SUMMER INTERNSHIP
PROJECT:

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2015-17

ABSTRACT

The P1 report is a descriptive account of the time I spent interning under CLIx program in Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS).

The report covers an overview about the clix program and my role there. Also the projects that I completed there, what were they about, my process and learning curve in that duration.

ACKNOWLEGEMENT

I would like to extend my thanks to my deparment Industrlal Design Centre (IDC) for providing me the oppurtunity to intern through project 1.

I'm also thankful towards my faculty for providing me support during the whole process of reaching and applying at different ventures.

Lastly I would like to thank my team at CLIx, especially my Head Ms. Karuna D'souza for not only making me comfortable. in the workspace but also providing me the freedom and time in my work there

CERTIFICATE OF EXPERIENCE

टाटा सामाजिक विज्ञान संस्थान
Tata Institute of Social Sciences

DT: 30/06/2016

To Whom So Ever It May Concern

This is to certify that Uddhav Jain interned with the CLIx Development/Production Team from 16.05.2016 to 17.06.2016. During this time he assisted the team by creating animation.

Uddhav worked on the archiving screensaver, animated story for English and created animation for the film on discourse.

Uddhav carries out his tasks with diligence and responsibility. We were happy to have him intern with us during the summer.

Best wishes

(Padma M Sarangapani)
Professor, Centre for Education, Innovation and Action Research

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INTRODUCTION

I started my internship under CLIx Program (Connective Learning Initiative) in Tata institute of Social Sciences.

There I worked as an animator under the production department.

My internship period was from 16th may to 17th june.

ABOUT CLIx

The Connected Learning Initiative (CLIx) is the outcome of a collaboration between the Tata Trusts (India), Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT, Cambridge, Mass., USA) and Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS, Mumbai, India). CLIx has been created to provide young people from under-served communities opportunities for participation in quality education offerings through the meaningful integration of technology.

CLIx is geared to provide engaging, hands-on learning experiences in Mathematics, three Science subjects, and Communicative English, as well as digital literacy through the i2C (Invitation to CLIx) platform, integrated with value education and skills relevant to the 21st century. In the first phase, these resources are being offered to students of government secondary schools in the four Indian states of Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Rajasthan and Telangana, in their respective regional languages.

As a platform for innovation in education, CLIx also supports the professional development of in-service teachers, making substantial contributions to teacher education in Indian languages.

Challenges facing students from rural areas who manage to reach high school tend to include: weak foundations laid in primary school; an unavailability of resources in their own languages; isolation and poor access to learning opportunities; and a lack of qualified teachers, particularly in Maths, Science, and English. In this context, CLIx addresses both curricular content and pedagogical approaches, to work with students and teachers and to deliver quality solutions at scale.

TASKS UNDER INTERNSHIP:

