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Scalar Basics

Multimedia, non-linear, creative
history and story telling

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What's on the agenda?

- Overview of Scalar
- "Tour" of Scalar
- Uploading Media
- "Hands" (mouse?) on
- *Whole-Whole relationships
- *Whole-Part relationships
- *Widgets & Embedding HTML Iframes
- *Scalar & Audio



But first!



But first!

A Break From Typing



For five minutes

Consider the following media and write what you would want to:

- Draw attention to
- Raise questions about
- Tell a story about
- Explain the history or significance of
- Connect to other media or information



For five minutes

Consider the following media and write what you would want to:

- Draw attention to
- Raise questions about
- Tell a story about
- Explain the history or significance of
- Connect to other media or information

Be Expansive In Your Ideas!



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A group of Katherine Dunham Dancers shown in mid-rehearsal in New York. Photograph. Retrieved from the Library of Congress, <www.loc.gov/item/ihas.200003772/>.



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"Chucas y Cholas" Event Flyer, April 2017, from Mike Madriaga, "The chola look comes out at Chicano Park Day." San Diego Reader, April 29, 2017, <https://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2017/apr/29/stringers-chola-chicano-park-day/>.



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Ruodi Duan, "Robert Williams in China: Contesting Race, Class, and Black Nationalism," Blog Post, October 15, 2020, Wilson Center Cold War International History Project, <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/robert-williams-china-contesting-race-class-and-black-nationalism>



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"Azada de Mango Corto," 1936, Used by Librado Hernandez Chavez and Cesar Estrada Chavez, Contributed by Rita Chavez Medina, National Museum of American History,
https://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/search/object/nmah_694880.



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Lets Discuss!

- What story, history, or narrative does **the media itself reveal or tell?**
- What story, history, or narrative is **the media a part of?**
- What **elements of the media** stood out to you?
- What **critical annotations (notes)** are needed?
 - What **media beyond text or image** could be used to do this?
- Are there "**side quests**" that can be explored?
- What **context is needed** to understand the media?

You just engaged with,
explained, and discussed how
and why Scalar is used!



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You just engaged with,
explained, and discussed how
and why Scalar is used!

Thanks for doing my job for me,
workshop over!



You just engaged
explained

Just Kidding!

We still got a lot to do together!

T

power!

for me,



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Back to the agenda

- Overview of Scalar
- "Tour" of Scalar
- Uploading Media
- "Hands" (mouse?) on
- *Whole-Whole relationships
- *Whole-Part relationships
- *Widgets & Embedding HTML Iframes
- *Scalar & Audio



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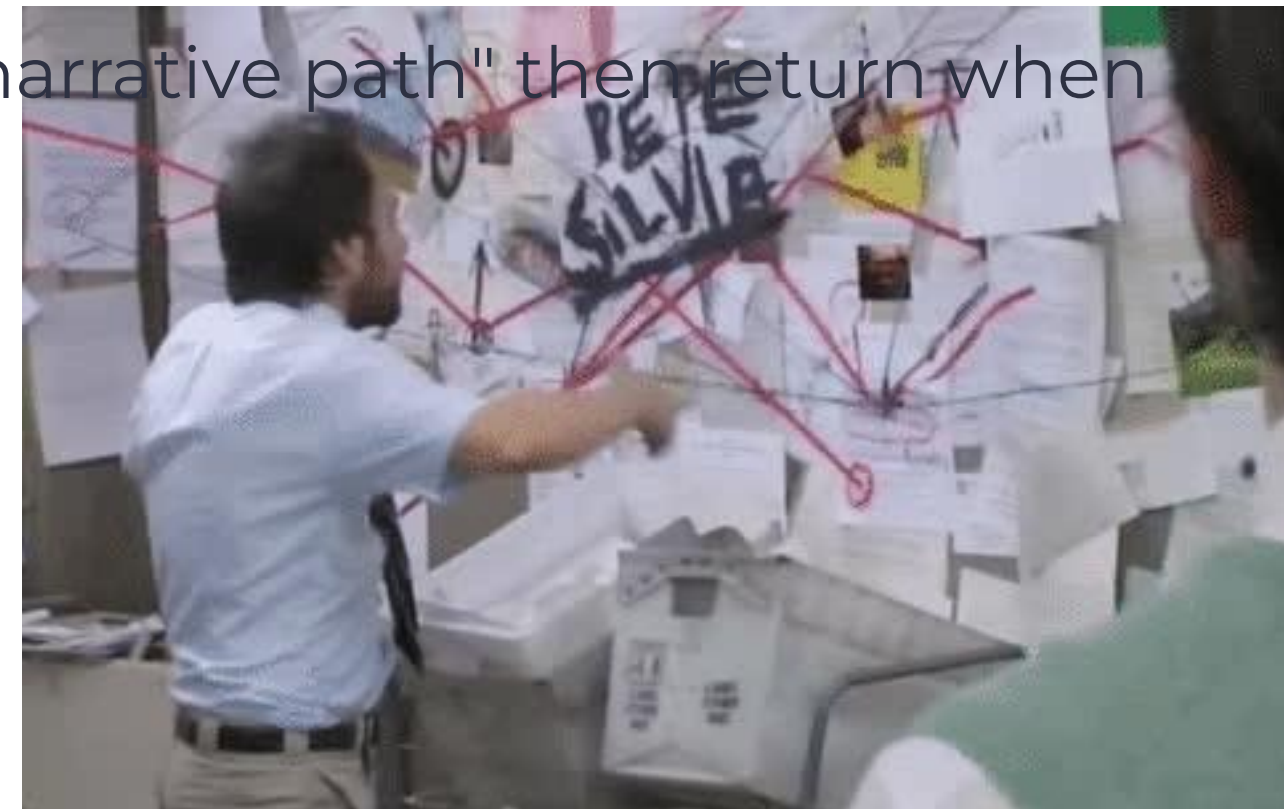
Overview of Scalar



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What is Scalar?

- Multimedia
- Multimodal
- Nonlinear
 - Concentric circles- allows you to create concentric circles of levels of understanding, information, conceptualization that users can navigate between
 - Empowers users to explore off the linear "narrative path" then return when they are ready
- Open Access
- Digital Scholarship & Publishing
- Critical/close analysis of media





To do this, it is **IMPORTANT!**

to:

- Plan your project ahead of time
- Gather your content

- Back up your files

- Name your files in a consistent and sensible way!



INSH5603_Scalar_Abstract_vF.DOC



Doneabstractdraft(3).DOC
AbstractfinalFMLreallydone.DOC



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Tour of Scalar



Log In to Your Account

- Navigate to **scalar.usc.edu/works/system/login**
- Log in with the **email address you sent to Cassie** to set up your account and the following generic password
 - **!c@ndoth!\$SumInst23**
- If you already changed your password, fantastic! Hang tight!
- **If this is your first time logging in, let's change your password**



Changing Your Password

- Find your account information screen (it appears when you log in)
- Type in your desired password
- Type it in again (and make note of it!)
- Click "Save changes"

1

 **Cassie Tanks**

Account

[Sign out](#)

Full name

Email (login)

Website

To change your password enter the following values:

Current password

2

New password

3

Retype new

4

[Save changes](#)



Open Your "Book"

- Find your account information screen (it appears when you log in)
- Find the "Books" option
 - This is where all the "Books" you are affiliated with can be found
- Hover your mouse over "Reckonings Summer Institute: Scalar Basics"
- Select "Dashboard"
 - Note: Clicking the title of a "Book" takes you to the content

Log out Books **2**

Create new book Duplicate existing book

Title	Role
Scalar Basics , Video, & Audio	Author
Using the Apartheid Heritage(s) Archive Omeka Site	Author
Understanding Primary and Secondary Sources	Author
Apartheid Heritage(s)	Author
Deep Mapping with Scalar: Engaging Geography in the Humanities group workbook	Author
Scalar Basics	Author
SDSU_DH_Test	Author
COPY: Cold War Propaganda	Author
Hist 5237 Practice Book	Author
Reckonings Summer Institute: Scalar Basics	Author 3 Dashboard 4
SDSU Digital Humanities	Author



"Back end" Dashboard Tour









- Properties: Allows you to edit titles, URL, genre, permissions, comment settings, publisher information, and rearrange table of contents
- Editorial: Allows you to create and monitor editorial workflows
- Styling: Allows you to upload a thumbnail image, a background image, add custom CSS and/or Javascript
- Content (Our main focus today): Allows you to add, edit, and view pages, media, paths, tags, annotations, comments, and terms
- Users: Edit personal bio pages of authors, editors, and other contributors and adjust their visibility
- Utilities (Advanced): Import from or export to existing Scalar books, use API







queries to gather information about this or other Scalar books you have access to



"Book" Dashboard Tour



-  Navigate the table of contents and index
-  Jump to recent pages, visualizations, and information about Scalar
-  General search through the contents of the book
-  Help and information about the functions of the buttons
-  Add a new page
-  Edit a page or media in your book

-  Annotate images, video, audio (visual and time based media)
-  Import media from Scalar associated archives, a URL, or upload
-  Delete
-  Access Scalar Book Dashboard
-  Access your account
-  View citations and context ("step" in the path, tags, annotations, etc)



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Uploading Media



Uploading Media

- Multimedia- supports
 - Text
 - Images
 - Video
 - Audio
- Upload files from your computer
- Multiple ways to add media
 - Book/Project Dashboard
 - Content Dashboard

Scalar partners with digital archives

- YouTube
- Vimeo
- Soundcloud
- Omeka sites
- Metropolitan Museum of Art
- Critical Commons
- More....



