

How to use SoftChalk

A basic guide

Dr. Dale M. Taylor

Galveston College/Presented for TYCA
Southwest Conference, Oct. 28, 2011

SoftChalk is available free

- According to VCT: SoftChalk LessonBuilder™ is a powerful web lesson editor that lets you easily create engaging, interactive web lessons for your e-learning classroom.

- With LessonBuilder, you can create professional-looking, interactive content without knowing any HTML, or programming. Spend your time developing course content, not learning how to use complex software.

A basic review

- This is a basic review for using SoftChalk. If you are already a user of SoftChalk, this presentation is not for you.

- This guide is for those who have never used SoftChalk and who wish to understand how to begin using it as a tool for enhancing online or face-to-face instruction.

SoftChalk as LessonBuidler

- With LessonBuilder, it's easy to engage your students because creating interactive content has never been easier. Within minutes you can create:
 - interactive learning games, including customizable image maps, matching, sorting and ordering activities, cross-words and flashcards.
 - seven question types: true/false, multiple choice, multiple answer, short answer, ordering, matching, and essay.
 - pop-up text annotations to define terminology, or enhance the interactivity of your lesson content.
 - lessons with embedded video and other media.

To get SoftChalk, see Virtual College of Texas

- See VCT to download a copy or see your Distance Education director.
- SoftChalk is available for distance education instructors in Texas through VCT.

Example of download instructions:

SoftChalk download

- SoftChalk 6 Distribution Files
- We are providing you with a customized set of distribution files for SoftChalk 6 (see below)
- 1. Download the .zip file below.
- <http://www.softchalk.com/V6downloads/vct-SC6.zip>
-

Continued instructions

- 2. Place these files on your school's web server or within your school's learning management system. We ask that you put these files in a location on your server that is access-controlled so that only your institution's faculty and staff have access.
- 3. Be sure to un-package the .zip file and have users go to index.html.
- 4. Feel free to modify the .html files for your organization.
- 5. Your organization's license key information can be found by viewing the index.html referenced in step 3 above.
- Installation or License Key Questions? Version 6 Questions?
- See our FAQs on Installation and License Key and Version 6 Questions.
- Help Topics and Training
- Within the SoftChalk 6 application, you can get help under Help/Help Topics. There you will find a searchable User Guide, a link to register for free training, links to integration guides for various learning management systems and a link to our FAQs.
- Please visit the SoftChalk website for additional information. If you haven't visited us lately, you will find a wealth of useful information, including Quick Tour Videos, new sample lessons, a variety of live webinar offerings, and free online short courses.
- Please email us at help@softchalk.com if you have any questions or need additional information. We thank you for using SoftChalk!
- Sincerely,
- The SoftChalk Team
- help@softchalk.com

- If it's not easy, it's not SoftChalk!

SoftChalk

- SoftChalk is similar to a large html file that offers the possibility of embedding audio , video and other files.
- After download and installation, you can open a page of the document and type inside it or paste material from a Word (text) document in the page.
- While one can import PowerPoint files into SoftChalk, this can be complicated.

Therefore,

- Therefore, it is better to begin with basic text files and engage your document with graphics, audio or video as you proceed.

For tutorials

- <http://softchalk.com/learn-more/video-tutorials>.

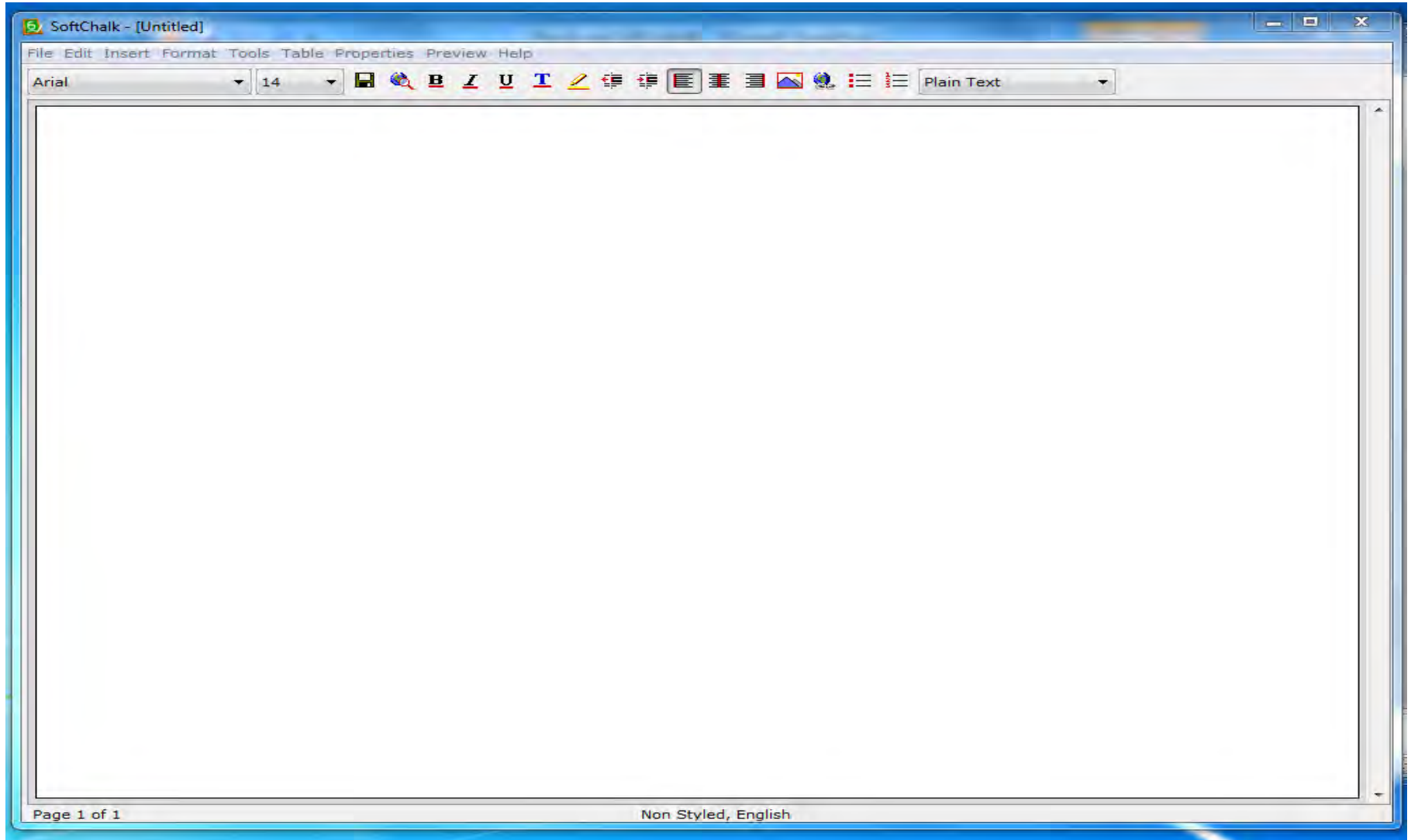
After you have downloaded a copy of the software,