Animated audio visual story

Understanding content

This task required 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

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

Process

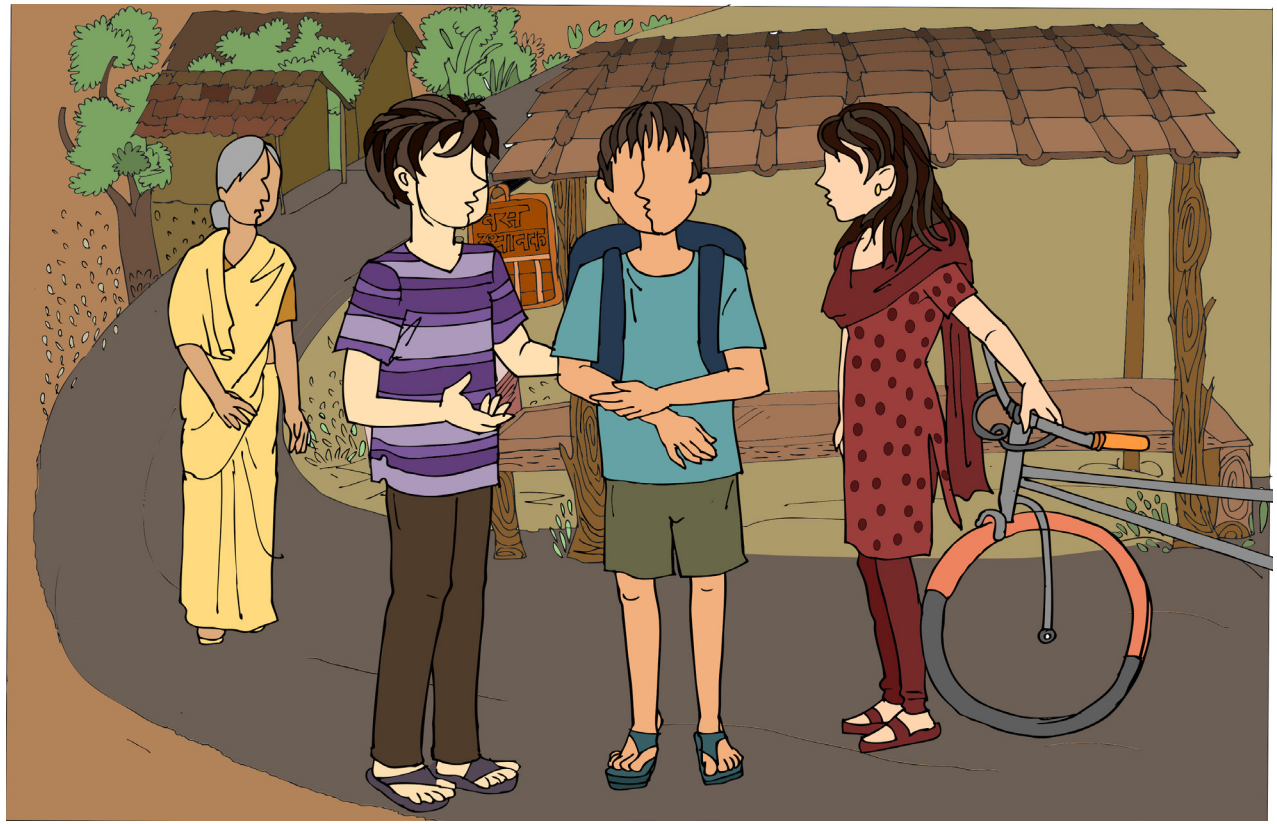
Each audio visual story is a part of series of stories, ten in total. The stories takes in a village around three main characters- Sahir, kansu (belonging to a small town Chotapur) and Zo (Belonging to a city Badapur). Zo comes to Chotapur to meet his grandmother where he meets the other two characters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

The stories are 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 (hands, feet, head etc) and anchor points were set so as to move or rotate them in a particular direction. Then simple minimalistic action was applied to show the action.

Learning curve

The understanding of limited tools when it comes to work with simplistic animations from predefined sources and around a set narrative.



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

The four illustrated frames of a story, which were animated

CLIx logo animation

Understanding content

The requirement for the task was 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. The main application of the animation was to be used as screen saver during their presentations.

Constrictions/challenges

The main challenge for the animation was it had to around a pre-designed logo. The logo should form-out in some way through the animation. So the animation must only be using the elements of logo. The second constrict was that the animation should be in a loop so that the display can be a perpetually running screensaver. Also the animation is supposed to be short enough for the logo identity to be established. It should be dynamic, playful and using the whole space.running audio.

Process

Basic idea

The project started with a series of rough ideas presented through storyboards out of which some elements of the animation wer e finalised which included 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.