Uploading: "Back end"

- Select the "Content" on the dashboard
- Select "Media" from the drop down menu in the upper-left corner of the Content page
- Click "Import Media" at the bottom of the page
- Import media from an affiliated archive OR add media from your computer or a URL

Cassandra Tanks / Scalar Basics

About Scalar | Revert Dashboard | User's Guide

Properties Editorial Styling **Content** Users Utilities

Media

Search media by title or description

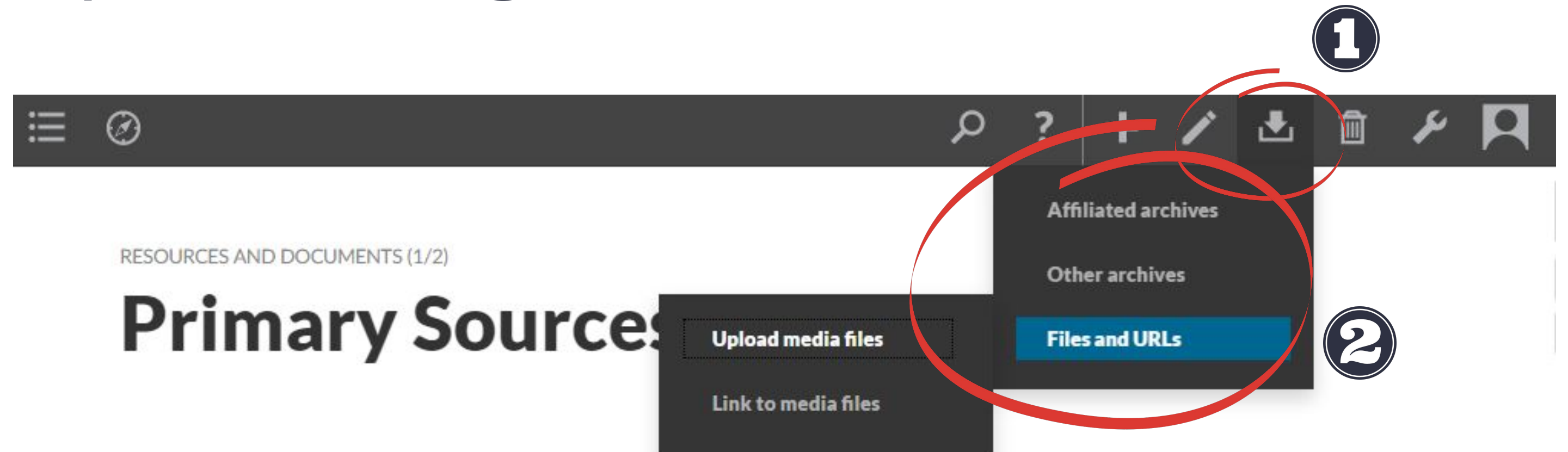
Visible	Title	Description	Last Edited By	Date Edited	Versions
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NU Scalar Basics intro image	Main Splash Image for the NU Scalar Basics book	Cassandra Tanks	October 13th 2020	1

Select all Delete selected Add new page Import media 1 item selected

Import media

- Affiliated archives**
- Critical Commons
- Cuban Theater Digital Archive
- Hemispheric Institute
- Internet Archive
- VHA Online
- VHA
- Other archives**
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art
- Omeka sites
- SoundCloud
- Vimeo
- YouTube
- Files, URLs**
- Upload file
- Internet URL

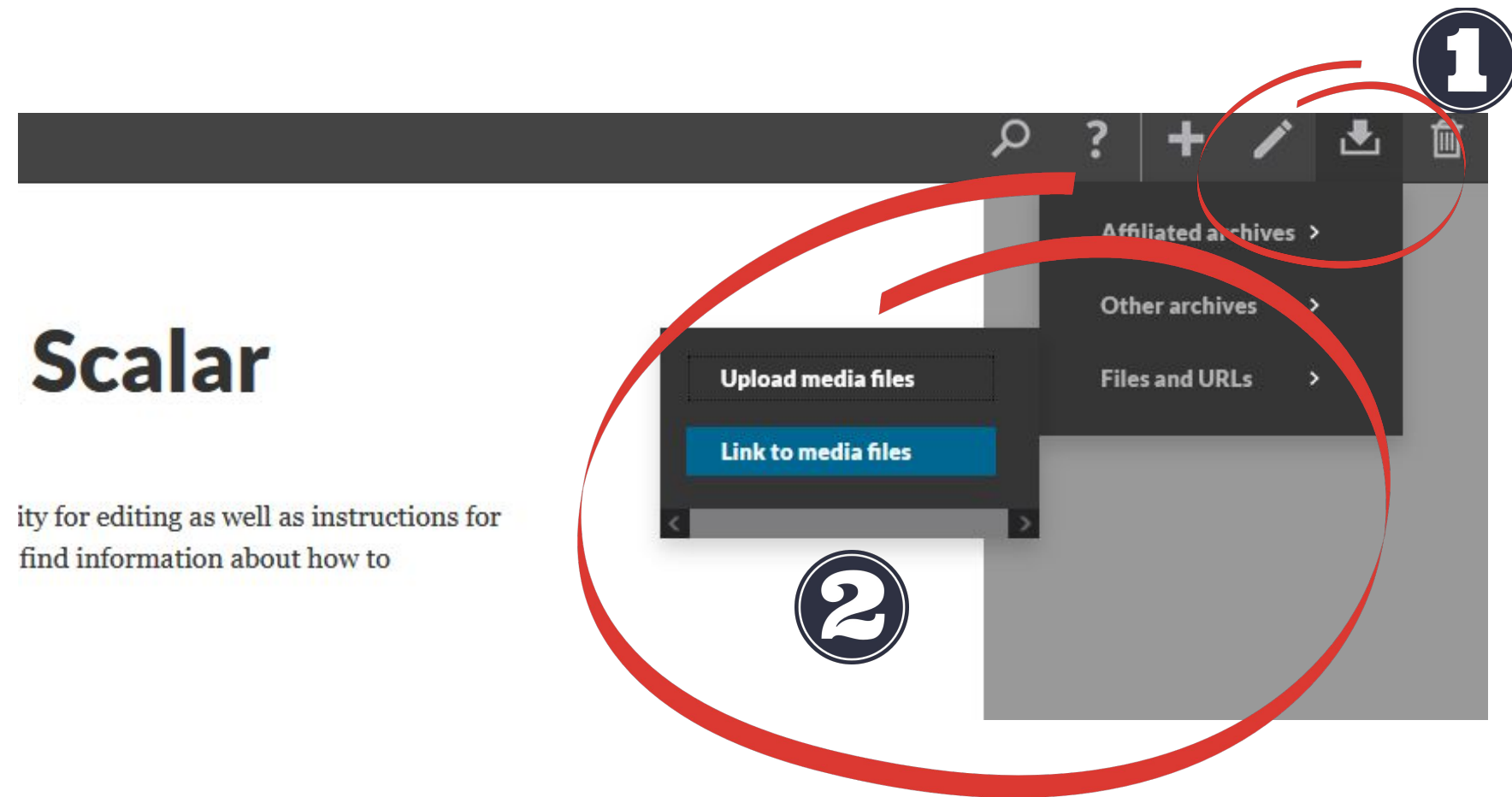
Uploading: "Book" Dashboard



- Select "Import Media" on the Dashboard
- Select how and/or from where you want to import media



Linking: "Book" Dashboard



- Select "Import Media" on the Dashboard
- Click "Files and URLs" then select "Link to media files"



Linking: Continued

- Enter the Title, Description (optional), and image URL
- Select the media page layout, assign relationships, and other information (all optional)
- Click "Save" or "Save and view"

The screenshot displays a form for linking media. The fields are:

- Title:** Practice
- Description:** (empty)
- Media file URL:** <https://wallpapers.com/images/high/background-spring-nature-high-resolution-with-desktop-wallpaper-dy35b3pee>
- Media type:** Standard media (images, audio, video, documents)

The **Layout** tab is selected, showing a dropdown menu with 'Basic' chosen. A preview of the 'Basic' layout is shown, with the text: "Shows the media file on its own. In the Basic layout, the media file is presented as a standalone object."

At the bottom right, there are three buttons: "Cancel", "Save", and "Save and view".

NOTE: Your media is NOT hosted by Scalar or "in" your dashboard, Scalar is using the URL to access it



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"Hands" On



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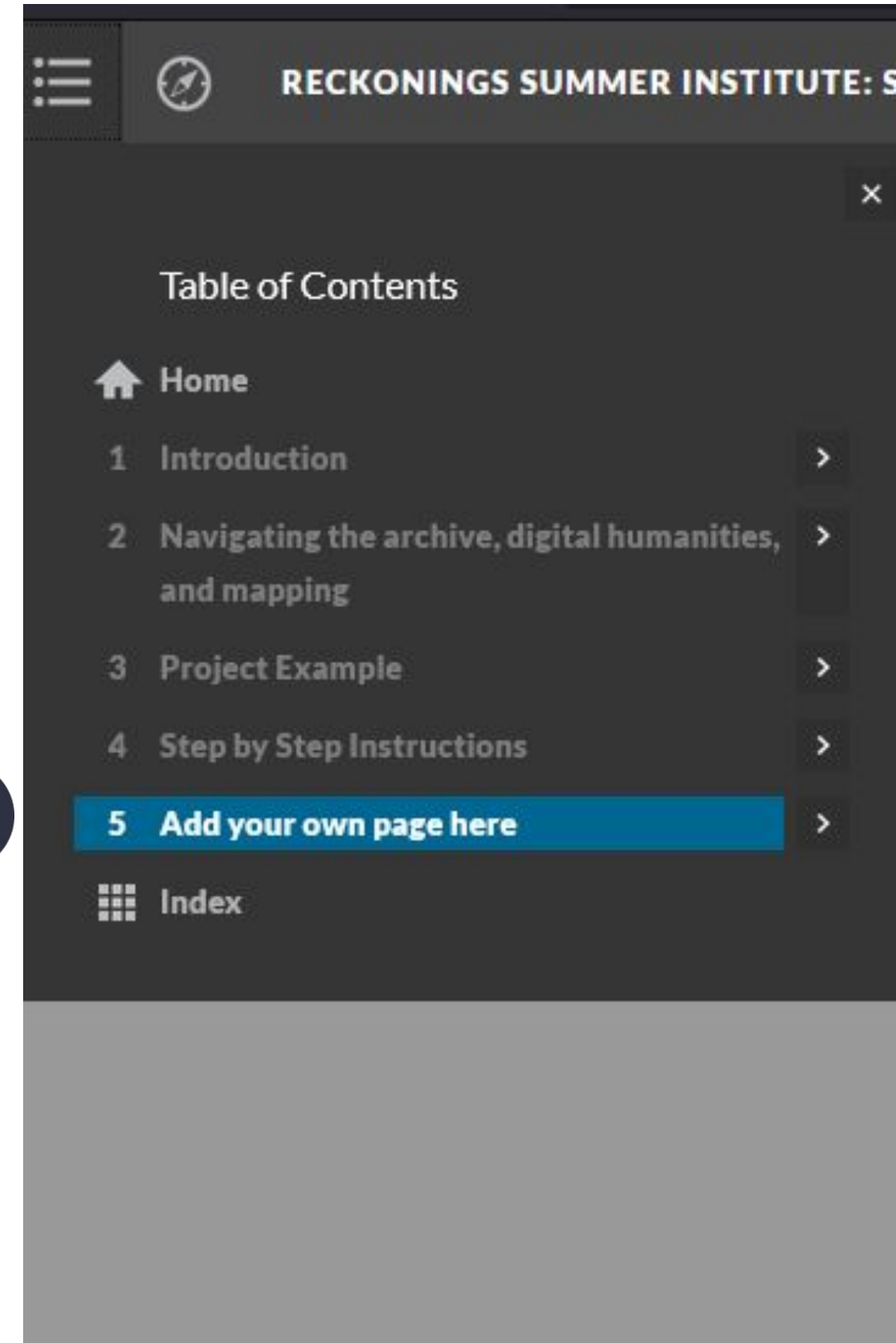
"Hands" On

- Create a "mini" workspace so we learn
 - Pages
 - Types of pages
 - Add to project
 - Edit text
 - Embed using HTML
 - Create Paths
 - Create Visual Path



Adding a Page

- **Navigate to the "Book" view**
- **Click on the "Add your own page here" section**