the software,

- Open the document:



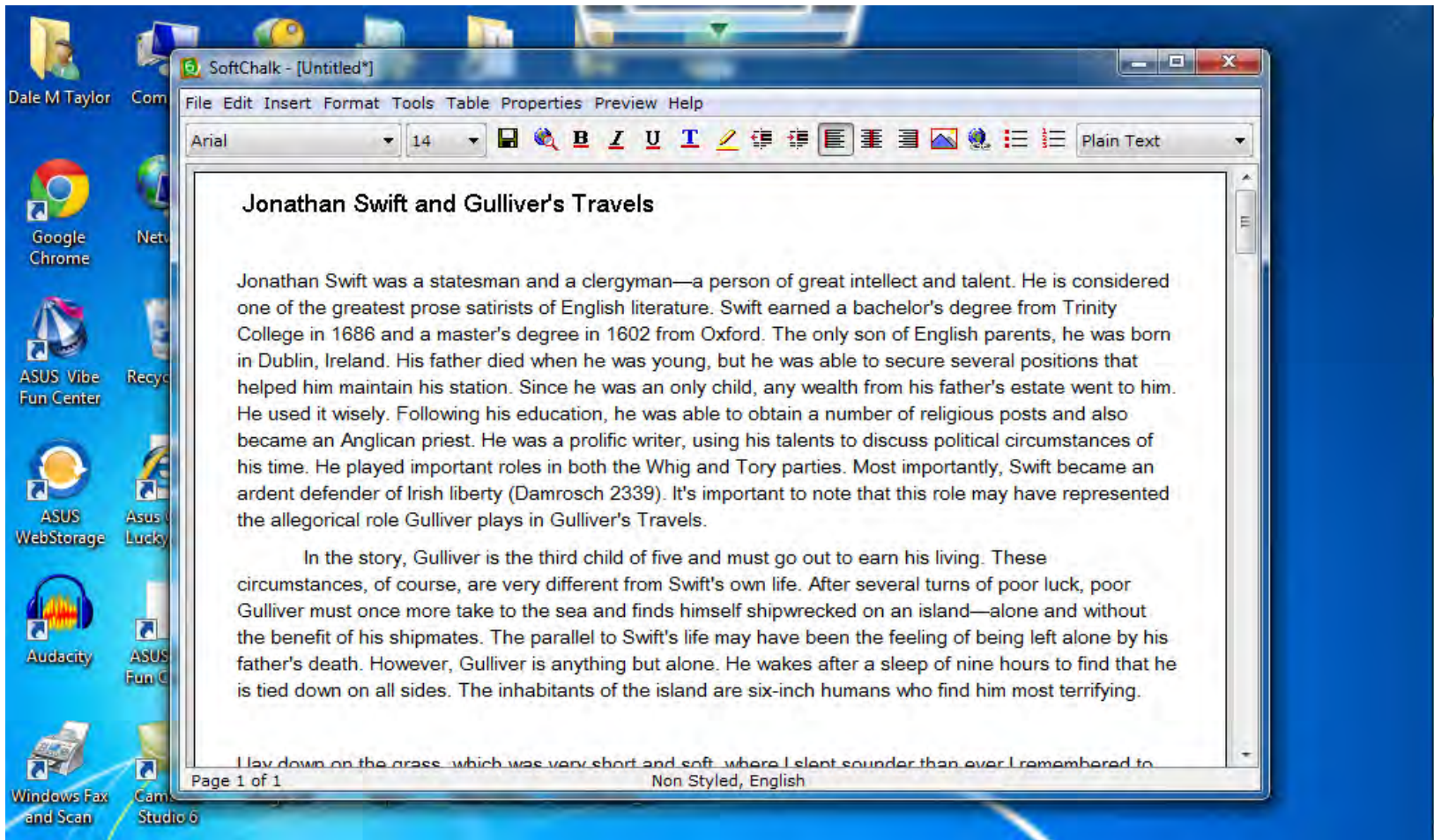
You will see a blank document like
this:



- This blank page serves as an open document into which you may key in your material.
- For example:

Diana Gabaldon's series of Outlander novels explore the nature of difference using time travel and historical fiction. The works are set alternatively in the 1940s and in the 1700s. This gives the author an opportunity to manipulate characters and settings to create a number of challenges for the major protagonists of the story--Jamie and Clair. |

Note the dashboard at the top of the SoftChalk page that allows you to make changes to font size and other aspects. Make any required changes to font size.



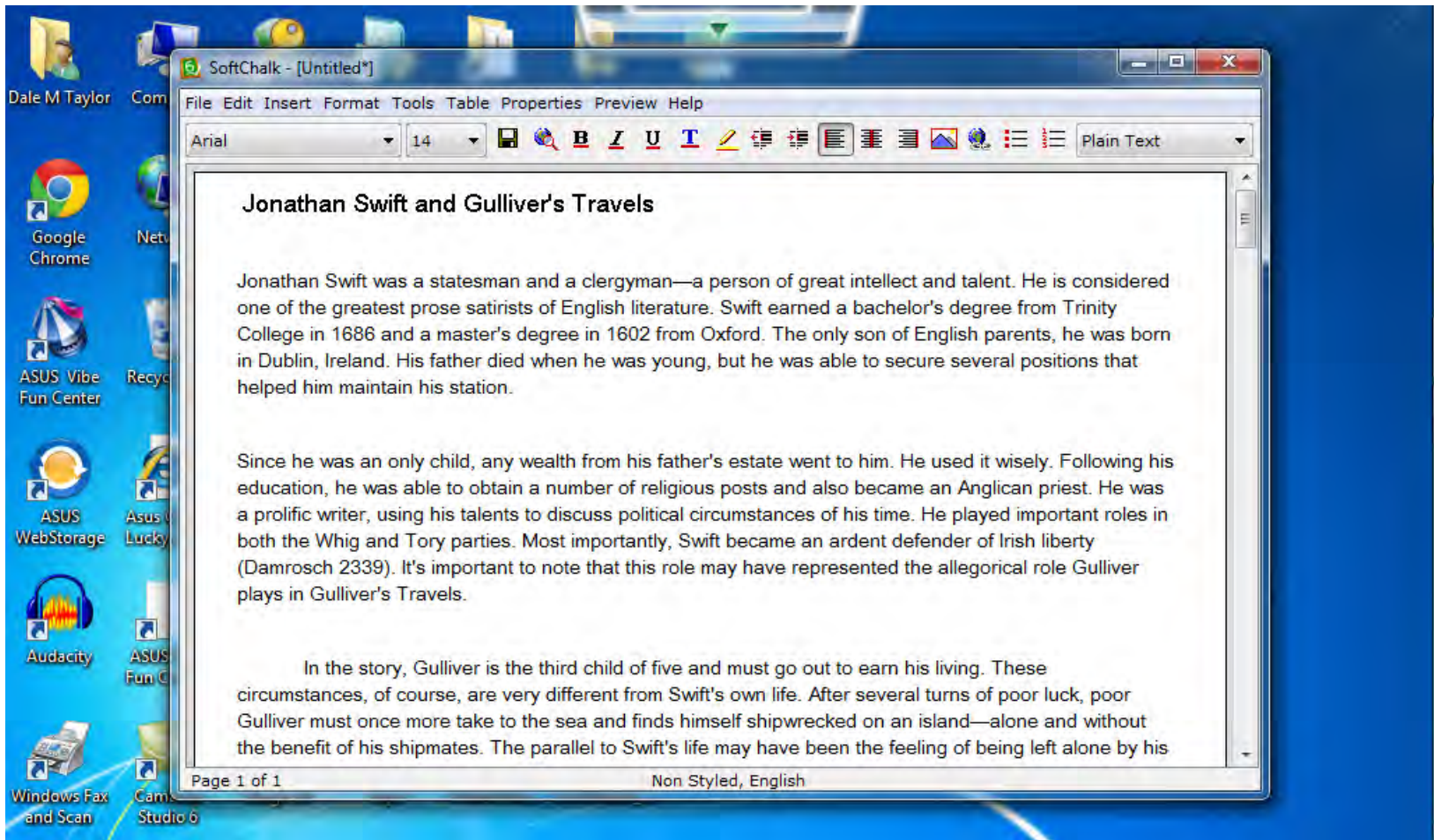
Avoid previewing

- Avoid previewing your document before you save it using the save icon at the top of the page. If you do so, the page will malfunction and may not include some of your work.

Go through your document

- After you have all written material on your page, go through the document and create smaller sized paragraphs or sentences that will appear on each page of the document.
- You should avoid having too much type on the page as this may overwhelm the viewer.

