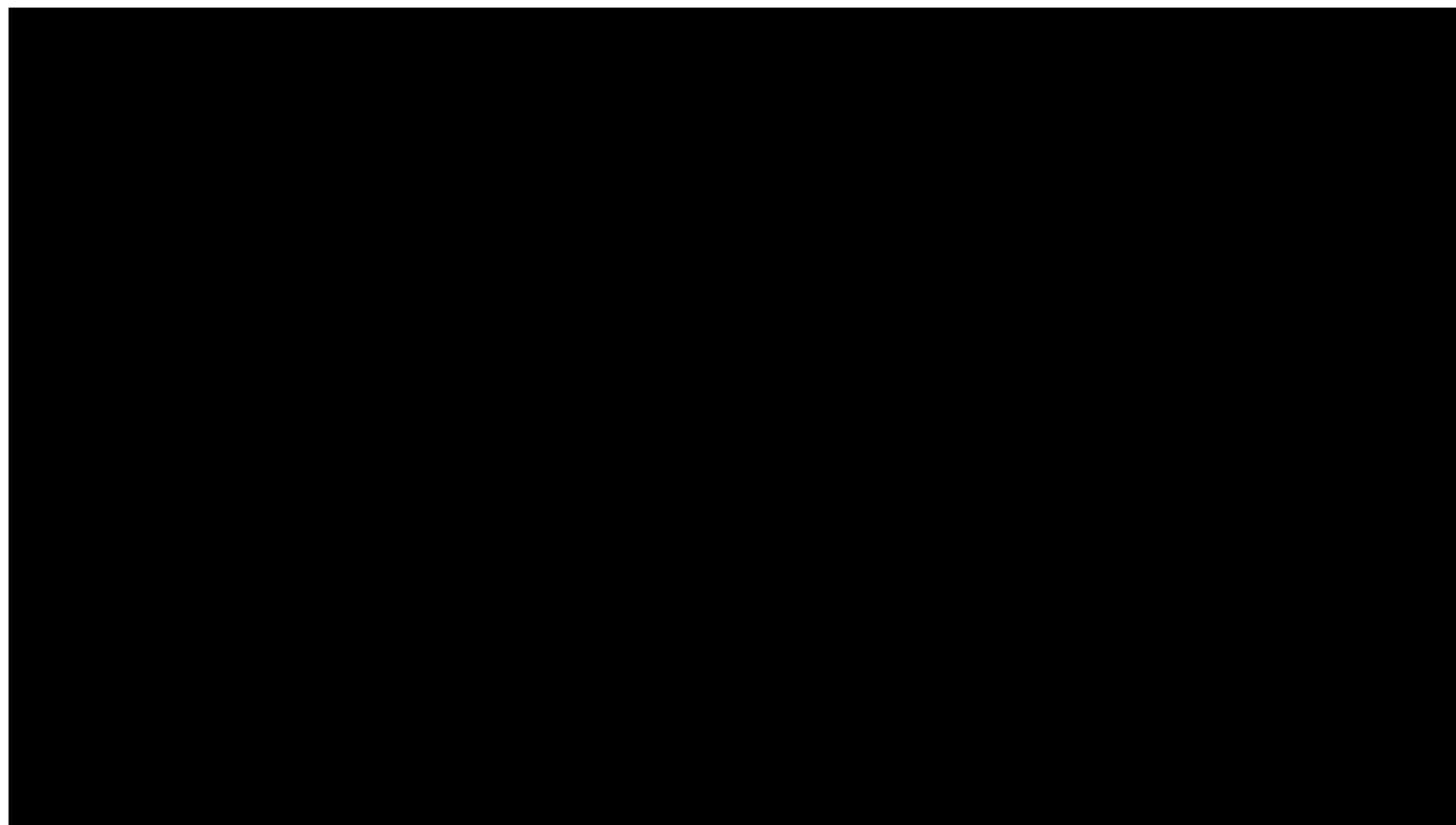
The three main
characters
Sahir, Kansu
and Zo (R to L)