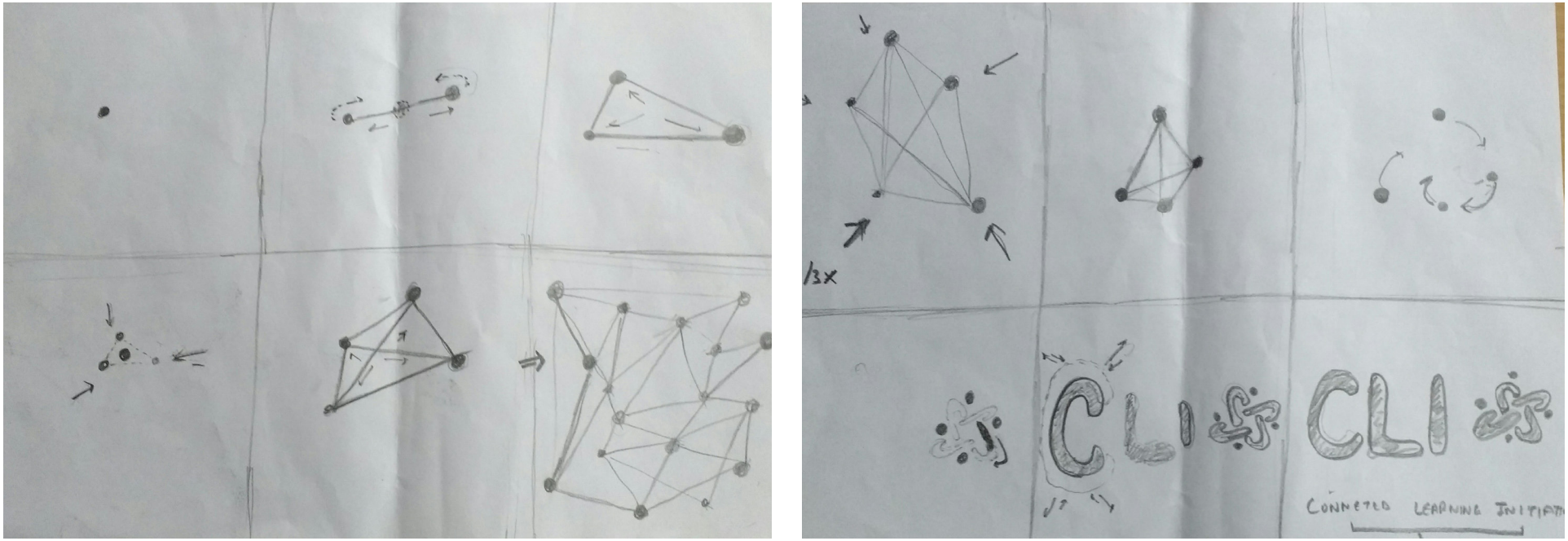
First draft

The first draft included the logo dots popping out, connected through lines while gradually increasing in number. Its storyboard included a sequence which follows the 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.

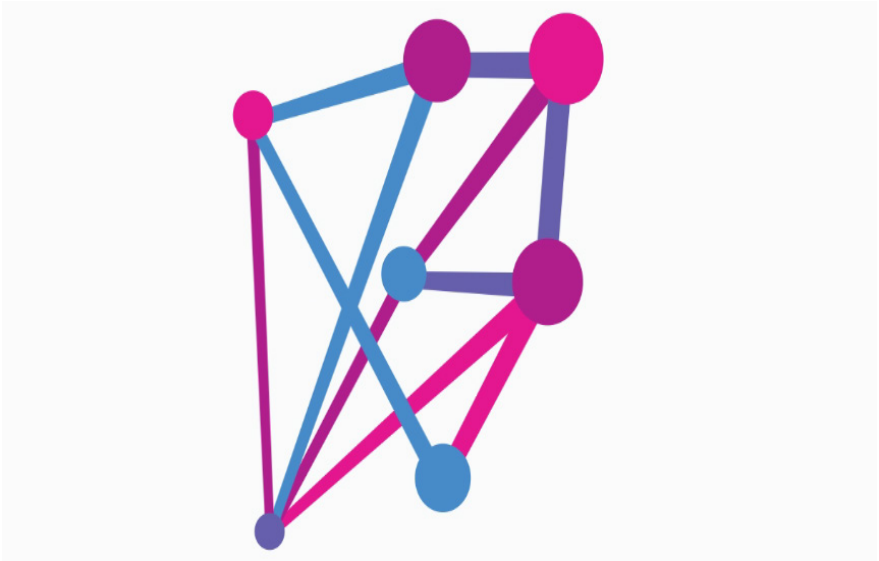
CLI

CONNECTED LEARNING INITIATIVE

Logo of CLIx



Storyboard for First draft of logo animation

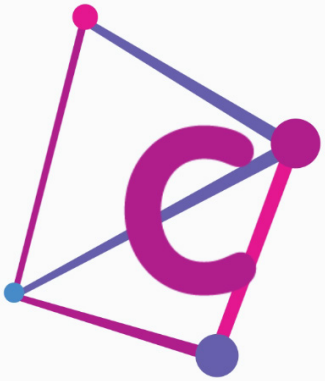


Screenshot from First draft of logo animation

Second draft

This time the 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 drawback with this draft was the difficulty in the correct synchronization of the dots and letter animation timing. The second drawback was that the animation was to use the whole space, which it was not. Also, there was a repetitiveness to the whole sequence and overall animation was very 2- dimensional.