Create chunks of material



The image shows a Windows desktop environment with a blue background. On the left side, there is a vertical taskbar with several icons: Dale M Taylor, Google Chrome, ASUS Vibe Fun Center, ASUS WebStorage, Audacity, Windows Fax and Scan, and Cam Studio 6. In the center, a window titled "SoftChalk - [Untitled*]" is open. The window has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Insert", "Format", "Tools", "Table", "Properties", "Preview", and "Help". Below the menu bar is a toolbar with various icons for text formatting, including bold, italic, underline, text color, background color, and alignment. The main content area of the window displays the following text:

Jonathan Swift and Gulliver's Travels

Jonathan Swift was a statesman and a clergyman—a person of great intellect and talent. He is considered one of the greatest prose satirists of English literature. Swift earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity College in 1686 and a master's degree in 1692 from Oxford. The only son of English parents, he was born in Dublin, Ireland. His father died when he was young, but he was able to secure several positions that helped him maintain his station.

Since he was an only child, any wealth from his father's estate went to him. He used it wisely. Following his education, he was able to obtain a number of religious posts and also became an Anglican priest. He was a prolific writer, using his talents to discuss political circumstances of his time. He played important roles in both the Whig and Tory parties. Most importantly, Swift became an ardent defender of Irish liberty (Damrosch 2339). It's important to note that this role may have represented the allegorical role Gulliver plays in Gulliver's Travels.

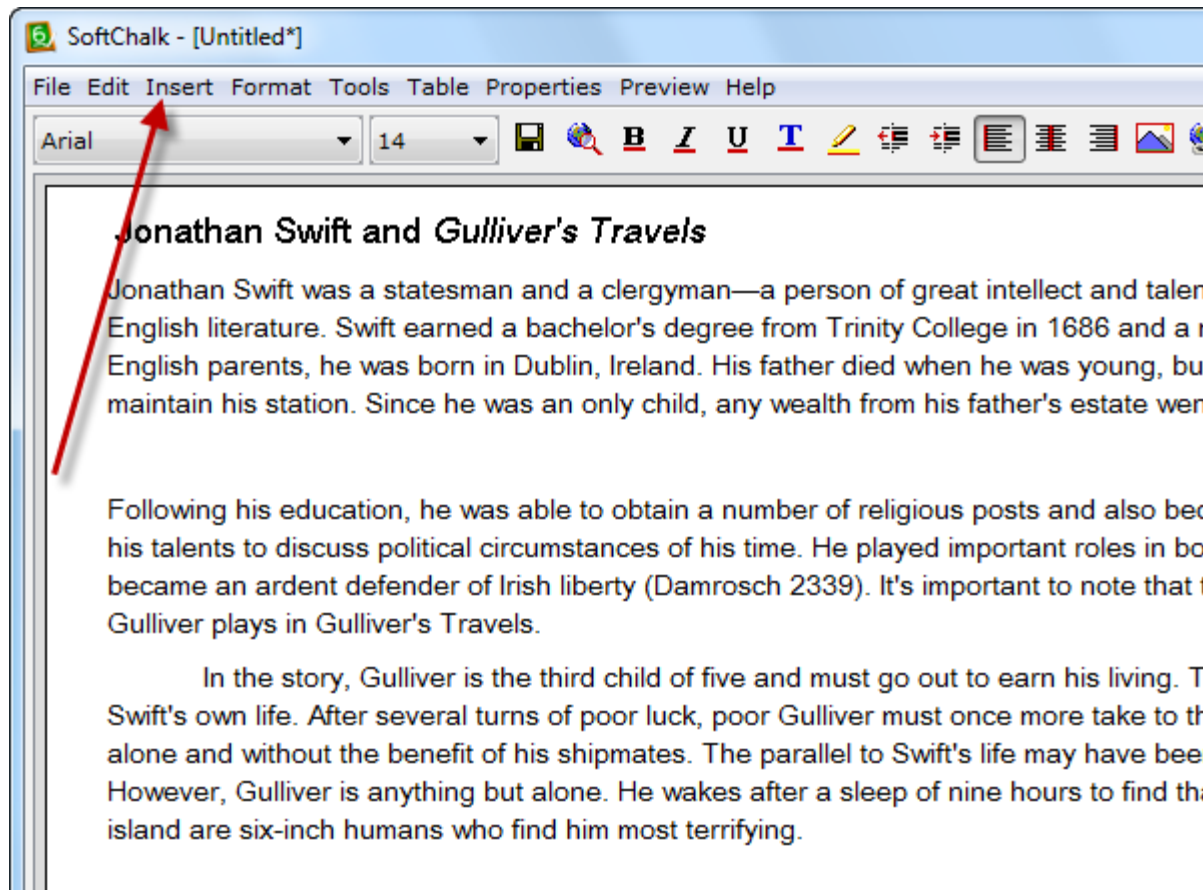
In the story, Gulliver is the third child of five and must go out to earn his living. These circumstances, of course, are very different from Swift's own life. After several turns of poor luck, poor Gulliver must once more take to the sea and finds himself shipwrecked on an island—alone and without the benefit of his shipmates. The parallel to Swift's life may have been the feeling of being left alone by his

Page 1 of 1
Non Styled, English

With this initial type, the composer

- Is able to change the background and the type style while focusing on various aspects of the presentation.

- After making the separations between type, create page breaks.
- To create a page break, click behind the last sentence in the paragraph, and then go to “Insert” and come down to “Page Break.”



Continue

- Continue the page breaks after each paragraph in your material. Be certain to click behind the last word in the last sentence of the paragraph before creating the page break or the balance of the page will be askew.