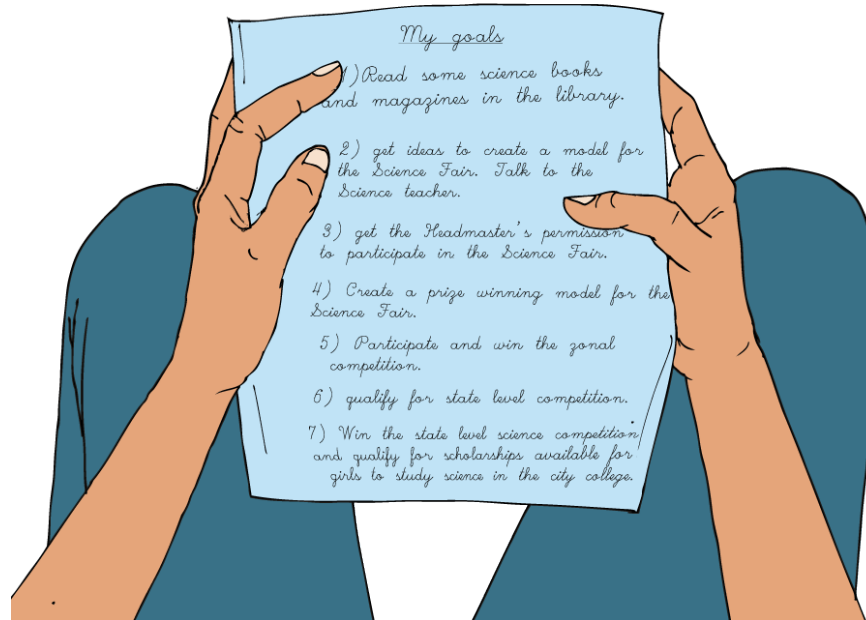
Process

- supported by an audio narrative and five illustrations depicting main actions of the story
- The animation work mainly consisted of adding elements, transitions and puppet movements to the images according to the narrative
- The characters in every image were divided into separate layers where the action was to be performed
- simple minimalistic action was applied

Visual Story



Illustrations used



Task 2: CLIX logo animation

Understanding content

- To create a short animation of the project's logo
- The logo animation should reflect the identity of their project and a reflection of what they are doing under it
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CLix logo



