Project: Objects and Memories

Some objects hold more than their appearance suggests. In this project, you'll explore how meaning changes when an object is described by its owner, reimagined by AI, and then transformed into a short film. The focus is not just on using AI, but on examining how creative intention shifts when a machine interprets something personal.

Project Overview

Each student will scan a personally meaningful object and write a short description of its significance. A partner will then use that description to generate an AI-written, personified version of the object. As a group, you will choose one object to develop into a short AI-assisted film, either by giving the object a voice or by focusing on the relationship between the person and the object. The final outcome is a 30-second AI-assisted film that blends 3D scanning, narrative interpretation, and visual storytelling.

Project Steps

1. Scan Your Object and Write a Personal Description (50 points)

- SCANNING INSTRUCTIONS HERE
- EXAMPLE HERE

Choose a small, meaningful object that is portable, textured, and scannable. Create a clean 3D scan using Polycam.

Write a short, personal description of the object (about 500 words) that includes what it is, what it looks like, and why it matters to you. This should be reflective, specific, and grounded in your experience rather than fictional. Make it conversational and personal. Write this as if you are describing it to someone!

Each person must submit in Slack:

1. Their scan
2. Their human-written description of the scan

3. Partner Generates an AI Personification (50 points)

Exchange descriptions with a partner. Your partner uses your text and a screenshot of the object scan to generate an AI-written, personified version of the object of 250-300 words. The writing should be from the object's point of view or written as if the object has memory or agency. The original owner does not edit this version.

Each person must submit in Slack by 5 FEBRUARY at 5 p.m. US/11 p.m. Spain:

1. Their partner's scan
2. Their AI-generated description of the scan. Link directly to the chat. Here's an example: https://chatgpt.com/share/697a0db7-0944-8000-ab95-c75fd2291548

4. Group Selection and Pitch (50 points)

In small groups, review the object scans, READ ALL OF YOUR GROUP'S personal descriptions and the AI-generated personifications. As a group, select one object to develop into a short film or story. The film may personify the object or focus on the human relationship to it. ***You do NOT have to use the full AI-generated version. You may rewrite it, or create a completely human-written version.***

Each group must submit in Slack AND PRESENT IN CLASS ON 12 FEBRUARY:

1. The scan of the object
2. The human-written description of the scan
3. The AI-written description of the scan
4. Their ***proposal*** for creating an AI-assisted film or story based on the object and AI-written description.
    - 3-5 slides
        - Explain the story
        - Explain the AI tools you will use to help tell the story
        - Use images, screenshots of the object
        - Use at least 2-3 AI-generated images to help illustrate your idea. You can use any image generator available to you, like Google Gemini or ChatGPT
            1. You may also generate prototype video using Sora, Adobe Firefly, Capcut or any other.
    - List of responsibilities (project manager, writer, image/video producer, editor)
    - Remember, the only rules for this is that the final product/story:
        - About an object someone in your group has scanned
        - Uses AI for story development, image or video generation

5. Produce a 60-90 Second AI-Assisted Film or Story Prototype/Draft (150 points)

Using your chosen object as reference, choose one of these:

- A short video completely or partially generated by AI, including voiceover and sound

- A series of images with text (like a graphic novel, maybe).

The film should be fictional, but grounded in reality. Think magical realism or fantastical but realistic.

6. Revised Film or Story, Published on Class Website (http://eusawvu.com/)

Publish the film or story on class website.