

PRESENTATION

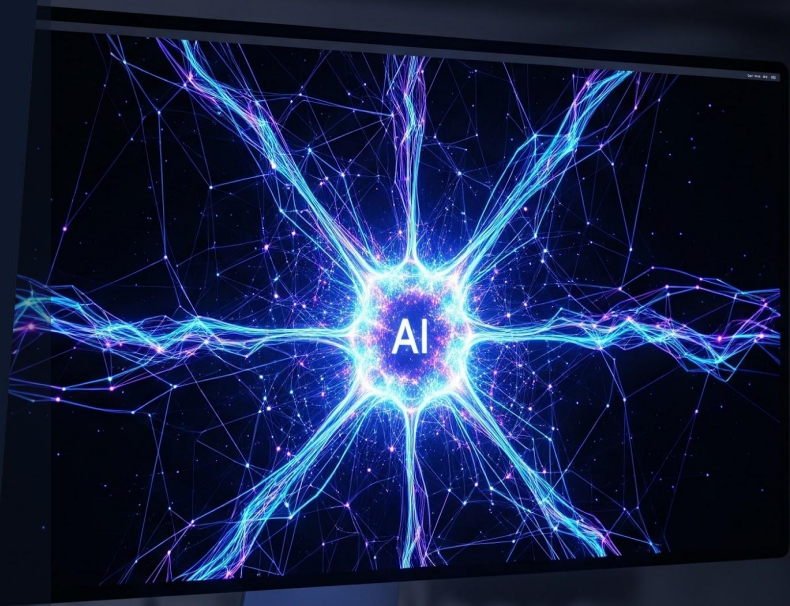
From Blank Page to Beautiful

Using Gemini to Build
Student-Friendly Canvas Pages and
Assignments in Minutes

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

1:00pm - 2:00pm PT

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Flex Online, Beaverton SD



“Thumb” o-meter



Beginner

I have never used AI for Canvas and I'm not sure where to start.



Explorer

I've used AI a little to help with my course; I think it can do more.



Advocate

I use AI frequently to streamline my Canvas workflow.

Our Session Agenda



Level 1: The Editor

Content, clarity, and the "Tone-Shift" interaction.



Level 2: The Architect

Custom HTML coding for professional layouts.



The Bridge

The technical "How-To" workflow.



The Prompt Lab

Hands-on troubleshooting and sandbox time.

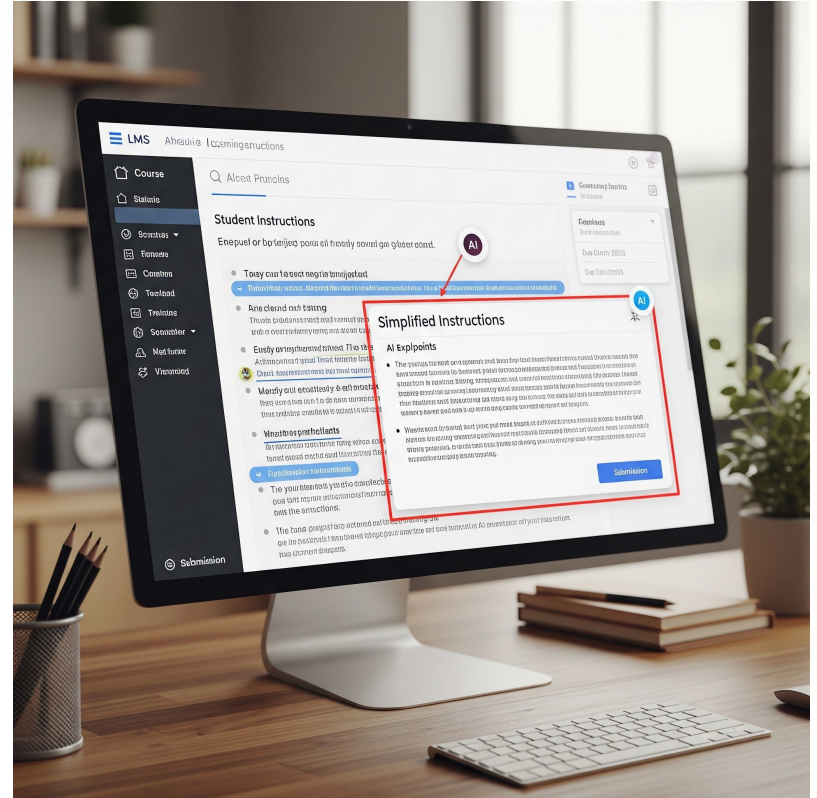
Level 1: The Editor

Focus: Content & Clarity

The Action: Copy / Paste just the text into AI and ask for help

The Goal: Simplify instructions, clarify organization, and add visual cues (emojis).