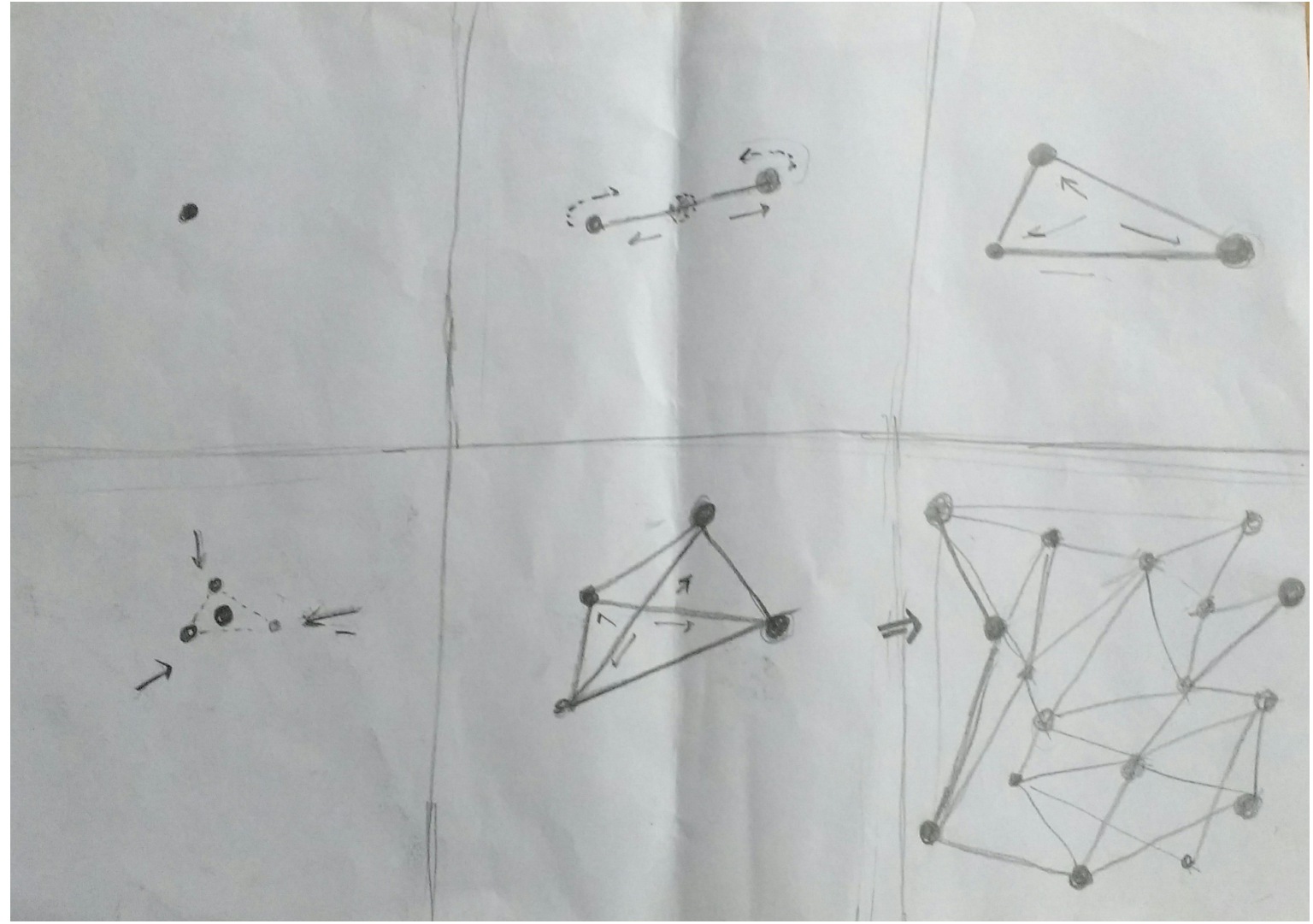
Constrictions/ Challenges

- Animation was to be around a pre-designed logo and must only be using the elements of logo
- Animation should be in a loop so that the display can be a perpetually running screensaver
- Short enough for the logo identity to be established
- dynamic, playful and using the whole space.
- Should reflect the programs identity