Jonathan Swift and *Gulliver's Travels*

Jonathan Swift was a statesman and a clergyman—a person of great intellect and talent. He is considered one of the great English literature. Swift earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity College in 1686 and a master's degree in 1692 from Oxford. His English parents, he was born in Dublin, Ireland. His father died when he was young, but he was able to secure several positions to maintain his station. Since he was an only child, any wealth from his father's estate went to him. He used it wisely.

----- page break -----

Following his education, he was able to obtain a number of religious posts and also became an Anglican priest. He was able to use his talents to discuss political circumstances of his time. He played important roles in both the Whig and Tory parties. Most notably, he became an ardent defender of Irish liberty (Damrosch 2339). It's important to note that this role may have represented the character of Gulliver in *Gulliver's Travels*.

----- page break -----

In the story, Gulliver is the third child of five and must go out to earn his living. These circumstances, of course, are similar to Swift's own life. After several turns of poor luck, poor Gulliver must once more take to the sea and finds himself shipwrecked alone and without the benefit of his shipmates. The parallel to Swift's life may have been the feeling of being left alone by his family. However, Gulliver is anything but alone. He wakes after a sleep of nine hours to find that he is tied down on all sides. The island he finds is populated by six-inch humans who find him most terrifying.

----- page break -----

I lay down on the grass, which was very short and soft, where I slept sounder than ever I remembered to have done in my own country, about nine hours; for when I awaked, it was just day-light. I attempted to rise, but was not able to stir: for, as I lay on my back, I found my arms and legs were strongly fastened on each side to the ground; and my hair, which was long and thick, was fastened in the same manner.

----- page break -----

I likewise felt several slender ligatures across my body, from my arm-pits to my thighs. I could only look upwards; the sun beat on my face, and the light offended my eyes. I heard a confused noise about me; but in the posture I lay, could see nothing except the sky. I felt something alive moving on my left leg, which advancing gently forward over my breast, came almost up to my chin: when I

To give your page color, go to “Properties” on the dashboard and select “Style Properties.”

- Select a color and style for the page.

Jonathan Swift and Gulliver's Travels

Jonathan S
satirists of B
The only so
positions th
wisely

Following hi
using his ta
importantly,
the allegoric

In th
from Swift's
island—alor
father's dea
inhabitants

I lay down o
reckoned, a
on my back
down in the

ose
xford.
several
d it

writer,
sented

ifferent
on an
his
es. The


d, as I
d to lie
tied

Style Properties

Styles | Title & Layout | Install & Restore

Selected Style

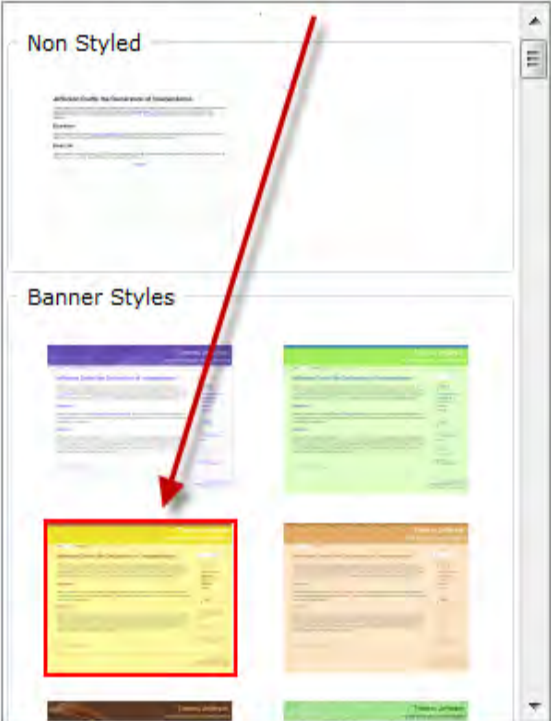
Colorbars 2 Banner



Style Choices

Non Styled

Banner Styles



OK Cancel

itled*]

Format Tools Table Properties Preview Help

14   **B** *I* U **T**          Plain Text

than Swift and *Gulliver's Travels*

an Swift was a st
s of English litera
ly son of English
as that helped hir

ng his education,
is talents to disc
ntly, Swift becam
gorical role Gulliv

In the story, Gull
wift's own life. Afte
-alone and witho
s death. However
ants of the island