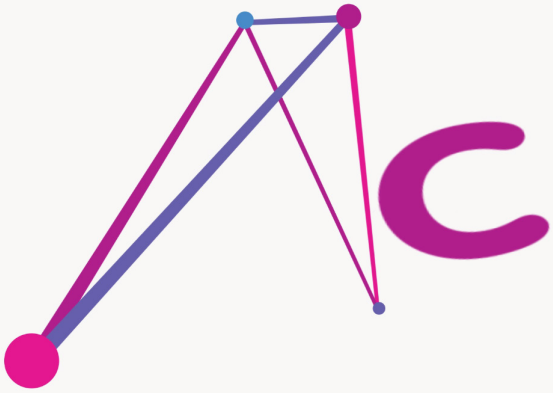


Third draft

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, with every letter of the logo coming out and going in beside a line connecting the dots in a 3-D fashion. The 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.

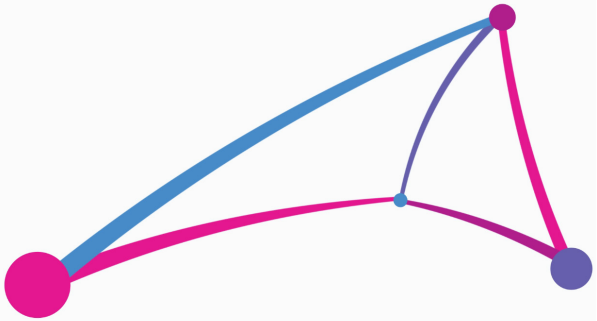
This draft was accepted positively with some minor changes.



Return loop

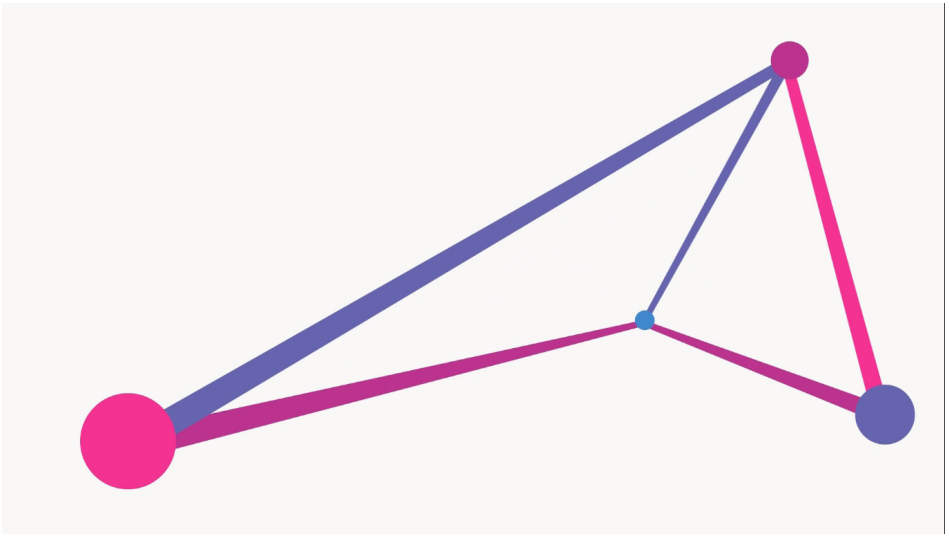
A return loop animation was added to complete the animation which included the logo being diminished back into a point.