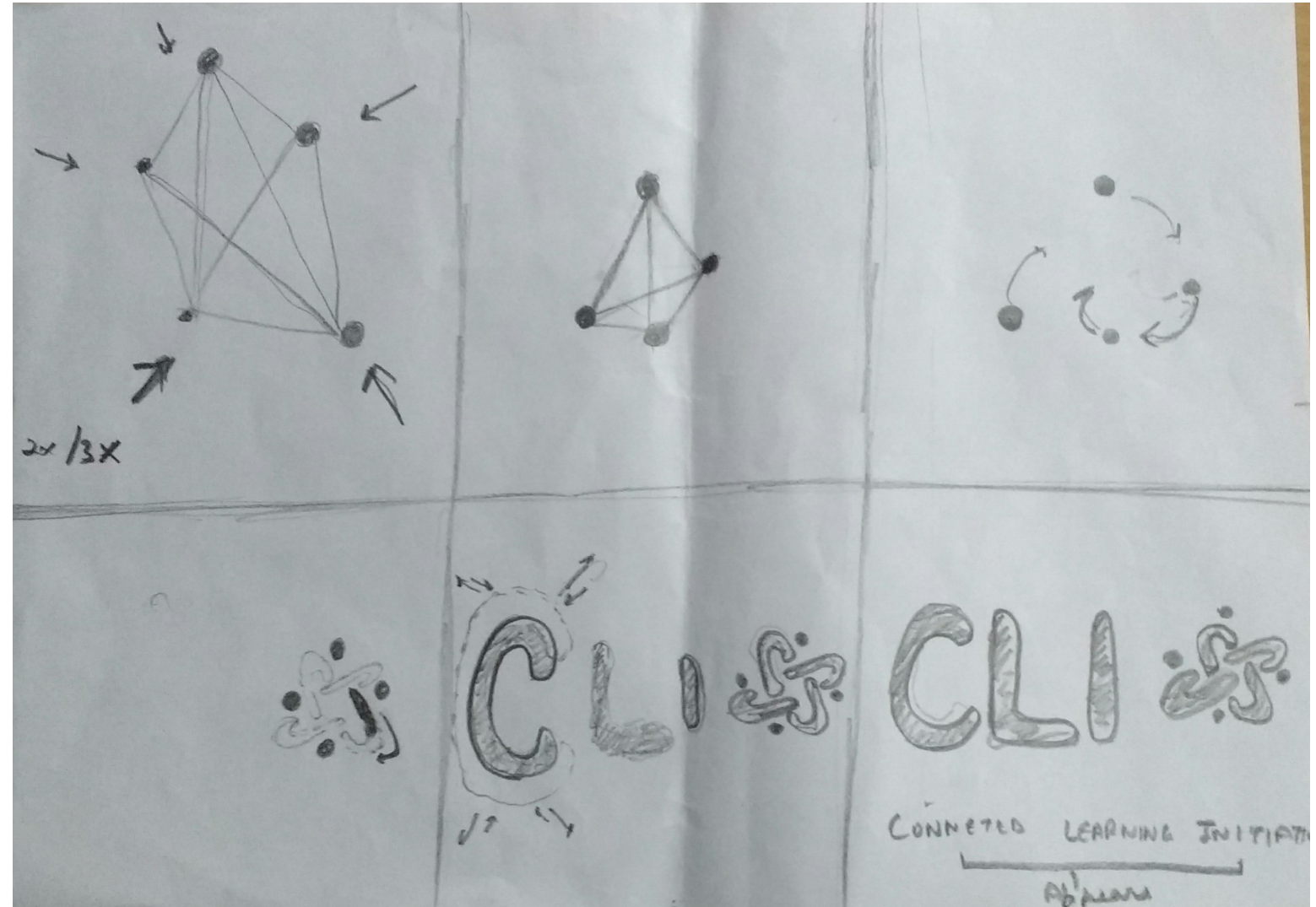
Process

- Basic idea
 - started with a series of rough ideas presented through storyboards
 - some elements of the animation were finalised
 - connecting and reconnecting the four dots that comprise the logo, as one of the main objects of the project is to connect the students and teachers that are in various regions

Rough storyboard



Rough storyboard



Process

- First draft
 - The first draft included the logo dots popping out, connected through lines while gradually increasing in number
 - same pattern till the 'connected dots' fill up the screen and then again recoil back to one dot with double the speed