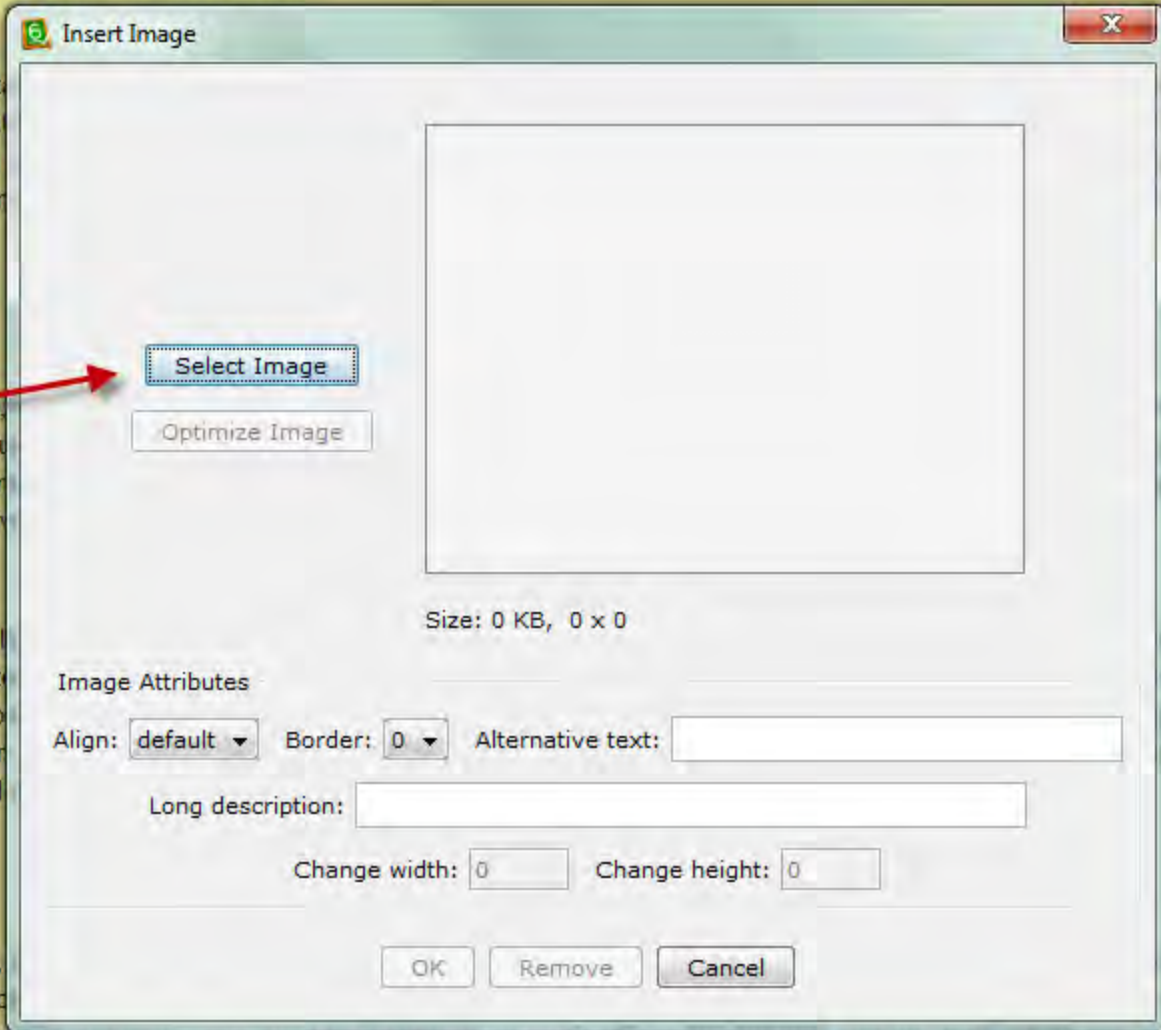
wn on the grass,
ed, about nine ho
back. I found my

greatest p
1602 from
to secure
him. He us

as a prolifi
aries. Mos
/ have repr

e, are very
shipwrecke
left alone b
wn on all s

in my life, a
as I happen
ng and thir



Select Image

Optimize Image

Size: 0 KB, 0 x 0

Image Attributes

Align: **default** Border: **0** Alternative text:

Long description:

Change width: Change height:

OK Remove Cancel

Arial

14



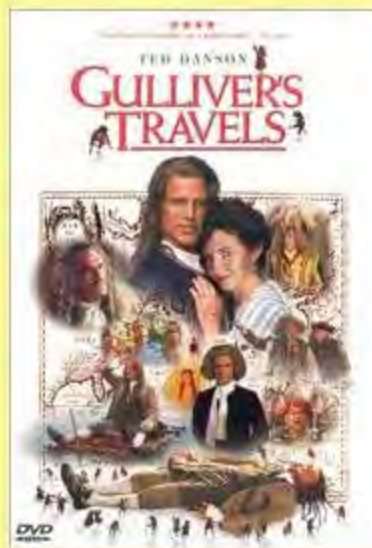
Plain Text

the allegorical role Gulliver plays in Gulliver's Travels.

----- page break -----

In the story, Gulliver is the third child of five and must go out to earn his living. These circumstances, of course, are very different from Swift's own life. After several turns of poor luck, poor Gulliver must once more take to the sea and finds himself shipwrecked on an island—alone and without the benefit of his shipmates. The parallel to Swift's life may have been the feeling of being left alone by his father's death. However, Gulliver is anything but alone. He wakes after a sleep of nine hours to find that he is tied down on all sides. The inhabitants of the island are six-inch humans who find him most terrifying.

----- page break -----



I lay down on the grass, which was very short and soft, where I slept sounder than ever I remembered to have done in my life, and, as I reckoned, about nine hours; for when I awaked, it was just day-light. I attempted to rise, but was not able to stir: for, as I happened to lie on my back, I found my arms and legs were strongly fastened on each side to the ground; and my hair, which was long and thick, tied down in the same manner.