The Benefit: AI increases accessibility, reduces cognitive load, and helps students navigate the LMS more efficiently.





Level 1: The "Editor"

(Content & Clarity)

ORIGINAL CANVAS PAGE

Write a short scene with a beginning, middle, and end. Your scene should be at least two typed, double-spaced pages.

- To begin, choose a setting for your scene. It is fine for the setting to be familiar to your readers – maybe a café, classroom, supermarket, or living room.

- Keep in mind that a flashback helps reveal why a character acts the way he or she does, illuminating tensions between that character and others.

- Provide a bridge between what is happening in the present and what happened in the past. Your transition from the present to the past might be triggered by a sensory detail, such as a scent ("A whiff of lemon cake brought Kit back to her 17th birthday . . ."), a song lyric, or a childhood setting.

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My Prompt to AI:

"Please improve these assignment directions to make them more engaging for students."

Bonus Ideas:

- Add emojis
- Add scaffolding steps

Beginner: The "Editor"

(Content & Clarity)

AI GENERATED OUTPUT

Assignment:

Write (or revise a previously written) short scene (at least 250 words, 1 double-spaced page) with a beginning, middle, and end. Your scene must include a **flashback** that reveals crucial information about the past, helping the reader understand the present.

Step-by-Step Instructions:

1. Set the Scene in the Present (Beginning):

- Start your story in the present tense.
- Introduce your character(s) and their current situation or conflict.
- Choose a setting that feels relatable and familiar to readers (e.g., café, classroom, or park).

Formatting Result:

- Line breaks preserved
- Clear headings
- Logical hierarchies
- Ready for copy/paste

Content Help:

- Refine directions
- Add smaller steps for more scaffolding

Level 1: The "Editor"

(Content & Clarity)

BEFORE

2. During Reading:

Use Kami to mark the text whenever you notice Poe using techniques that:

- **create conflict:** How does Poe show what the characters want and their struggle to get it?
- **build tension:**
- **foreshadow:**
 - 🍌 Pro Tip: Use a "color key" to mark areas where you notice **conflict**, **tension**, or **foreshadow**.
- On page 6, respond to the question three questions in the margin. Be thoughtful in your answers—use the text to support your ideas.

3. After Reading:

Complete the questions on page 11. Make sure to use complete sentences and provide details from the text to back up your responses.

On page 12, practice writing your own scene. Focus on bringing a character to life using the techniques you observed. You can do this directly in Kami, in your notebook, or by typing in Google Docs and pasting it into Kami. Need help? Try this [graphic organizer](#).

AFTER

During Reading:

Use Kami to mark the text as you read.

🍌 Highlight places where Poe uses:

- **Conflict** – What do the characters want? How do they struggle?
- **Tension** – What makes the scene feel intense or suspenseful?
- **Foreshadowing** – What hints does Poe give about what's coming?

💡 **Pro Tip:** Use different colors for each (make yourself a color key!).

🍌 On page 6, answer the 3 margin questions with evidence from the text.

After Reading:

1. Go to **page 11** and answer the questions using complete sentences and support from the story.



Challenge: The Tone-Shift

Open a Canvas Assignment to Copy / Paste into AI

AI Suggests this to try:

```
"Rewrite my instructions as if you are a [ROLE]. Keep all requirements, but make it [TONE]. Use bullet points and add 3 relevant emojis."
```

Use this prompt on one of your "dry" assignments:

Roles: Coach, Mentor, Quest Guide, Boss

Tones: Encouraging, High-Energy, Direct, Warm

My Suggestion:

"Help me make the directions here more clear and easy for 7th graders to follow."

Focus on clarity and reading level to ensure all students can jump straight into the work without confusion.



Level 2: The Architect

(HTML & Layout)

Focus: HTML & Layout

The Action:

Copy the HTML code (</>).

The Goal:

Professional, mobile-responsive layouts (Grids, Buttons).

Why it works:

It creates "web-developer" design in seconds without writing code.

VISUAL PREVIEW

The Graphic Novel

From Story Spine to Sequential Art

You have a solid [Story Spine](#). Now, we move from *words on a page* to *images in a sequence*. Follow the steps below to prepare for your first draft.

STEP 1: LEARN

The Origin Story

Watch the video below to understand how graphic novels became a powerhouse of storytelling. Watch from 0:00 to 3:30.