 - The major drawback of the draft was that the point of appearance of logo was very long.

First draft
animation



Process

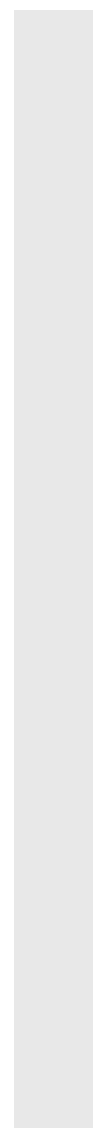
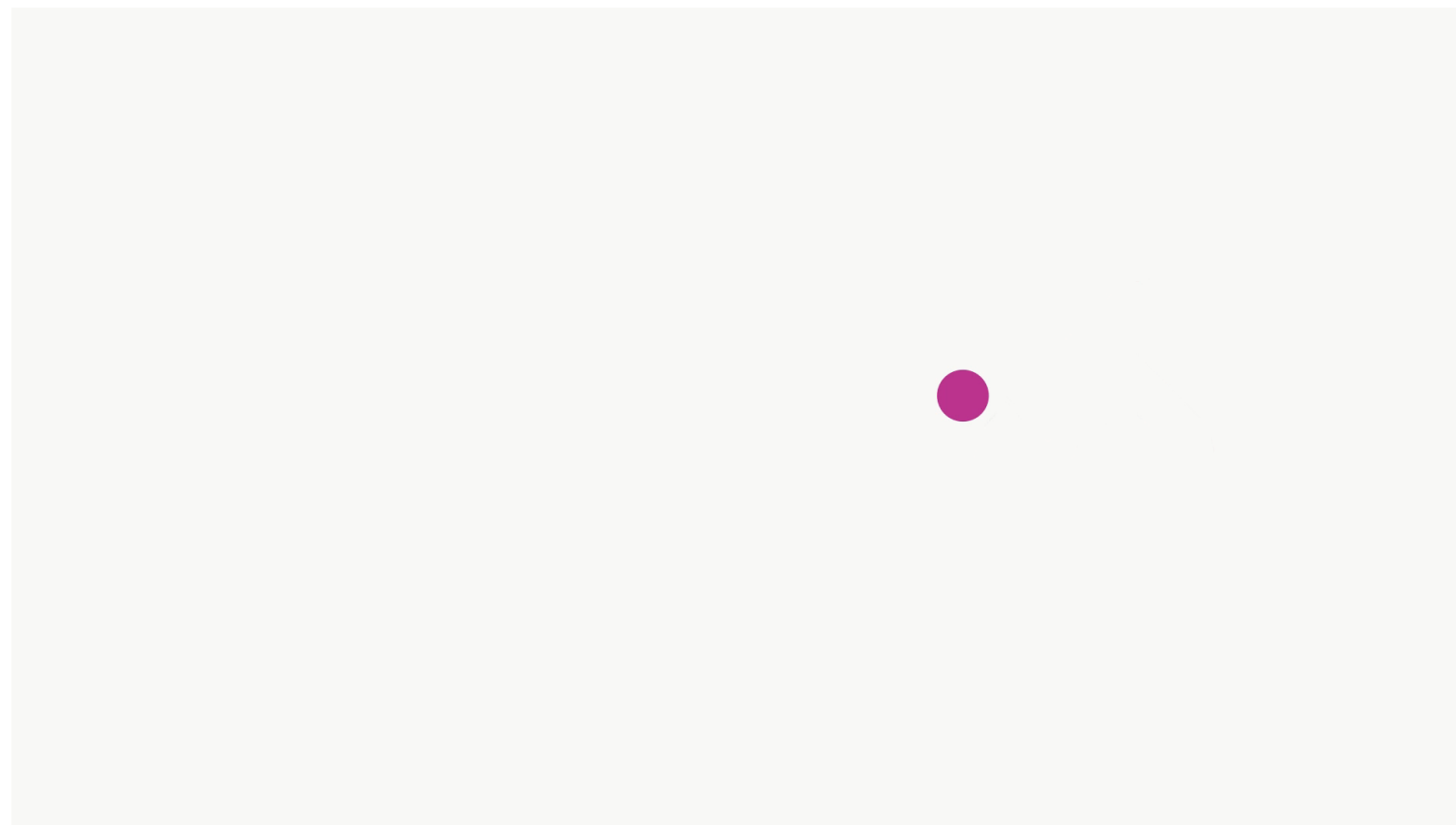
- Second draft
 - animation was basically the same but with the number of dots being fixed i.e. four in number (the same as in logo).
 - As for the appearance of the logo, each letter of the logo popped out in synchronization of the dots.
 - The drawbacks
 - difficulty in the correct synchronization of the dots and letter animation timing.
 - the animation was to use the whole space, which it was not
 - repetitiveness to the whole sequence
 - overall animation was very flat