----- page break -----

You may want to upload graphics in advance

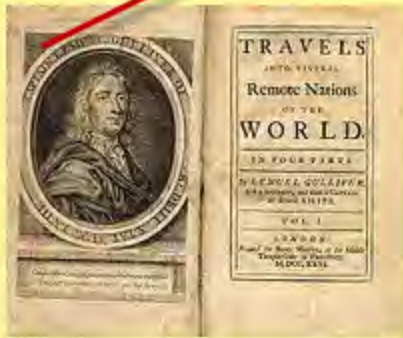
- Uploading graphics for your material in advance can make the composition in SoftChalk go a little more quickly.
- Use the “Centering” tool to center your graphic or use the flush left or flush right tools to position your image otherwise.

To preview

- To preview your document to see what you have built so far, click the “Save” icon on the dashboard:



Jonathan Swift and *Gulliver's Travels*



Jonathan Swift was a statesman and a clergyman—a person of great intellect and talent. He is considered one of the greatest satirists of English literature. Swift earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity College in 1686 and a master's degree in 1691. The only son of English parents, he was born in Dublin, Ireland. His father died when he was young, but he held several positions that helped him maintain his station. Since he was an only child, any wealth from his father's estate was passed on to him wisely.

Saving

- Be certain to save the document on a Travel Drive or part of your hard drive that has plenty of space as the document is large.
- Give it a short title. Spacing is not permitted in SoftChalk.

satirists of English literature. Swift earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity College in 1686 and a master's degree in 1692 from Oxford. The only son of English parents, he was born in Dublin, Ireland. His father died when he was young, but he was able to secure several positions that helped him maintain his station. Since he was an only child, any wealth from his father's estate went to him. He used it wisely.

----- page break -----

Following his education, he was able to obtain a number of religious posts and also became an Anglican priest. He was a prolific writer, using his talents to do so. Most importantly, Swift became the allegorical role of Gulliver's Travels. Most have represented

In the story, Gulliver is from Swift's own life. He is on an island—alone and with his father's death. However, the inhabitants of the island

are very different. He is wrecked on an island alone by his enemies on all sides. The

Save

Save in: SoftChalk2

- FHasSC8911b
- HistBL

File name: Gullies

Files of type: HTML (.html)

Save Cancel



Then click the viewing glass



SoftChalk - [Untitled*]

File Edit Insert Format Tools Table Properties Preview Help

Arial 14

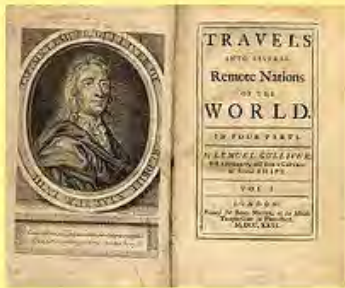
Jonathan Swift and *Gulliver's Travels*



Jonathan Swift was a statesman and a clergyman—a person of great intellect and a satirist of English literature. Swift earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut. The only son of English parents, he was born in Dublin, Ireland. His father died when he was only three years old, and his mother's remarriage to a man of lower social positions that helped him maintain his station. Since he was an only child, and his mother was a widow, he was raised wisely.

----- page break -----

Jonathan Swift and *Gulliver's Travels*



Jonathan Swift was a statesman and a clergyman—a person of great intellect and talent. He is considered one of the greatest prose satirists of English literature. Swift earned a bachelor's degree from Trinity College in 1686 and a master's degree in 1692 from Oxford. The only son of English parents, he was born in Dublin, Ireland. His father died when he was young, but he was able to secure several positions that helped him maintain his station. Since he was an only child, any wealth from his father's estate went to him. He used it wisely.

[return to top](#) | [next page](#)

The pages

- The pages will then be numbered with an index at the top of the page. You may adjust the method for display of the index or add a table of contents feature by selecting Properties and then “Title and Layout.”

lles]

Format Tools Table Properties Preview Help

14 [Icons: Bold, Italic, Underline, Text Color, Background Color, Bulleted List, Numbered List, Indent Left, Indent Right, Table, Table of Contents, Print, Plain Text]

than Swift and *Gulliver's Travels*

Style Properties

Styles | **Title & Layout** | Install & Restore

Lesson Title
Recommended maximum 30 letters per line
Title:
Subtitle:

Footer
 Content ©2011. All Rights Reserved.
 Date last modified: October 27, 2011.

License:

Text: SoftChalk"/>

Sidebar Layout
 Right sidebar
 Left sidebar

Table of Contents
 Table of Contents page
 Rollover menu in a sidebar
 Dropdown menu at top of page

Navigation
 Arrows
 Page numbers
 "On This Page" sidebar

Print
 Print all pages

an S
s of E
ly so
ns th

ing h
his ta
antly,
egoric

In th
wift's
—alor

s death. However, Gulliver is anything but alone. He wakes after a sleep of nine hours to find that he is tied down on all sides. ants of the island are six-inch humans who find him most terrifying

ose
xfor
ever
d it

writ
sen

liffe
on
his

Jonathan Swift

Gulliver's Travels

| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16

print all



man—a person of great intellect and talent. He is considered one of the greatest prose satirists of English literature. Swift earned a bachelor's degree in 1686 and a master's degree in 1692 from Oxford. The only son of English parents, he was born in Dublin, Ireland. His father died in 1691, and Swift inherited several positions that helped him maintain his station. Since he was an only child, any wealth from his father's estate went to

To insert a quiz

- Go to Insert. For one question, select Quiz Group for multiple questions. It's best to keep the question numbers under five as the document is large.