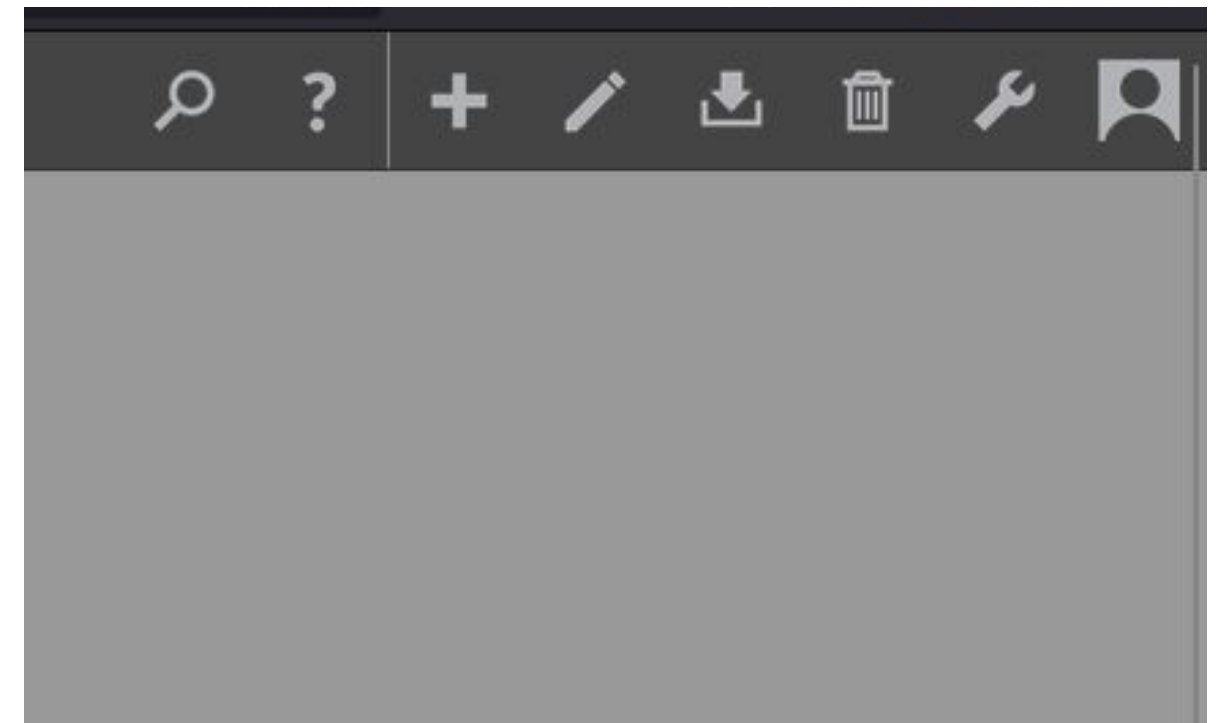




Adding a Page

- Navigate to the "Book" view
- Click on the "Add your own page here" section
- **Click on the "Plus Sign" in the upper right hand corner to add a new page**
 - **This will be your page in the group workbook to practice with**

3





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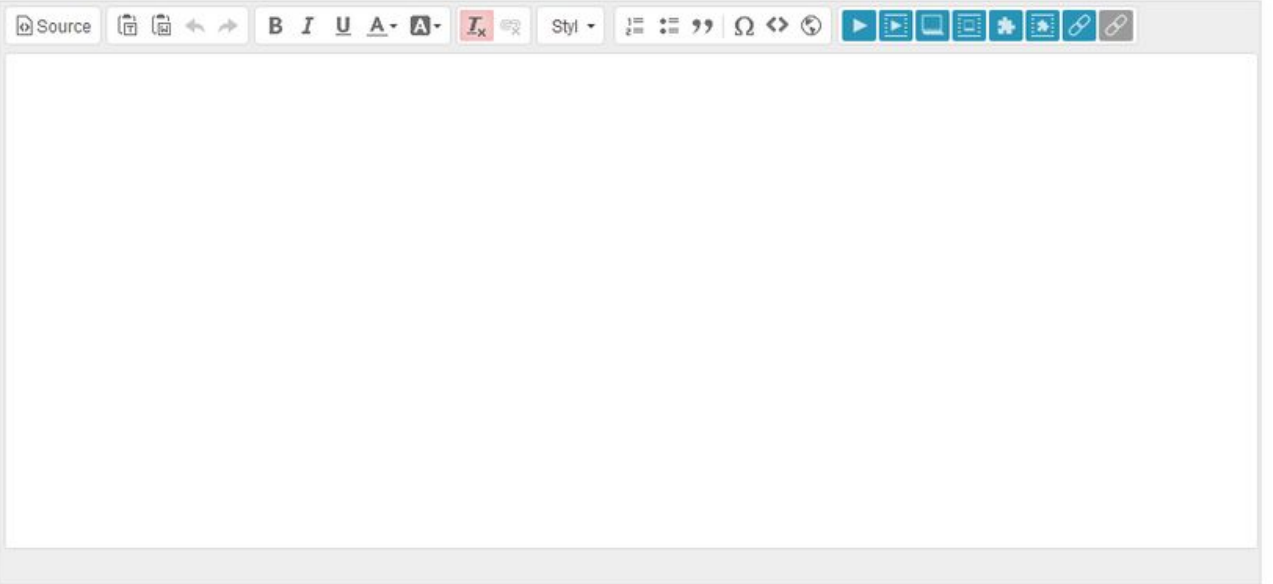
Adding a Page

- Navigate to the "Book" view
- Click on the "Add your own page here" section
- Click on the "Plus Sign" in the upper right hand corner to add a new page
 - This will be your page in the group workbook to practice with
- **Add a title and a brief description**
 - **Example: Title can be "Firstname Lastname" and Description can be "Scalar Practice"**
 - **You are also welcome to be more creative!**
- **Click save**

4

Title

Description



Layout Relationships Styling Properties Metadata

Select the layout that will be used on this page:

Basic

Freely mixes text and media. In the Basic layout, the page's text and media are interspersed. You can set the size and placement of linked media as they are added to the page.

Cancel Save Save and view

5



Adding a Page

Your “workspace” page is now added to the workbook!

Remember to **click “save”** frequently as you work



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We are going to "pause" the
"hands on" practice and return
to our **earlier conversation**
about media



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Relationships

- Connections/relationships between media, information, and knowledge
- Scalar **enables digital showing and exploration** of these **relationships** with **different types of connections and media embedding/annotation**
- Two types of Scalar relationships
 - Whole-Whole
 - Whole-Part



Whole-Whole Relationships

When the entirety of one thing relates or responds entirely to the other, it is a "whole-whole" relationship.

A book chapter relates wholly to a book, a book relates wholly to its chapters.

OR

A television series, like *Righteous Gemstones* relates wholly to its episodes, and the episodes relate wholly to the series.



Scalar "Whole-Whole"

Relationships

- Paths
 - Linear strings of content that allow you to direct the user experience
 - Can be thought of as episodic, chapters in a book, or a linear guided tour
- Tags
 - Nonlinear content groupings that can be used as both descriptors and as content itself
- Comments
 - Direct responses to content in your book in the form of user comments or content you create as a direct





Scalar Paths

Foundational relationships that guide users along the central narrative and provide the "jumping point" for other relationships. Paths can intersect and interact with other elements as you need them to.



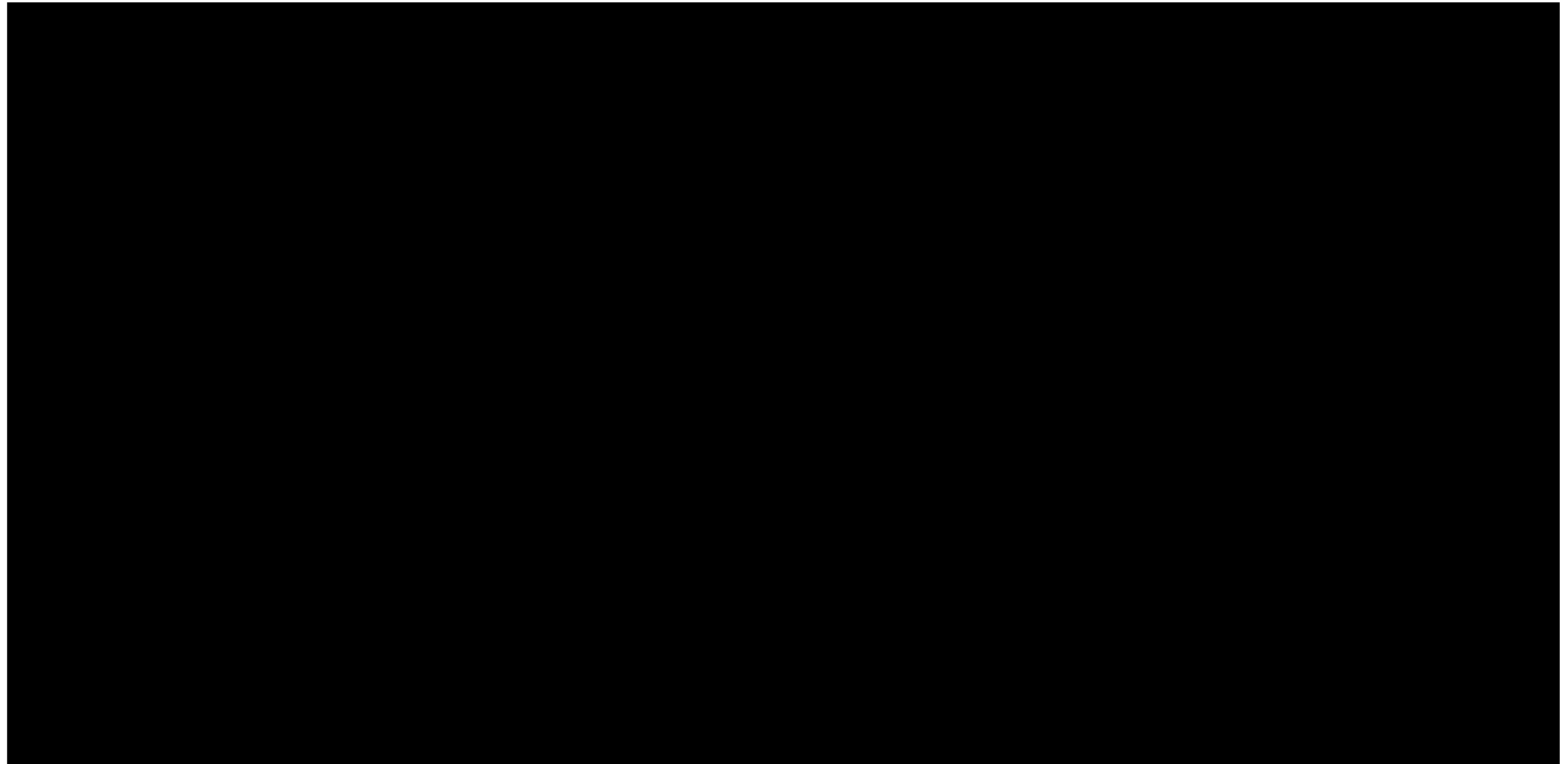


Creating Paths

- Think of paths like chapters
- Select the edit "pencil" in the upper-right hand corner of the page that begins the path
- Navigate to "Relationships" below the text box
- Select "Path"
- Create a "page on the fly" or select one of your preexisting pages
- Add to path
- Reorder path as necessary