Second draft animation



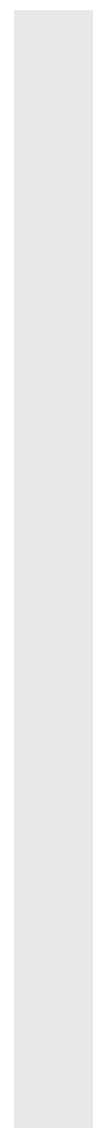
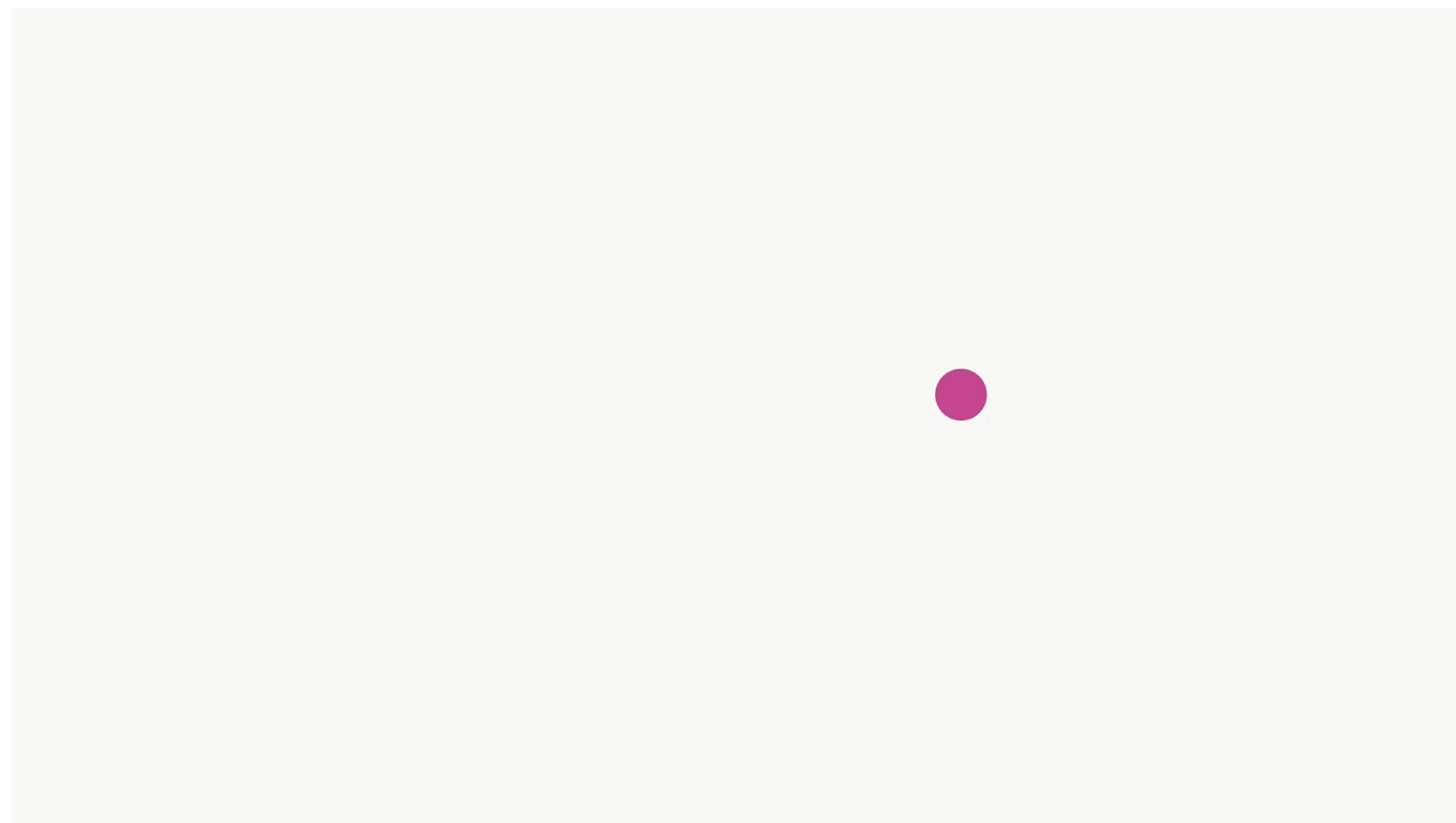
Process

