

Auto-Captioning with YouTube

Introduction

Close captioning videos is a major concern for colleges and universities especially those providing online programs and courses. This article discusses the steps involved in adding and editing closed-captions on your videos using YouTube's freely available auto-captioning service.

Who should use it?

Any faculty member, adjunct, or student who needs to create closed captions or transcripts for their videos can use YouTube's auto-captioning service.

What is it?

In 2009 Google combined its automatic speech recognition (ASR) technology with YouTube's caption system and started offering automatic captions, also known as auto-caps. The automatically generated captions vary in accuracy and require editing, but are nevertheless helpful in providing a starting point for creating closed-captions for your videos.

When do you use it?

If you use audio or video content in your traditional, online, or hybrid classes then you can use YouTube's auto-captioning service to create closed captions and/or transcripts for your audio/video content.

Where do you use it (install it, put it, etc...)?

YouTube's auto-captioning service is automatically available to any user having a Google or Gmail account. Users can also create their own YouTube accounts. No other downloads or plugins are required.

Why do you use it/do it?

Including closed-captions in your video not only makes it accessible to hearing impaired users, it also improves search and allows users to access the parts they are interested in.

Moreover, captions can be translated into multiple languages thereby making it easier for ESL learners to understand the content of the video.

How do you use it?

Creating closed-captions for your video using YouTube's auto-captioning service entails the following steps:

1. Create a free account on You Tube – www.youtube.com
(or sign in with your existing Google account)
2. Upload video and allow processing time before auto-captions appear
3. Play video and edit captions on You Tube
4. Share video with your students (link or embed)
5. Download captions to create a transcript

YouTube Account Best Practices

- Keep the account name practical
- Make sure ads are not displayed alongside your videos
- Go over "Privacy Settings" and disable things you are uncomfortable with
- Review and adjust "Defaults" on the front-end
 - **Privacy** – Unlisted (unless you want your video to show in public searches)
 - **Category** – Education (if no other specific category)
 - **License** – Standard YouTube License
- Do not upload copyrighted content that is not yours