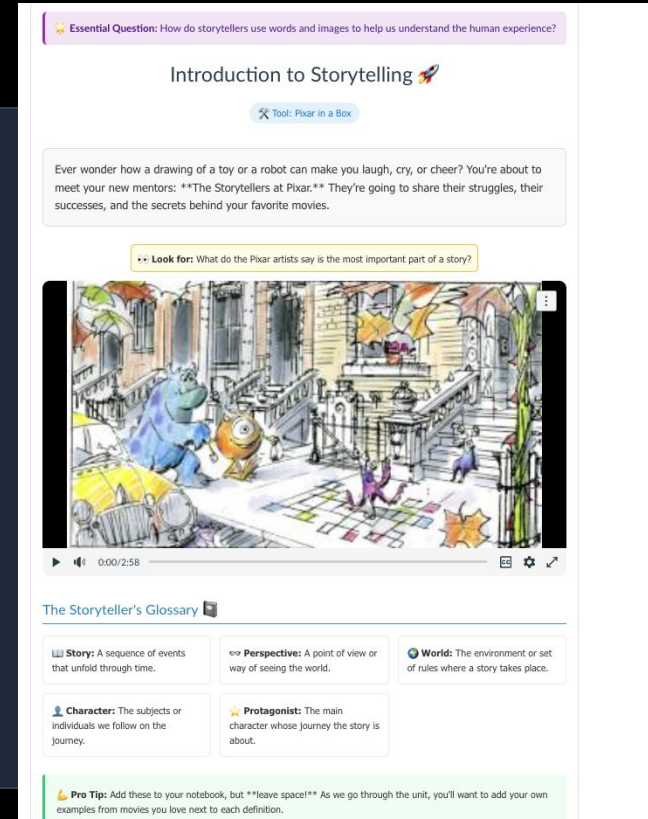
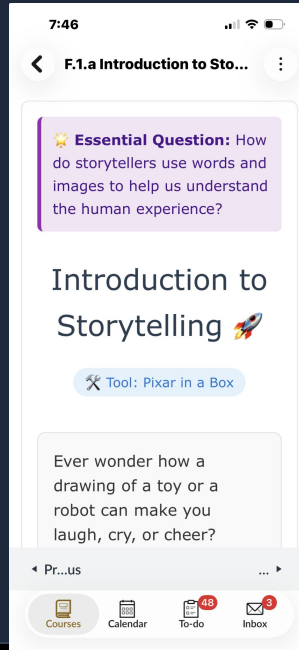
Level 2: The Architect

Enhanced Mobile Experience


HTML coding allows for:

- More colorful and dynamic pages
- Responsive layouts optimized for phones
- Seamless viewing on all digital devices
- Improved user interaction

AI GENERATED OUTPUT




Examples:


 **Essential Question:** How do storytellers use words and images to help us understand the human experience?

Story Structure: Act 2


The Journey Gets Tough: Obstacles & Choices

PROGRESS TRACKER Step 2 of 3

 **Note:** You are building your **Final Story Spine!** Make sure you are saving your "Part B" answers in your [Master Story Spine](#) so you don't have to redo the work later!

Now that you've introduced your story and given your character their challenges, you are ready to have your characters try to **reach their goals!** 

The 3-2-1 Format

 **Pro Tip:** Take a screenshot of a panel you love! Upload it and explain exactly what caught your eye—the layout, the colors, or the "gutters."

- 3 Observations:** What are three specific things you noticed in the examples?
- 2 Plans:** Two techniques or style choices you plan to use in YOUR Graphic Novel.
- 1 Question:** One thing you're still wondering about. For example:
 - How might I show a time jump between panels?
 - What colors would best express a mood of ___?
 - How did they make that character look like they were moving?

Become a Creative Consultant

Respond to at least two peers using these sentence starters:

The Problem Solver

"To answer your question about ____, I saw one artist use _____. Maybe you could try..."

The Style Scout

"I really liked your plan to include _____. Have you considered how that will change the mood of your story?"

The Collaborator

Features & Limitations



The Preview

Gemini with "Canvas" offers a live preview environment.

Issue: Long Chats

The preview often stops working as chat history grows. Starting fresh restores it, but you lose your context.



Formatting Drift

AI may "forget" it is in Canvas. Remind it to use specific HTML.

Pro Tip

"Use Canvas-friendly HTML."

Ask for formatting help if the code becomes hard to edit manually.



Links & Filters

AI is unaware of local network restrictions or YouTube filters.

Action Item

Always double-check your URLs to make sure they work.

AI may alter your content during processing.



Let's write or build together

+ ☰ Canvas x



Code Preview

Note: Complexity can increase with longer threads; re-inserting code for fresh formatting help often works best.

The Technical Workflow



1. Copy Code

Open Canvas LMS HTML Editor (</>).

Use **Ctrl+A** to select all and **Ctrl+C** to copy.



2. Bridge to AI

Paste into Gemini.