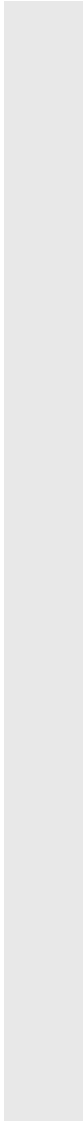
- Third draft
 - By the third draft, a storyboard for an entirely new sequence was developed
 - In this sequence instead of dots and connecting lines popping out, the entire network (of the four connected dots) seemed to move in 3-D space changing its alignment,
 - Letters of the logo coming out and going in beside a line connecting the dots in a 3-D fashion
 - A perspective was added by increasing the scale of some dots while decreasing that of others, adding the same perspective to the line connecting them.
 - Similar treatment was given to the individual letters, by changing their scale, size and skewness.
- This draft was accepted positively with some minor changes.

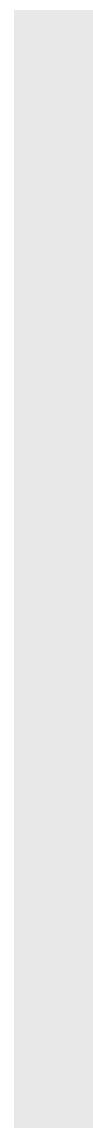
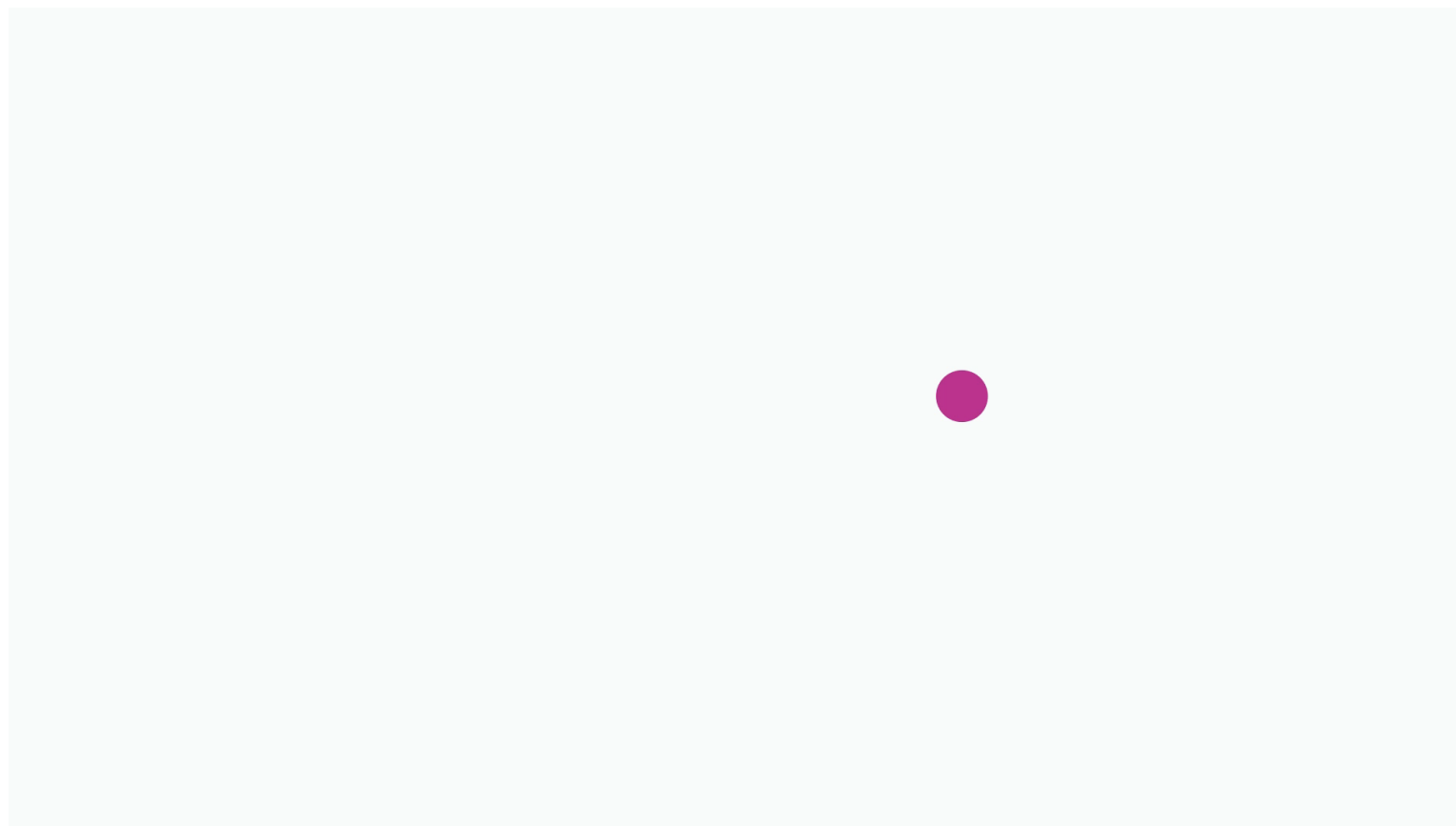