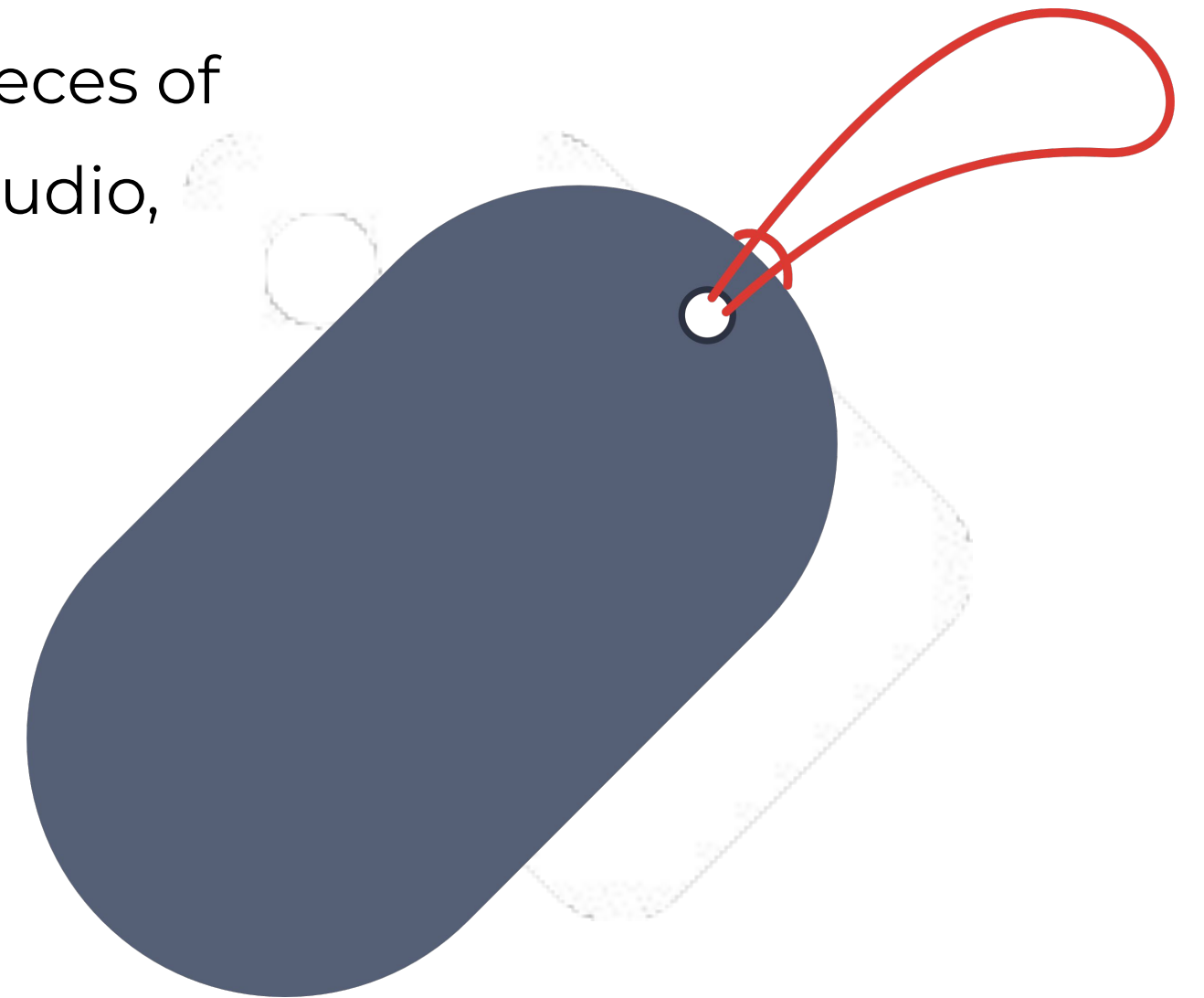
Creating Paths





Scalar Tags

Tags are used as descriptors and to establish links between content. In Scalar, tags are entire pieces of content -- meaning all types of media (text, audio, video, photo) can be tags and be tagged.



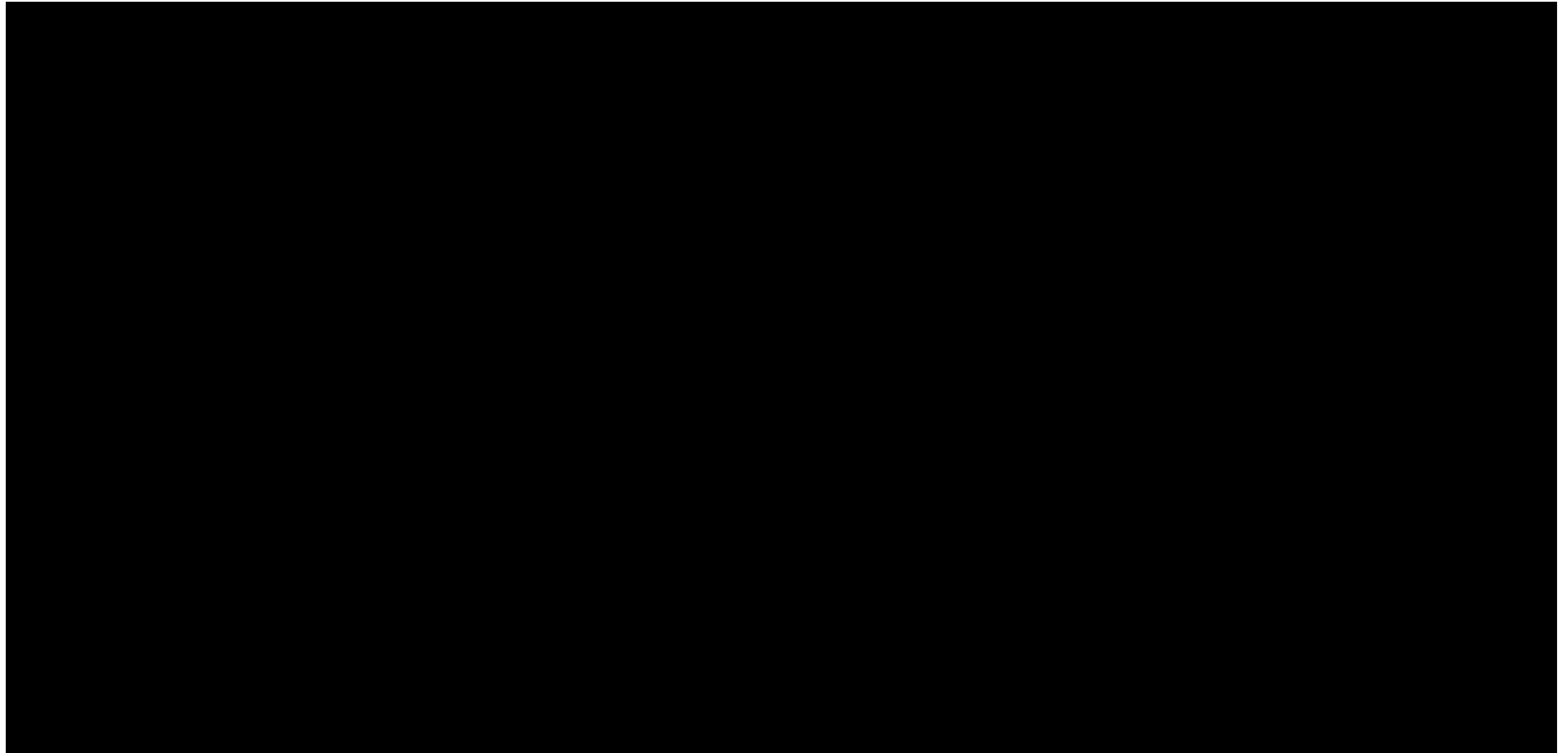


Creating Tags

- Tags create multimedia nonlinear relationships between content
- Select the edit "pencil" in the upper-right hand corner of the page you want to tag
- Navigate to "Relationships" below the text box
- Select "Tag"
- Select "tagged by" or "tag of"
- Create a "page on the fly" or select preexisting media or pages
- Add tag



Creating Tags





Scalar Comments

Scalar comments are direct responses to other content. Media elements can be assigned as comments to one or more other pages/elements.