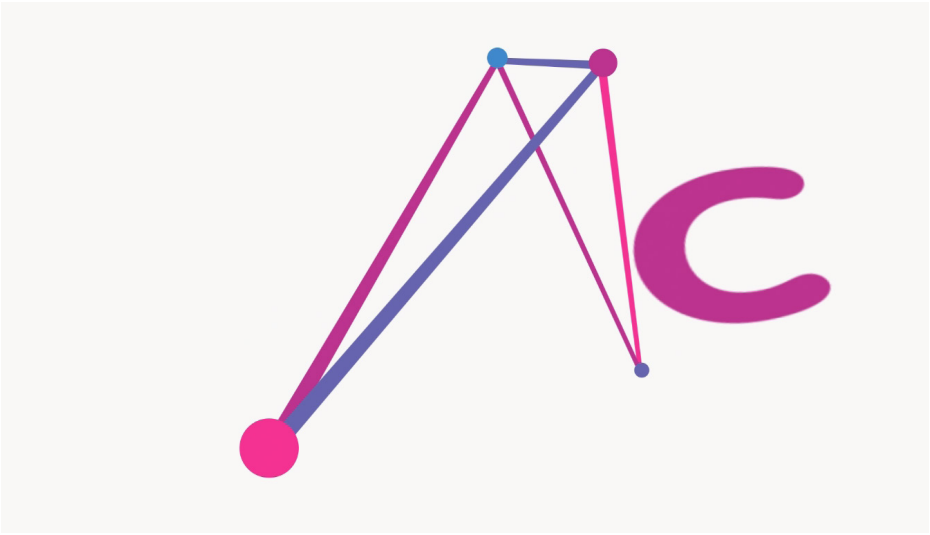
A final modification were suggested after the animation was showed to the team, which included making the connecting lines curved instead of straight.

