

Utilising the resources of the BBC audio and video archive

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This information sheet provides an introduction to using the wide range of resources available through the Spoken Word Services project at Glasgow Caledonian University www.spokenword.ac.uk. This project offers academic staff and students potential access to the entire BBC audio archive which is an immensely rich resource spanning most aspects of the spoken word and encompassing a wide range of materials related to social work and social policy.

How might these resources be useful?

- **A source of factual information.** The resources held by the BBC span a period since the early 1950s. Anything that was recorded in any format since then has been archived and although most resources are still in analogue formats, they can be digitised on request via Spoken Word Services. This allows academic staff and students to hear in its original context a whole range of information that is useful for learning purposes; for example, Sir William Beveridge explaining his thinking in terms of the reforms he proposed that led to the creation of the Welfare State; Mrs Margaret Thatcher explaining in her role as Education Secretary why free school milk is being abolished in state schools; a parent of a Down's Syndrome child explaining the impact of the diagnosis on her and her family. The range and scope of the archive materials are vast but can be searched using a simple 'keyword' process.
- **Skills development.** Some audio programmes can be useful to students as a means of studying communication skills, e.g. how to develop a discussion around a particular issue, how to argue one's case around a particular set of information; essentially a process of listening for style rather than content. For example, the collection currently contains a number of the interviews conducted by Dr Anthony Clare "In the Psychiatrist's Chair". These programmes allow the listener to explore his technique as an interviewer and perhaps as a counsellor hearing how he uses rhetorical questions, silence, paraphrasing etc.
- **Adding contextuality to existing case study materials.** By including audio recordings from the lived experiences of individuals and groups in society, academic staff can help students to understand the reality of concepts that may

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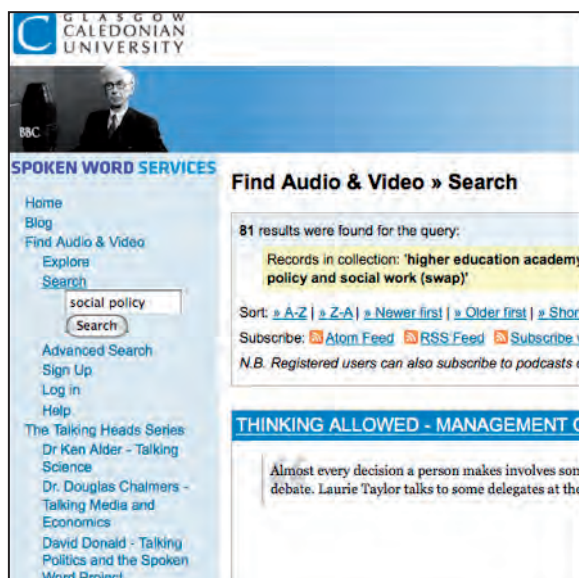
▶ How might these resources be useful? (continued)

otherwise seem abstract, e.g. living with a disability, being homeless, discovering you are adopted. By listening to the actual testimony of individuals and groups, students can develop a much richer understanding of what these issues mean in terms of people's lives in a manner that is more difficult to achieve through vignettes and case studies created for this purpose.

- **Flexibility.** The resources can be made available in different formats depending on the purpose for which they are required. It is also possible to sign up for RSS feeds for particular areas of interest so that when new materials are identified, you will be notified and can, if you wish, add them to your own resources.
- **Useful for students with varying learning needs.** One of the benefits of being able to access these resources via the internet is that students have flexibility of access and can therefore process the information at their own pace. Provided they are being used solely for educational purposes, audio files can be made available as mp3 files on portable personal players like i-Pods.

Accessing Spoken Word Resources

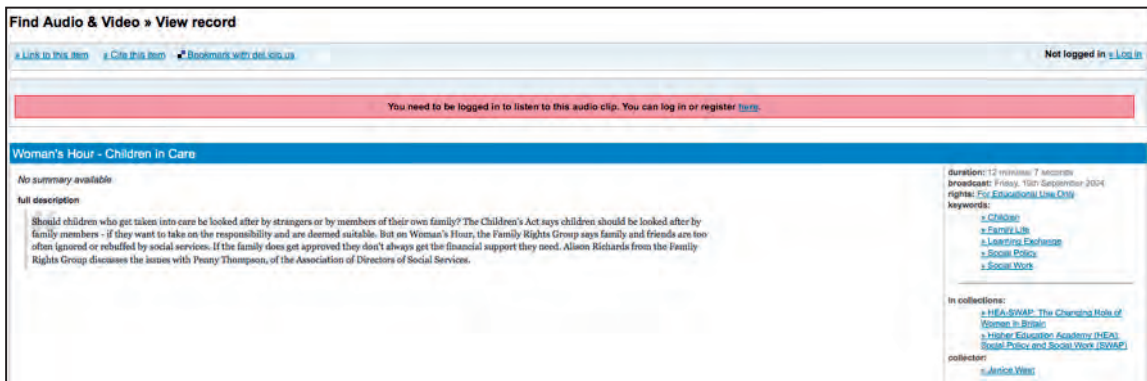
1. Navigate to www.spokenword.ac.uk
2. Sign up for a free user account at the page www.spokenword.ac.uk/register.php
3. Enter keywords in the search box on the left-hand side or for more advanced search options, select "Advanced Search".