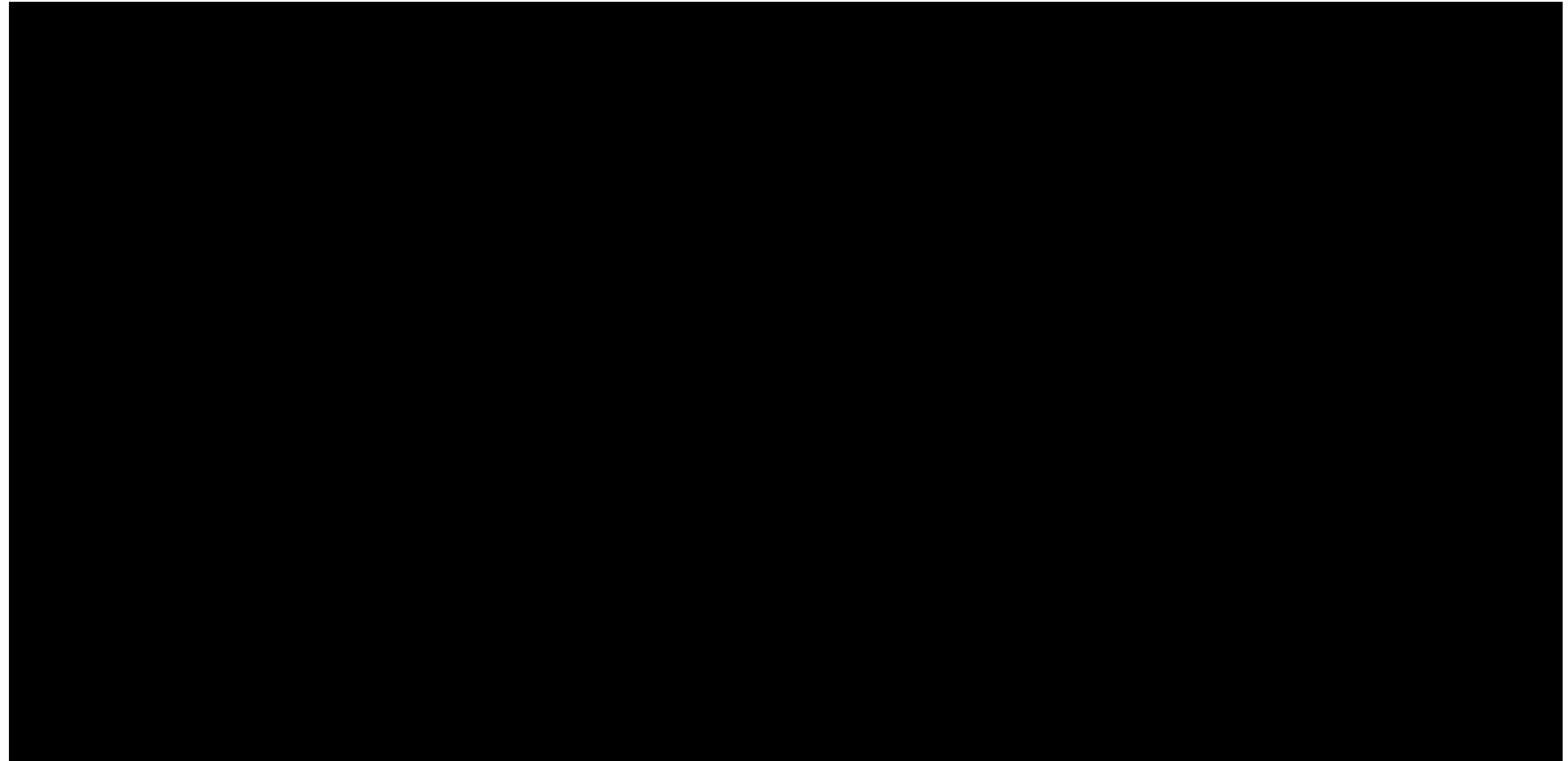


Creating Comments

- Leave a comment at bottom of a page OR
- Select the edit "pencil" in the upper-right hand corner of the page you want to comment about
- Navigate to "Relationships" below the text box
- Select "Comment"
- Assign page or media that provides commentary



Creating Comments





Whole-Whole Relationships

When the entirety of one thing relates or responds partially to the other, it is a "whole-part" relationship.

A book note entirely responds to part of an element of a book, but could stand alone, so it is a "whole-part" relationship.



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Scalar "Whole-Part" Relationships

- Annotations
 - Notes for a specific portion of media (video, audio, photo, text, code) Can activate the Hypothes.is plugin to allow for social annotations
- Medialinks
 - Links a portion of text to media and displays it immediately when clicked (Scalar hyperlink)
- Notes
 - Scalar style footnotes- links text to the relevant note and the entire note is displayed when





Scalar Annotations

Annotations are content created to respond directly to a specific portion of larger content, such as a phrase on a page or a specific moment in media used in Scalar. Media files and pages can also be assigned as annotations on other media files or pages.





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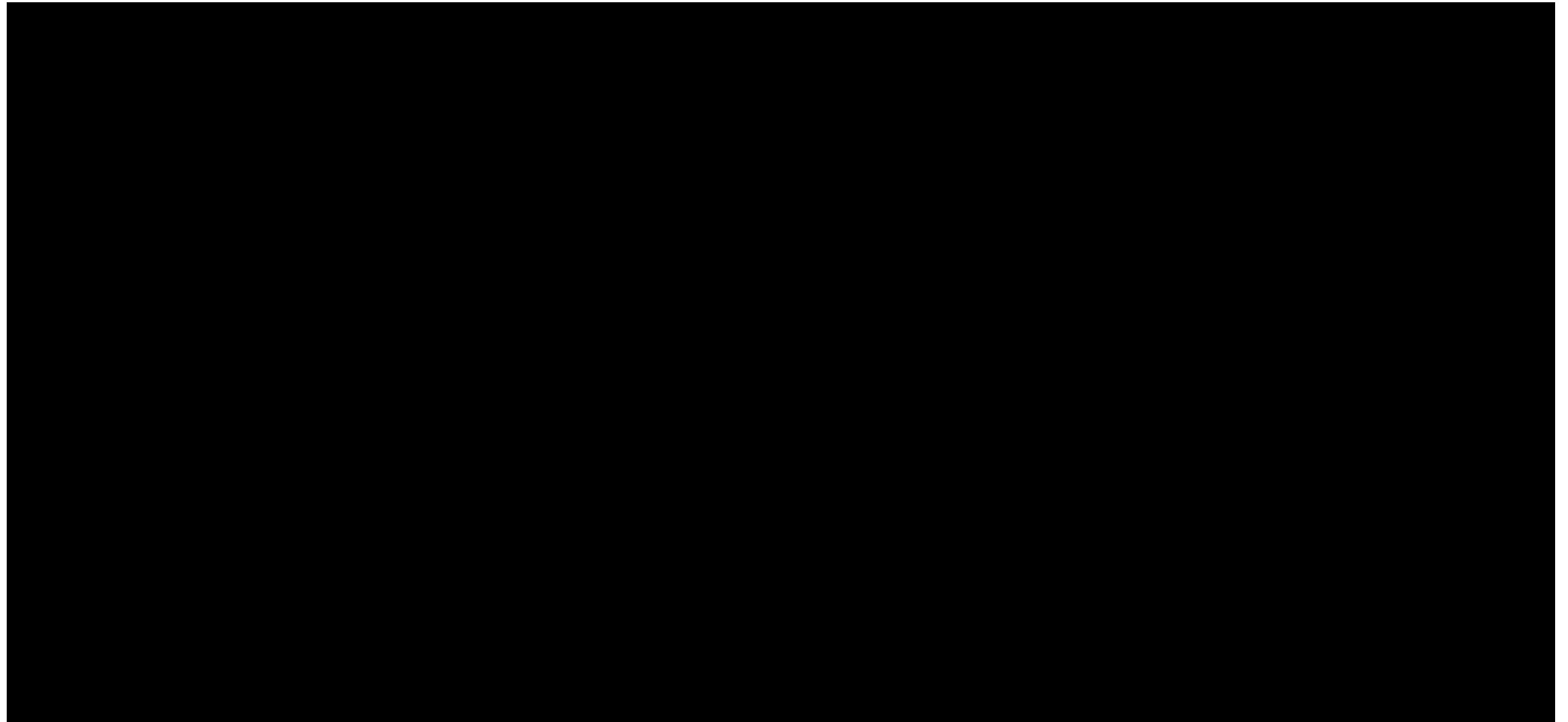
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Creating Annotations

- Video
 - Select media to annotate
 - Select the edit "paperclip" in the upper-right hand corner of the media page
 - Click the "+" to add annotation
 - Designate time stamps to annotate (if relevant)
 - Add additional descriptions or tags (if relevant)
 - Save annotations
- Photo:
 - Same as above except: Select area of photo to annotate rather than video time stamps

Creating Annotations





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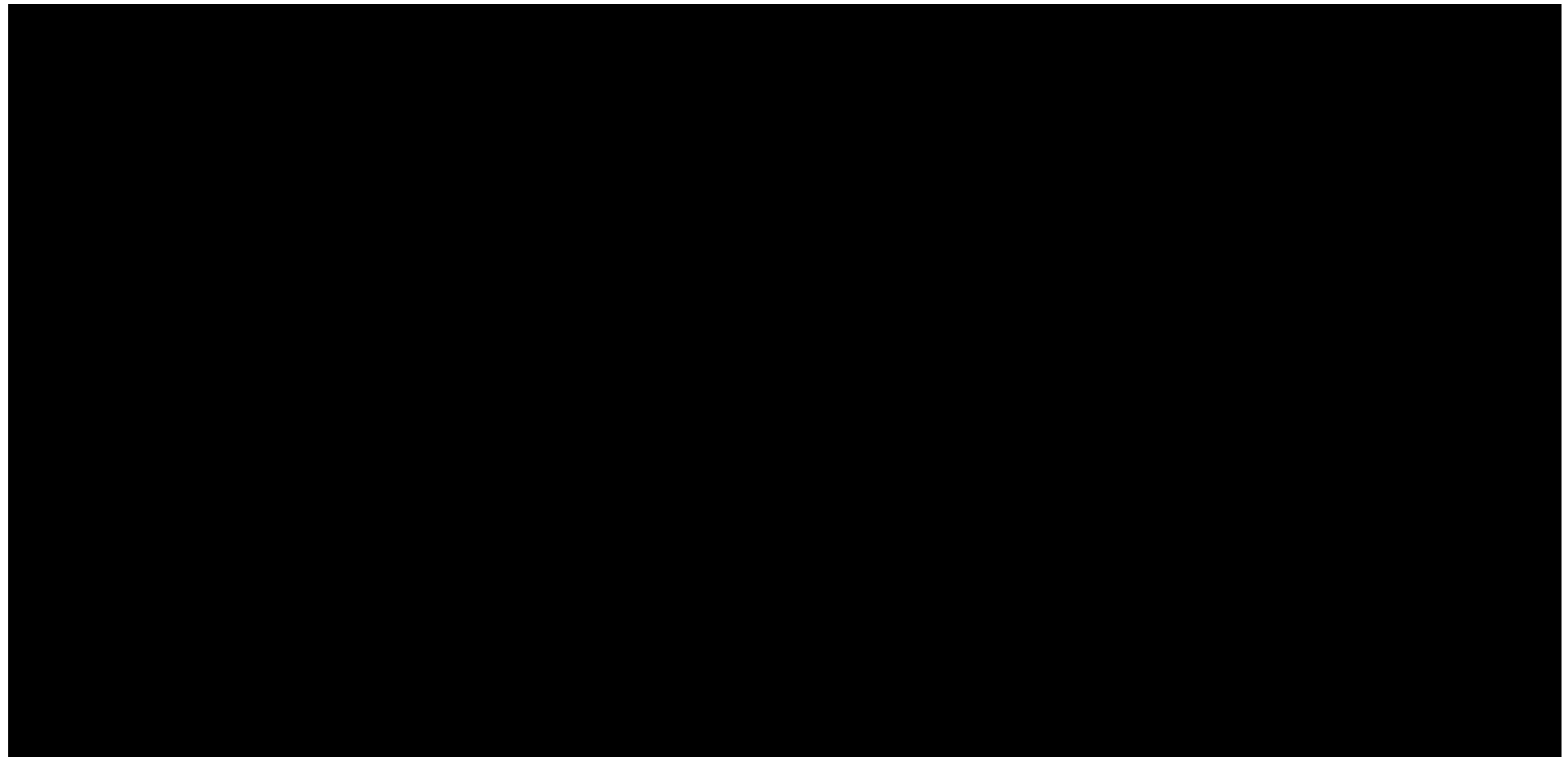
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Hypothes.is Annotations

- Hypothes.is annotations are "social" annotations and notes that can increase class or group engagement; you can allow for public annotations or limit to people who have a log in
- To turn on:
 - Go to Properties on the Dashboard
 - Select "Hypothes.is"
 - Move your mouse to the right side of the screen to open the Hypothes.is options on pages in your Scalar book/project

Hypothes.is Annotations





Scalar Medialinks

Media links connect a selected portion of text to a media file that Scalar automatically embeds on the page.



There is a small media symbol that appears before the media linked text; clicking on it will allow a user to play the linked media.