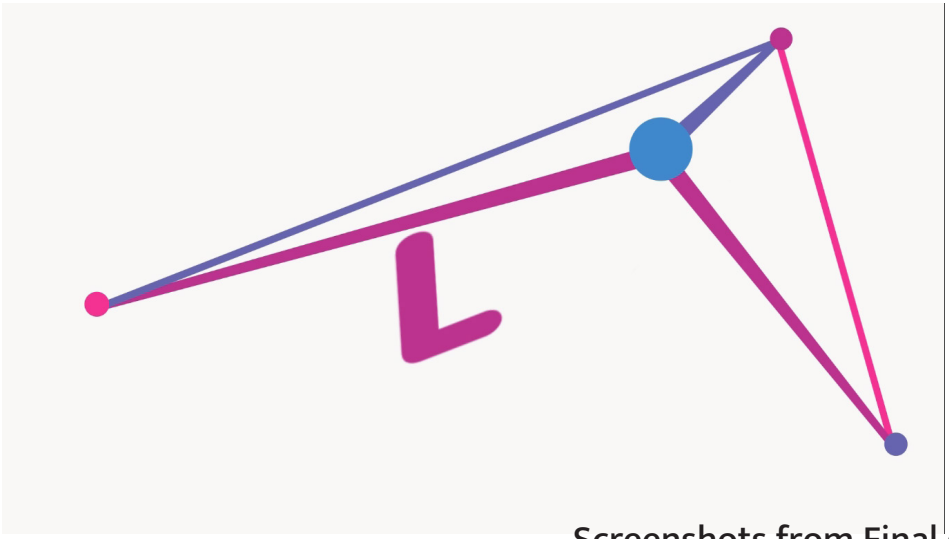


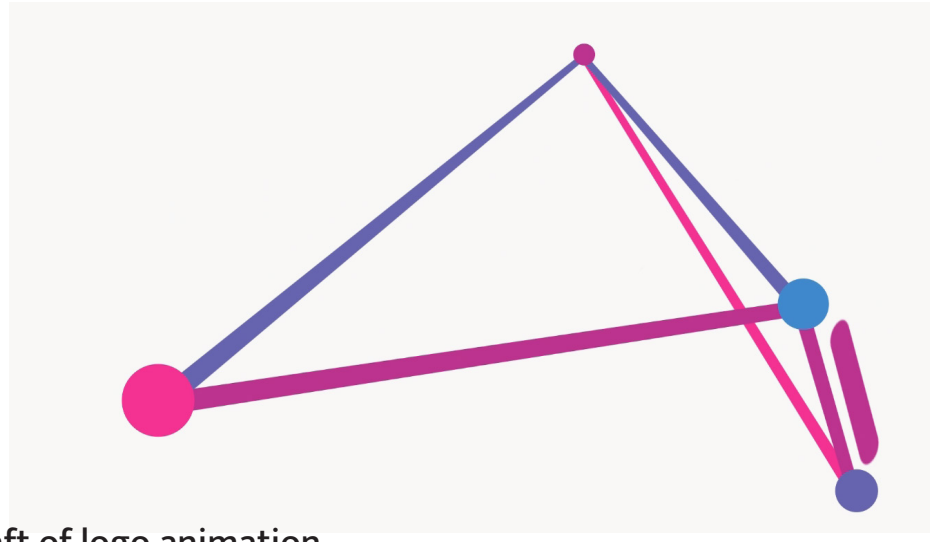
Learning curve

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

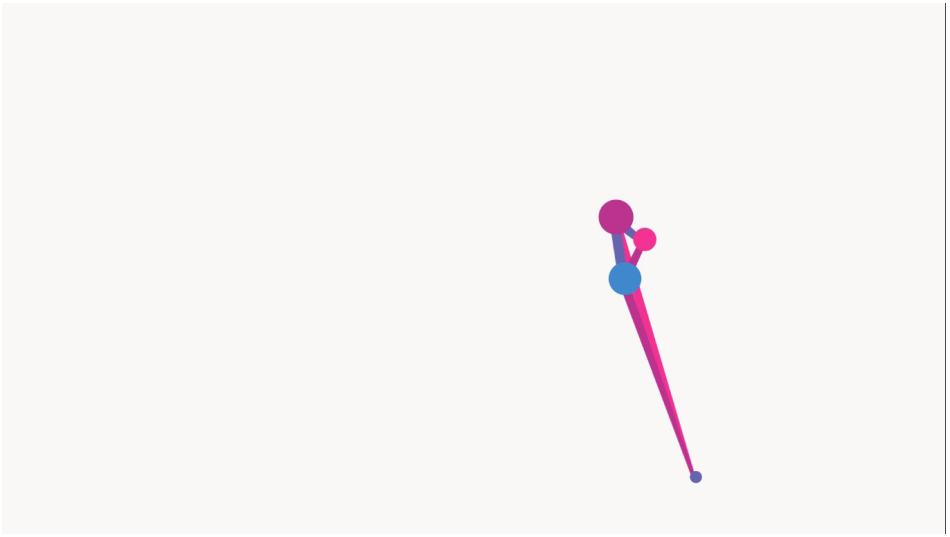








Screenshots from Final draft of logo animation



Screenshots from Final draft of logo animation

TASKS UNDER INTERNSHIP:

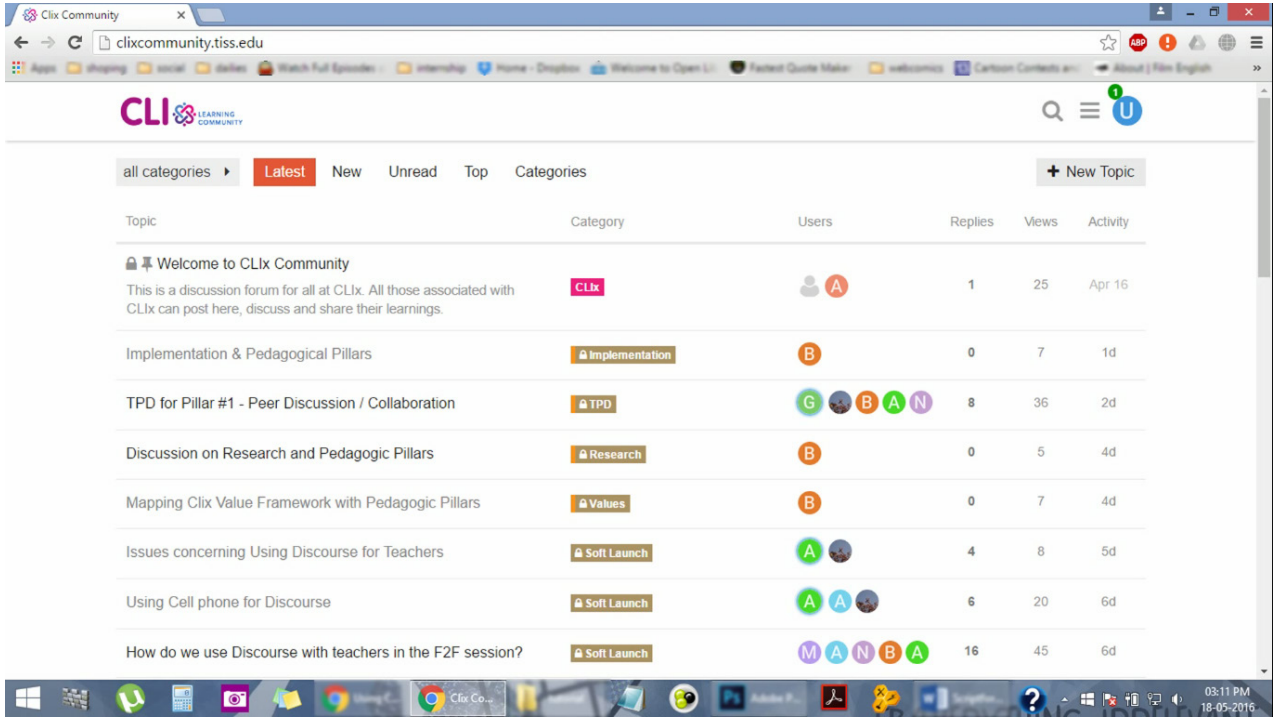
Assisting in the scripting for Discourse tutorial

Understanding 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 video tutorial was to be made demonstrating how to use the forum www.clixcommunity.tiss.edu.

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.



Screenshot of the discourse platform

The following is a rough initial draft of the script (in which I assisted) which contains the audio and the visual to be accompanied with it.

SNo.	Video	Audio
	Animation: With pictures/video?	Teaching is not easy. And it helps to have other teachers that you connect with and share insights, information and resources. Clix community offers you this space online. Via the internet, you can connect with teachers working in different states, facing the same challenges and seeking support, like you would.
		How do you go about this?
	Screen shot of the inbox Cursor goes and clicks on the Email Screen shot of a closer view of the email Link is highlighted. Cursor is placed on the link and click.	
	New browser window opens Signing in screen shot. Click on Log in	Log in with your details and you are now on clixcommunity.tiss.edu
	You can go the categories page	The first thing that you can do is look at the categories. Take a look at the existing
	What are categories: Categories are themes: Under which there are subcategories	categories. Under the categories are subcategories. These are subject areas of discussion.

	Demo: Categories, subcategories topics threads	Click on a sub category Click on a thread. You will be able to see the various discussions going on. You can post within a discussion in response to someone or you can create a new topic for discussion as well. Make sure you are posting under a relevant topic.
		You can make a post here. Post will be highlighted. Scroll down to show some posts: [Posts need to be created mimicking teacher content]
		"Make sure your post is under a relevant topic."
	"You can reply to someone else." Character types a response to someone: (Character can bring down the scroll bar) "You can comment on another person's post or even start a new thread." Shows character/screen grab of creating a new thread. (Content needs to be created for this)	
	A post is made and this is pressed '@personA' '@personB' types a response to the previous post to @personA	You can tag people if you want them to respond to your question immediately. Just type @ followed by the username of the
		person you want to address and they will get an instant notification of your post.

	You can tag people if you want them to respond to your question immediately. Just type @ followed by the username of the person you want to address and they will get an instant notification of your post.	You can like posts. You can share a link of the post to another website. You even bookmark a post to read later. You can click on it and retrieve the post later for you to read like this.
		You can get emails of all the posts in your inbox and you can track conversations.
		There is also the search button which does
		exactly what is says search. You can search for a discussion, topic or thematic areas using key words.

Learning curve

Understanding the basic scripting methods.

EXPERIENCE

My overall experience as an intern in the CLIx program was highly beneficial not just in the terms of gaining insights in my own field but as an overall development in taking tasks under limited time quotient and a client system. In terms of soft skills, I got to try a lot of hand in after effects 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.