Quiz Group

Group Name
Group name:

Select QuizPopper
Question Type: **Add**

OR

Show Questions
 All at once One at a time
 Random order

Show Group
 Hide group Show group

Feedback
 Detailed Summary

Options
 Allow retry Show border

Questions in Group

Type	Question	Points
True/False	Gulliver's Travels is about hi...	1
True/False	The Brobdingnag are little peo...	1
True/False	The emperor of the Lilliputian...	1

Deborah
microsc

By the ti
century
markedly
the role
by men,
(142).

Accordin

Whateve
has argu
the Hou
... claime

nth-
itself,
med
artist"

ext
ding
hools

Click "OK" at the bottom; the Quiz then appears in your document.



Deborah Armintor focuses on the commoditization of women and Gulliver himself in the story. Her point microscope, recently in vogue in Swift's time, as the instrument of commodity.

By the time Gulliver reaches Brobdingnag and actually becomes a small, imported commodity himself, his century pocket microscope undermines Hooke's presumption that masculine Enlightenment ideals were markedly feminine world of commodities. This, in a nutshell, is Swift's joke at Gulliver's expense. Just as the role of women in the microscopical subtext of Brobdingnag only becomes apparent after the object is viewed by men, who later mark Gulliver's role as "instrument" by imagining him to be a "piece of clock-work ... c (142).

Quiz Group



----- page break -----

According to Chole Houston, the utopian implication of Gulliver's Travels is a paradox:

You may select various images

- Various images are available to change the appearance of the quiz on your page.
- Save your document so that you may upload it to your course learning management system.
- Various uploading instructions apply for uploading your document with the Scrom depending on what type of system your college is using.



Quiz Group

Group Name

Group name: Gulliver Quiz

Select QuizPopper

Question Type: True/False

Add

OR

Get Question(s) From Library

Show Questions

 All at once One at a time Random order

Show Group

 Hide group Show group

Feedback

 Detailed Summary

Options

 Allow retry Show border

Questions in Group

Type	Question	Points
True/False	Gulliver's Travels is about hi...	1
True/False	The Brobdingnag are little peo...	1
True/False	The emperor of the Lilliputian...	1



Modify

Delete

OK

Cancel

Deborah
microscBy the ti
century
markedly
the role
by men,
(142).

Accordin

Whateve
has argu
the Houy
... claime

nth-

itself,
med
artist"ext
ding
hools

measure up to its own standard" and moreover that "this standard is not for man." Humanity's failure to reach its own ideal is thus



Deborah Armintor focuses on the commoditization of women and Gulliver himself in the story. Her point is well taken as she uses the microscope, recently in vogue in Swift's time, as the instrument of commodity.

By the time Gulliver reaches Brobdingnag and actually becomes a small, imported commodity himself, his resemblance to an eighteenth-century pocket microscope undermines Hooke's presumption that masculine Enlightenment ideals were ever immune to the new and markedly feminine world of commodities. This, in a nutshell, is Swift's joke at Gulliver's expense. Just as in the history of microscopy itself, the role of women in the microscopical subtext of Brobdingnag only becomes apparent after the object in question has been first claimed by men, who later mark Gulliver's role as "instrument" by imagining him to be a "piece of clock-work ... contrived by some ingenious artist" (142).

Quiz Group



















[return to top](#) | [previous page](#) | [next page](#)

When you wish to find your saved copy

- Look for the word “Index” in a long list of items. You may open the document to continue working on it. However, it may be necessary to open SoftChalk first, then select from “File” to Open the document at the “Index” file.

See “Index”

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
 Gullles5	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	8 KB
 Gullles6	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	8 KB
 Gullles7	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	8 KB
 Gullles8	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	8 KB
 Gullles9	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	8 KB
 Gullles10	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	9 KB
 Gullles11	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	9 KB
 Gullles12	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	9 KB
 Gullles13	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	9 KB
 Gullles14	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	8 KB
 Gullles15	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	9 KB
 Gullles16	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	7 KB
 index	10/27/2011 6:23 PM	HTML Document	2 KB
 lb_buttonimage	10/27/2011 6:24 PM	Text Document	1 KB
 Oldbook	10/27/2011 5:47 PM	JPEG image	9 KB
 quizgroup_custom	10/27/2011 6:24 PM	PNG image	2 KB

Audio, video

- You may add audio, video and other kinds of files to your SoftChalk by going to “Insert” then, select, “Media.”
- Upload the file you have produced.
- You may produce audio or video files of your own or borrow a portion of files available free of charge on the Internet.

Following his education, he was able to obtain a number of religious posts and also became an Anglican. In the circumstances of his time. He played important roles in both the Whig and Tory parties. Most important to note that this role may have represented the allegorical role Gulliver plays in Gulliver's Travels.



[return to top](#) | [previous page](#) | [next page](#)

Copyright

- Be certain to mind copyright restrictions and give credit to any sources.
- Some audio and video files can be used without copyright issues. However, be certain to credit all sources after building your pages.
- A number of sources are available to teachers, which provide ample materials.
- See FlatWorld Knowledge, <http://free.ed.gov/>, NEA, <http://www.nea.org/tools/32396.htm>.

For more information

- For tutorials or more information visit SoftChalk at SoftChalk.com for tutorials at Learn More.

Conclusion

- This concludes the presentation. If you have questions about the instructions, call

Dr. Dale M. Taylor

Galveston