Prompt: "Format this better..."



3. Refine

Check Preview.

Ask for specific boxes, buttons, or adjustments.

Tell AI what you think!



4. Re-Paste

Copy AI output and paste back into Canvas LMS HTML Editor.



PRO TIP: When "Preview" doesn't work, copy into a sample Canvas LMS page OR paste above the current HTML code to check content and links.

Your Turn!

Open a Sandbox or a "Messy Module"



I'm here to troubleshoot and prompt with you.

The Final 5 Minutes: Showcase



Ready to Share?

Leave your computer open!

1. Share with those at your table.
2. Get up and explore what others have built.

"Who found a prompt that did something unexpected or saved them time?"



Prefer Privacy?

That's perfectly fine!

Simply close your computer and take a moment to reflect on your progress.



Troubleshooting Canvas Formatting

IF THE CODE LOOKS LIKE THIS...

```
7 <<script src="https://cdn.tailwindcss.com"></script>
8 <<style>
9 <<:root {
10 <<--primary-gold: #ceb888;
11 <<--primary-black: #1a1a1a;
12 <<}
13 <<body {
14 <<background-color: #f9fafb;
15 <<font-family: 'Inter', system-ui, -apple-system, sans-
16 <<}
17 <<.header-gradient {
18 <<background: linear-gradient(135deg, #000000 0%, #2d2d
19 <<}
20 <<.card {
21 <<transition: transform 0.2s ease, box-shadow 0.2s ease
22 <<}
```

YOUR PAGE WILL LOOK LIKE THIS...



Staff Advisory 2025-26

Empowering student success through social-emotional le

Resource Access

Modules are ready for import to your course.

[Access Modules](#) [Watch Tutorial Video](#) [🔗](#)

6th Grade

The Fix: Tell AI "Your formatting is not showing up correctly in my Canvas Page"

Canvas Compatibility Guide

WON'T WORK ON CANVAS

```
4     <meta charset="UTF-8">
5     <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-sc
6     <title>Staff Advisory 2025-26</title>
7     <script src="https://cdn.tailwindcss.com"></script>
8     <style>
9     .....:root {
10     .....  --primary-gold: #ceb888;
11     .....  --primary-black: #1a1a1a;
12     ..... }
13     ..... body {
14     .....  background-color: #f9fafb;
15     .....  font-family: 'Inter', system-ui, -apple-system, sans-
16     ..... }
17     ..... .header-gradient {
18     .....  background: linear-gradient(135deg, #000000 0%, #2d2d
19     ..... }
20     ..... .card {
21     .....  transition: transform 0.2s ease, box-shadow 0.2s ease
22     ..... }
23     ..... .card:hover {
24     .....  transform: translateY(-4px);
25     .....  box-shadow: 0 10px 15px -3px rgba(0, 0, 0, 0.1);
26     .....
```

WILL WORK ON CANVAS

```
<div class="canvas-container" style="font-family:
..... <!-- Top Banner -->
..... <header class="header-banner" style="background
.....   
.....
..... <!-- Main Content -->
..... <section class="welcome-section" style="padding
.....   <h1 class="welcome-title" style="font-size
..... </section>
```

AI Workflow: Canvas One-Pager

[View Live Canvas Page](#)

01 INITIAL PROMPT & OUTPUT

what I have: <div id="lesson-briar-rose-container" style="max-width: 900px; margin: 0 auto; font-family: 'Inter', system-ui, -apple-system, sans-serif; color: #1e293b; line-height: 1.6; background: #fff; border: 1px...

```
4 <meta charset="UTF-8">
5 <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
6 <title>Taking a Stand: One Pager</title>
7 <style>
8   body {
9     background-color: #f8f9fa;
10    margin: 0;
11    padding: 20px;
12  }
13  .container {
14    max-width: 900px;
15    margin: 0 auto;
```

02 LMS OPTIMIZATION

It needs to work with the Canvas LMS please

```
Canvas-ready One Pager Lesson
1 <div id="lesson-one-pager-canvas" style="max-width: 900px;
2
3 <!-- Header Section -->
4 <header style="background: linear-gradient(135deg, #
5   <p style="font-size: 0.9rem; text-transform: upper
6   <h1 style="margin: 0; font-size: 2.2rem; line-he
7 </header>
8
9 <div style="padding: 30px;">
10
11
12
13
```

Essential Question
How do we decide what matters to us? 🤔 ✨

border-left: 3px solid #1e293b; padding-left: 10px; font-size: 0.9rem; color: #1e293b; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">Taking a Stand: One Pager

Synthesizing Your Learning

Throughout this module, you've explored texts about people who have taken stands for

FINAL DESIGN