Text can also be linked to other Scalar pages.

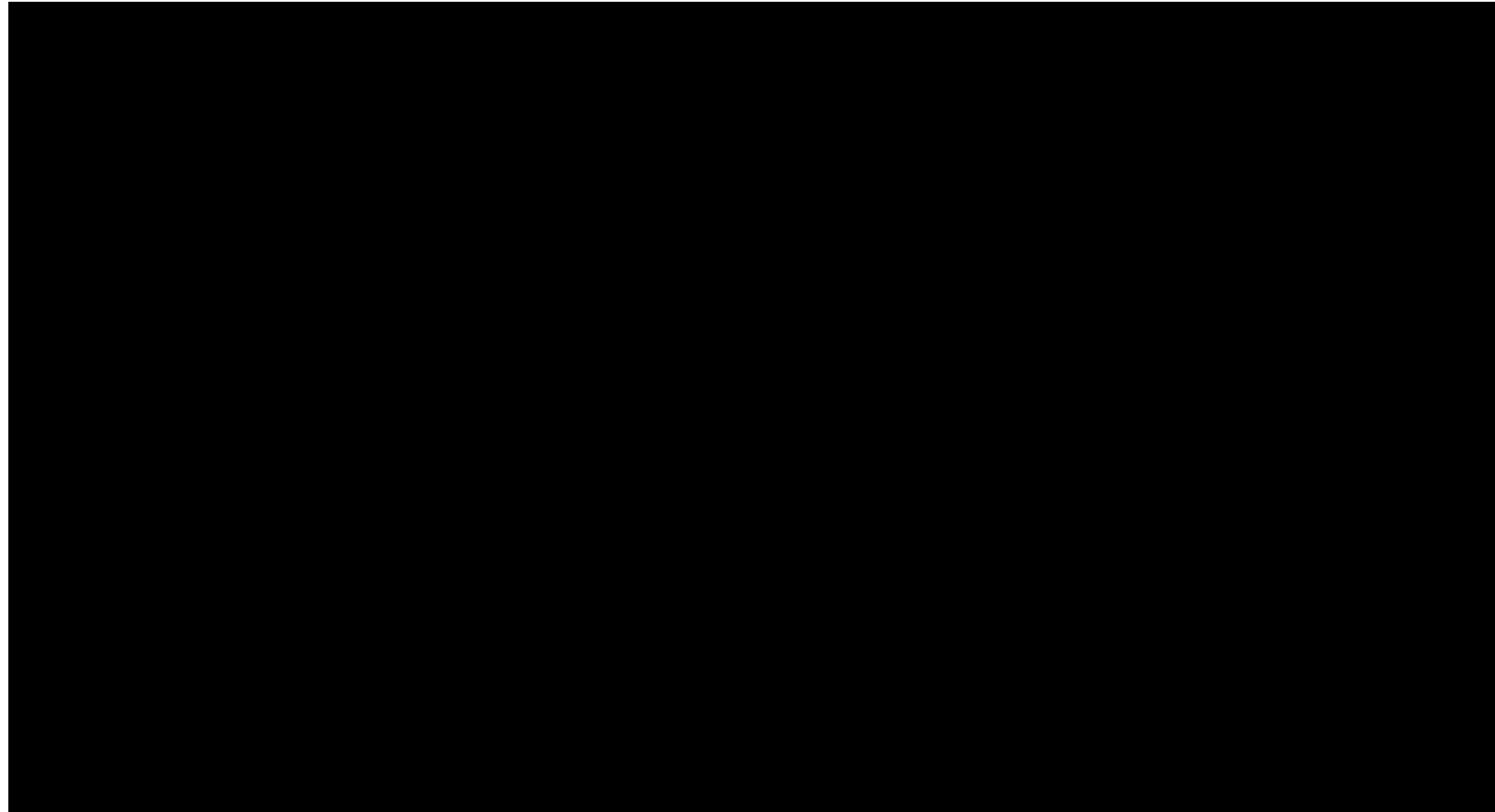




Creating Medialinks

- Select page with the text you want to add media links to
- Select the edit "pencil" in the upper-right hand corner of the page
- Highlight the word or phrase you want to be a medialink 
- Select the media button
- Select which media file you want to link to the text 
- Note: The inline media button looks similar but is used to insert an image to the page generally and does not create the media link relationship

Creating Medialinks





Scalar Notes

Notes in Scalar function much like footnotes in a book- a section of text is connected to a specific note about that text.

The section of text that has a note relationship will look like a hyperlink with a small note symbol next to it. When selected, Scalar will automatically display the text, audio, video, or photo file that has been designated as a note.


Scalar Notes:

Scalar Notes function the same as notes, but an entire

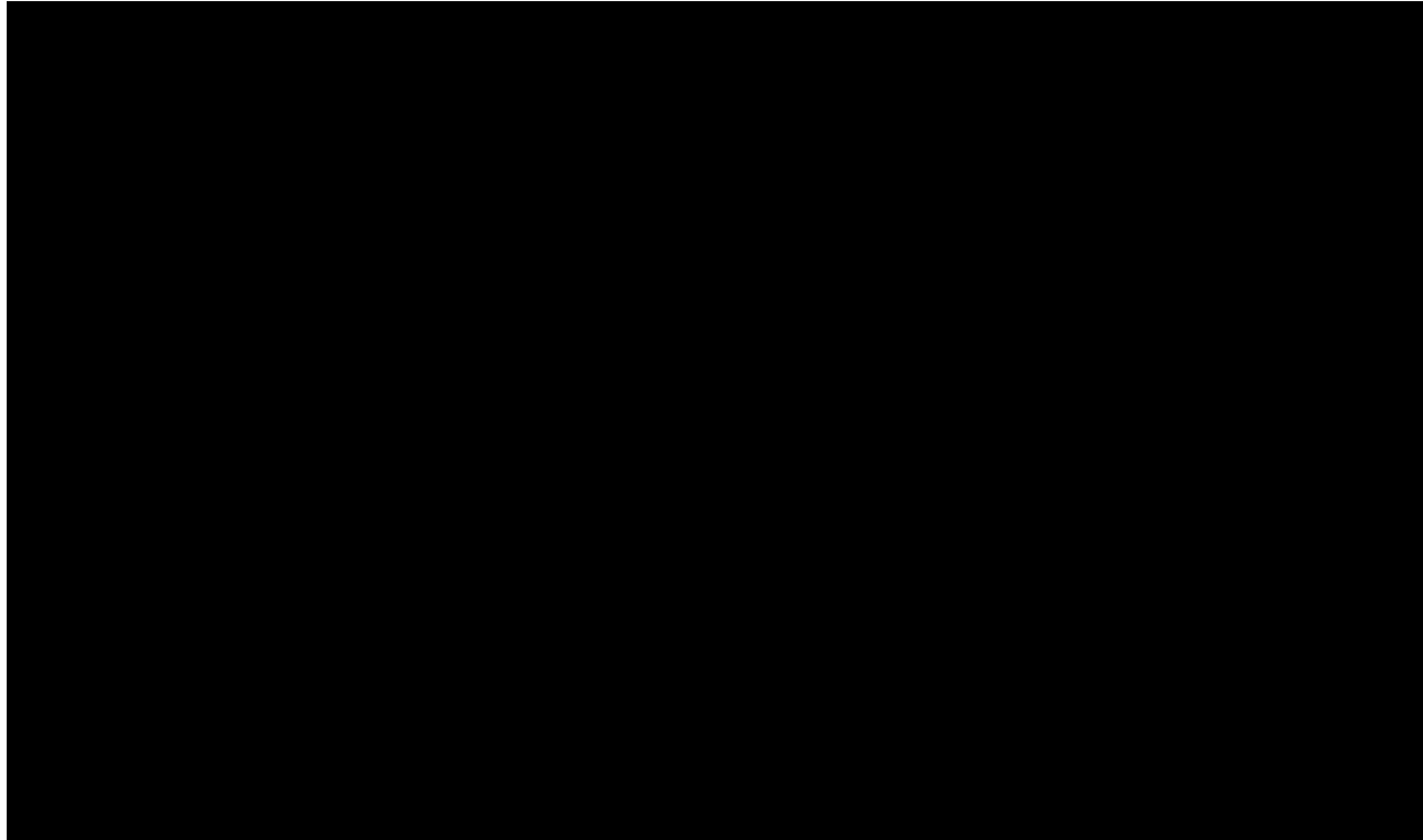




Creating Notes

- Select page with the text you want to add notes to
 - Select the edit "pencil" in the upper-right hand corner of the page
 - Highlight the word or phrase you want to add a note to
 - Select the note  button
 - Select which Scalar content (or create one on the fly) you want to use to make a note
 - Save note
- Scalar Note: To make an entire Scalar page as a note repeat the process except:
 - Designate an entire page, rather than a media file, as the note
 - Or link the Scalar page by selecting it while editing text