Process

- A return loop animation was added to complete the animation which included the logo being diminished back into the start point



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- A final modification were suggested after the animation was showed to the team, which included making the connecting lines curved instead of straight.



Learning curve

- A great deal of motion graphics were understood in the context of making a sequential animation
- A procedural way starting from storyboarding to adding modifications at each step was learned

Task 3: : Assistance in the scripting for Discourse tutorial

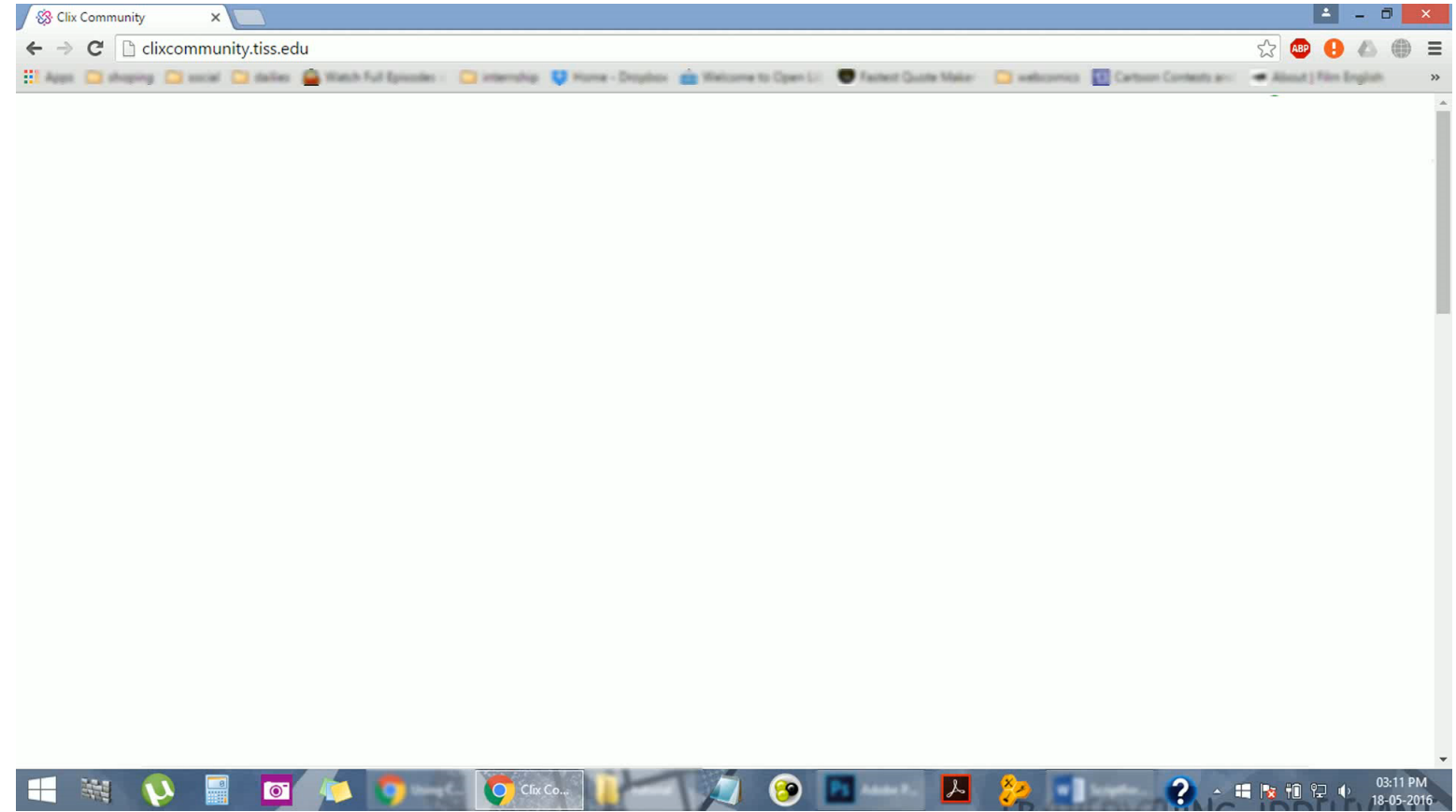
Understanding the content

- www.clixcommunity.tiss.edu is a site which uses Discourse software as a platform to act as an open discussion forum
- Teachers across CLIX intervention areas and CLIX staff can use this platform so that they can exchange valuable opinions, information sharing and also share the resources that they would have created
- A script was to be created for the tutorial video

Process

- An audio track was decided explaining the different aspects of the platform
- Explaining the step by step process to proceed through the site
- Video elements were decided to go with every aspect of audio track
- Animation elements were added to the script to make it friendly to new users.
- Stick figure characters were added for more interactive atmosphere

Demo animations



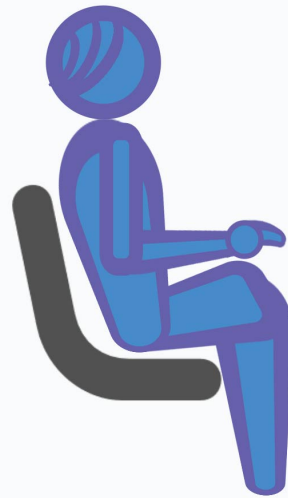
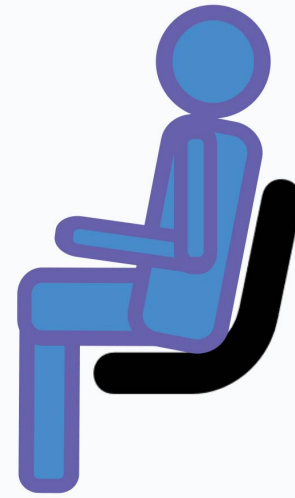
Demo animations

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL clixcommunity.tiss.edu. The page features a navigation bar with tabs for 'all categories', 'Latest', 'New', 'Unread', 'Top', and 'Categories'. A '+ New Topic' button is located on the right. Below the navigation bar is a table of forum topics. The table has columns for 'Topic', 'Category', 'Users', 'Replies', 'Views', and 'Activity'. The topics listed are:

Topic	Category	Users	Replies	Views	Activity
Welcome to CLix Community This is a discussion forum for all at CLix. All those associated with CLix can post here, discuss and share their learnings.	CLix	A	1	25	Apr 16
Implementation & Pedagogical Pillars	Implementation	B	0	8	1d
TPD for Pillar #1 - Peer Discussion / Collaboration	TPD	G, B, A, N	8	38	2d
Discussion on Research and Pedagogic Pillars	Research	B	0	5	4d
Mapping Clix Value Framework with Pedagogic Pillars	Values	B	0	7	4d
Issues concerning Using Discourse for Teachers	Soft Launch	A	4	8	5d
Using Cell phone for Discourse	Soft Launch	A, A	6	21	6d
How do we use Discourse with teachers in the F2F session?	Soft Launch	M, A, N, B, A	16	45	6d

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 10:36 PM on 18-05-2016. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top of the window.

Demo characters



Experience

- My overall experience as an intern in the CLIX program was highly beneficial
- Overall development in taking tasks under limited time quotient and a client system.
- In terms of animation, got to try a lot of hand in various kinds of digital animation which was really great
- The environment of the internship was quite liberal and I was allowed the freedom to experiment as much as I wished to
- The people were encouraging and helpful in the guiding process