4. Search results will be displayed on screen. To access an item, click on the title.

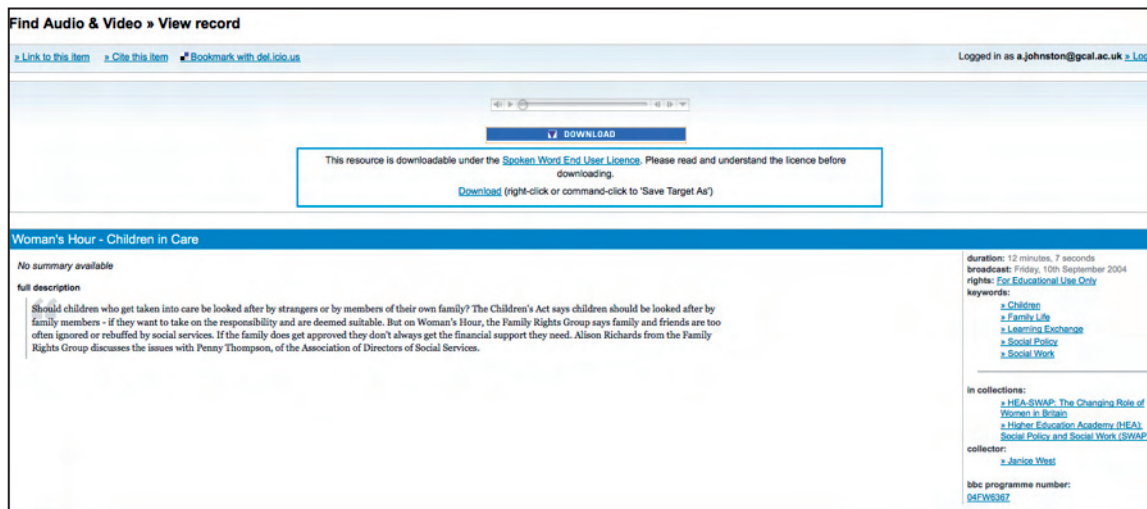
▶ Accessing Spoken Word Resources (continued)

5. The full record will now be shown. This includes the summary, full description, duration of the item, the original broadcast date, any keyword along with a list of reporters/presenters and speakers. The person who has collected this record, the collector, is also shown. You will now need to sign in with the account you created in step 2 to view/listen to the item.



6. Once you have logged in, the item should be displayed on screen. If you cannot hear or see anything after logging in, please access the troubleshooting guide on the website.

7. You can download the item for your own personal use by clicking on the Download link. Please ensure you have read through the Spoken Word End User Licence before clicking on the Download link.



Using online multiple choice tests with social policy students

Quick guide to some of the tools available

Sort:

Sorts results either alphabetically, by date or by duration.

RSS Feeds:

Subscribe to this search using ATOMS, RSS or Bloglines.

The screenshot shows the 'Find Audio & Video > Search' page. At the top, it displays '81 results were found for the query: Records in collection: higher education academy (hea): social policy and social work (swap)'. Below this, there are sorting options: 'Sort: >A-Z | >Z-A | >Newer first | >Older first | >Shorter first | >Longer first'. There are also options to 'Subscribe' via 'Atom Feed', 'RSS Feed', and 'Subscribe with Bloglines'. A note states: 'N.B. Registered users can also subscribe to podcasts of search results'. The search results are listed in two items. The first item is 'ATTLEE, RT.HON. C.R., PRIME MINISTER OF GT.BRITAIN (Part 1) - Party Political Broadcast No.8.' with a description: 'Happy New Year and thanks for efforts of past year which was one of great strain. Difficulties have been met and overcome bad weather; shortages. England has freedom of debate; voice of criticism silenced abroad. Authority... > Show next'. The second item is 'London Forum (Part 1) - London Forum' with a description: 'No.96 in series: Are the British Voters satisfied with the Labour Government's Programme? Aidan Crawley, M.P. - Labour; Peter Thorneycroft, M.P. - ... > Show next'. On the right side of each item, there is an 'audio' icon and metadata: 'duration: 4 minutes, 5 seconds broadcast: 3rd January 1948 rights: For Educational Use Only' for the first item, and 'duration: 4 minutes, 30 seconds broadcast: 0th May 1949 rights: For Educational Use Only' for the second. Below the metadata, there are 'In collections:' and 'collectors:' sections with links to various collections and collectors.

Media indicator:

Shows the media format, either audio or video.

Media metadata:

Shows the media duration, original broadcast date and any rights notes.

Collection:

Shows the collection.

Item Description:

Shows the item title, and the item description.

Collector:

Shows who the collector of the media is.

For more details on the ELTE project visit the SWAP website
www.swap.ac.uk/projects/a-z
call 02380 599310 or email swapenquiries@soton.ac.uk

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