Creating Notes



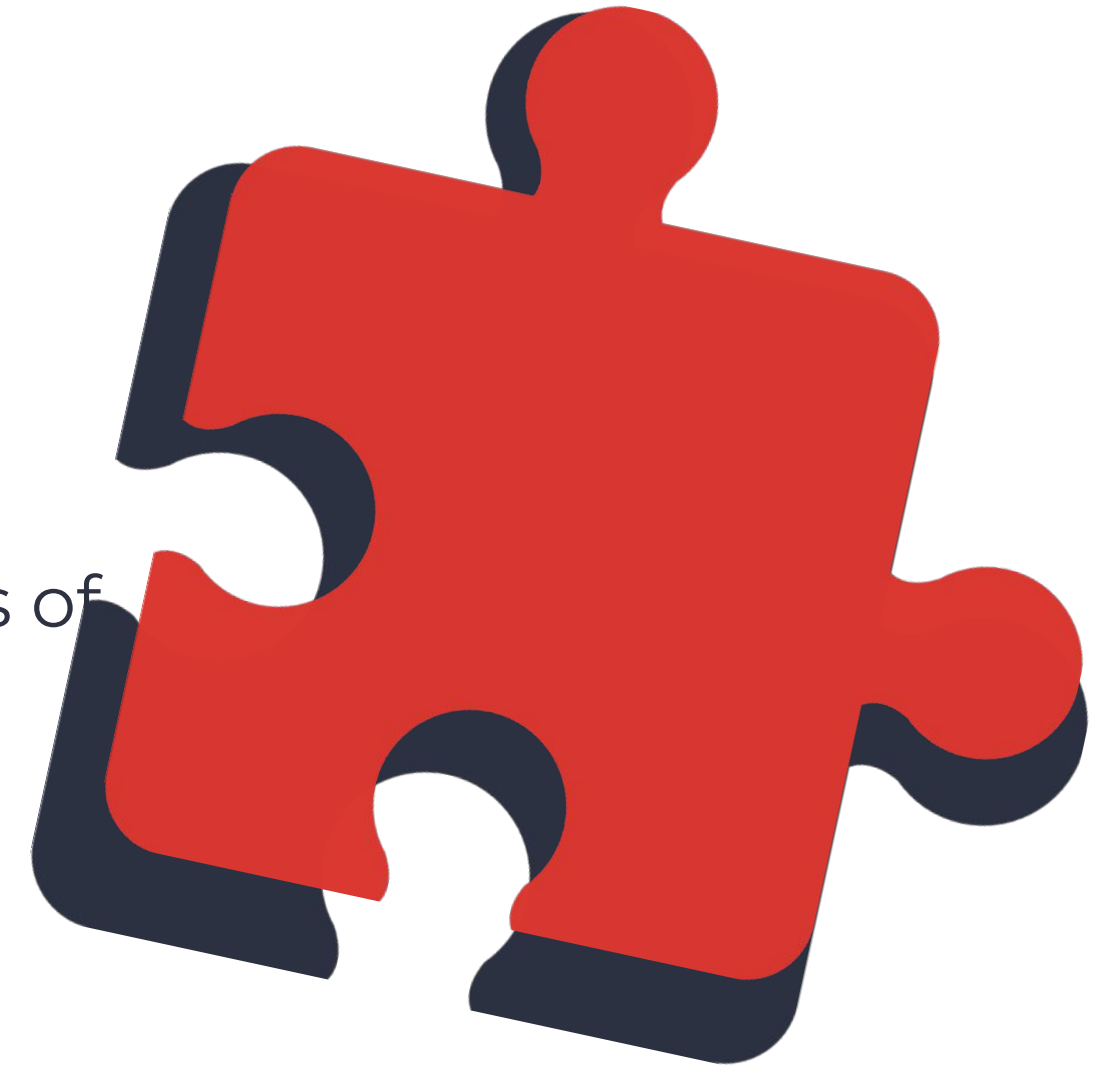


Scalar Widgets

Scalar widgets allow you to link text to a media carousel, timeline, map, and other interactive or metadata driven media.

Widgets are an additional way for you and the users of your book to analyze, consider, and engage with media.

Text can be linked to a widget element OR a widget element can be inserted inline with the text.





Adding Widgets

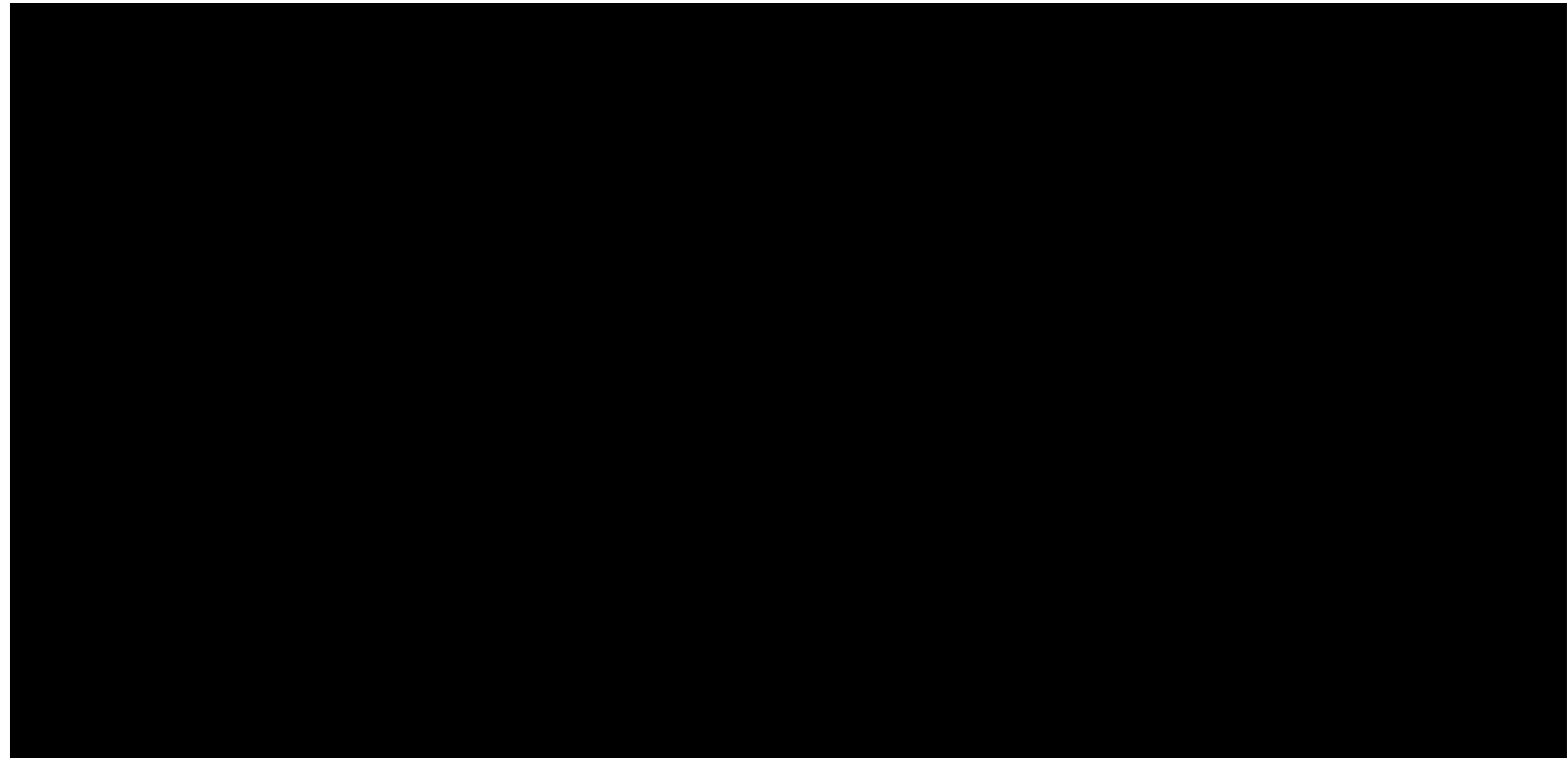
- Click on the "pencil" to edit the page with the text you want to link to a Widget
- Highlight the text you want to link to a Widget
- Click on the Widget puzzle piece icon or the puzzle piece icon with lines behind it to add an inline Widget
- Select which Widget you want to add
- Save
- NOTE: Metadata driven Widget's can be picky, so you may have to rework media metadata or reformat it until it works!

 = Widget

 = In-line Widget



Adding Widgets



 = Widget

 = In-line Widget

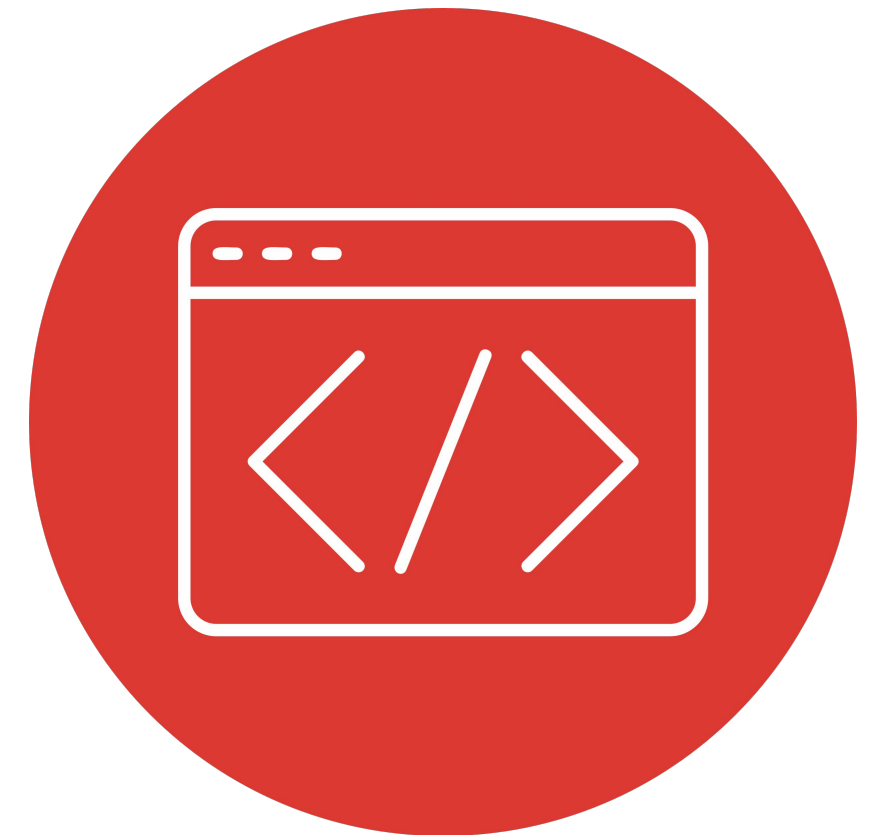


HTML iFrames and Scalar

Scalar allows you to embed "things" into a page using HTML IFRAME code. Videos, images, graphics, interactive maps, timelines, and so much more can be embedded this way.

Many platforms will provide an embed code that can be found in the "share" options.

Here is a generic and easy to edit HTML IFRAME code to embed media. The only thing **you need to update is the media's URL.**



```
<iframe width="560" height="315"
```

```
src="https://www.youtube.com/embed/owsfdh4gxyc"
```

```
frameborder="0" allowfullscreen></iframe>
```



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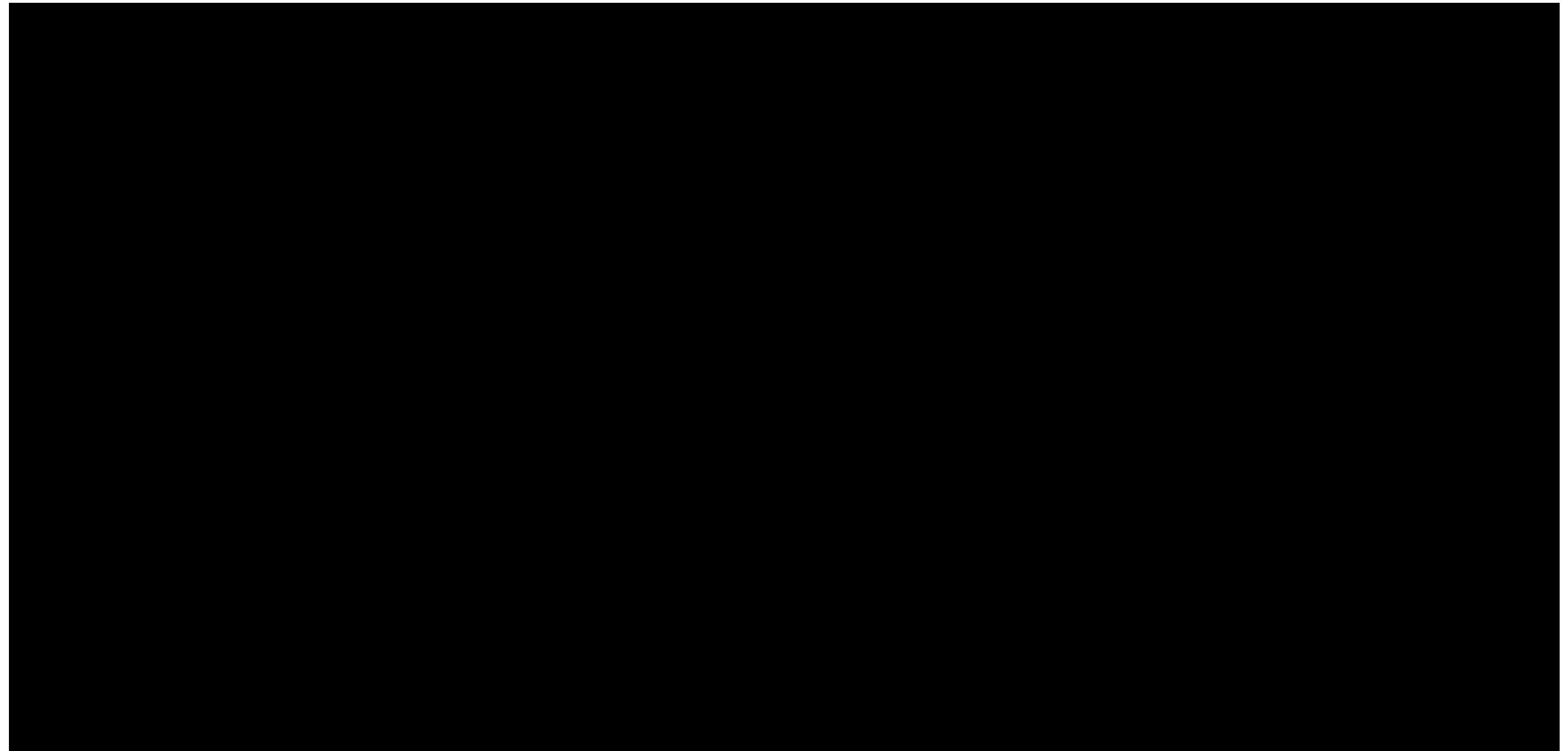
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Embedding HTML iFrames

- Click on the "pencil" to edit the page you want to embed the element on
- Select "Source" in the upper left side of the text editor
- Copy and Paste (CTRL+C, CTRL+V) the HTML code from the element you want to embed into the text box where you want it to appear
- Save
- NOTE: You can also write your own code in or make adjustments using this process

Embedding HTML iFrames





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Back to "Hands On"!



Back to "Hands On"!

Return to your practice page and experiment with creating whole-whole, whole-part relationships.



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Back to "Hands On"!

Return to your practice page and experiment with creating whole-whole, whole-part relationships.

Go Wild! You Can't Break It!



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Advanced Stuff



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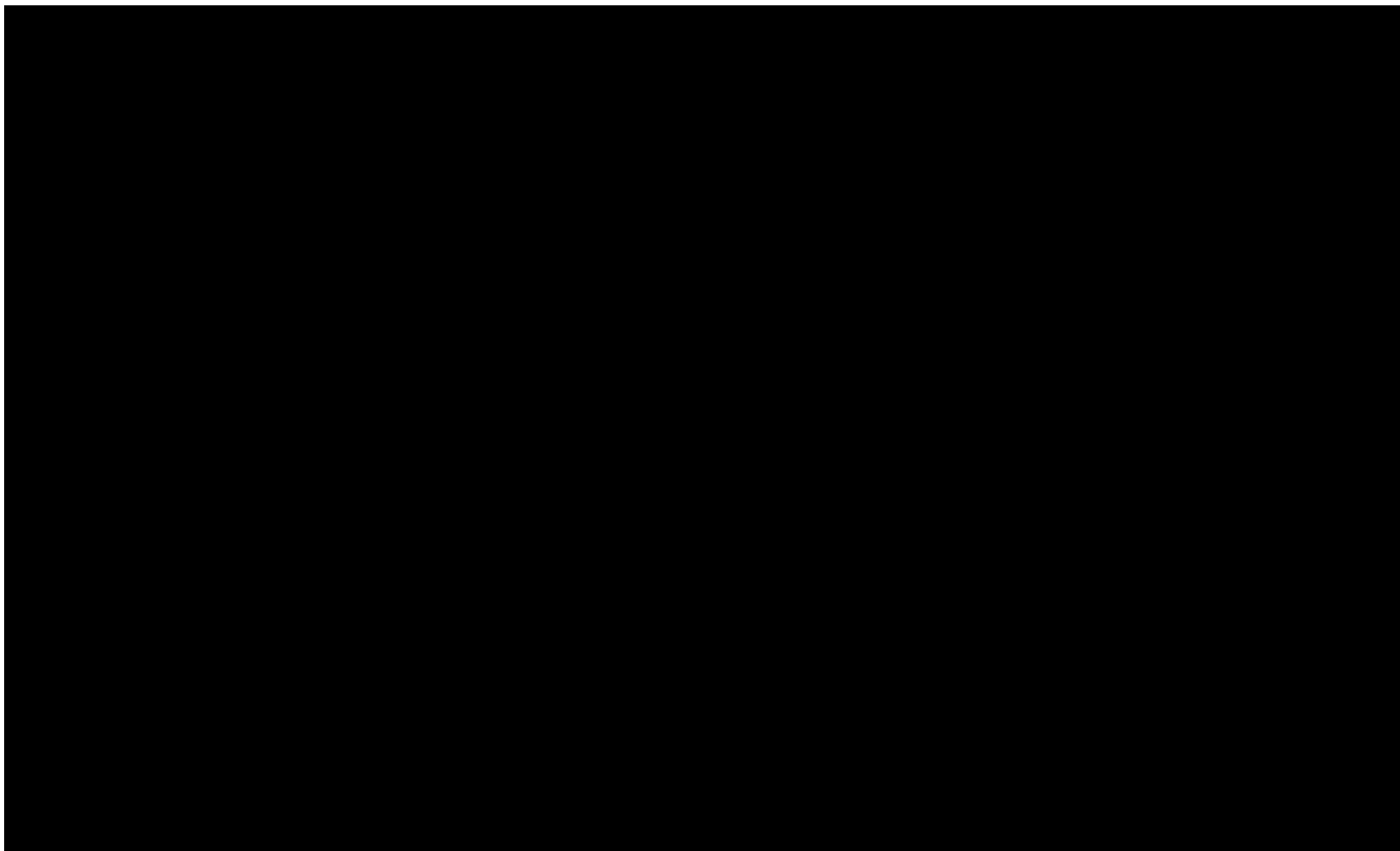
Scalar, Code, and Data

Scalar supports custom CSS, JSON, and HTML coded to alter the look and "feel" of your book, as well as embed third party elements and materials (like Knightlab tools) on a page.

Scalar also enables you to import Scalar code, export your book as Scalar code, and conduct API queries about your book/project.

"Lenses" is a new analytical feature that allows relationships between Scalar media to be explored

Scalar, Code, and Data



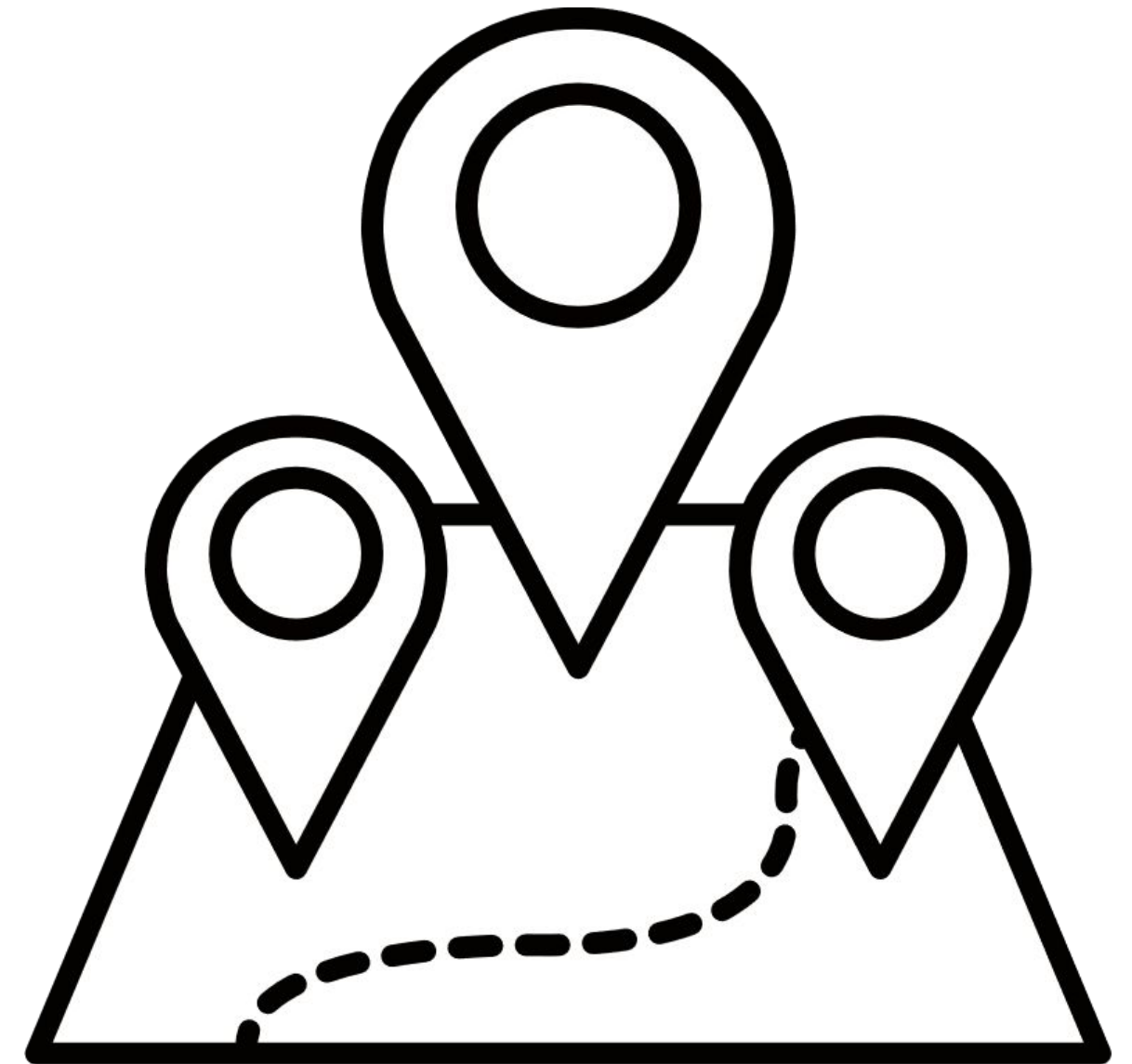


Scalar and StoryMapsJS

It is easy to embed a StoryMapJS project and other KnightLab projects using an HTML IFRAME embed code.

But what if you want to feature a certain StoryMapJS slide or frame on your Scalar page?

There is a quick unpublished edit that allows you to select which slide to start on. Simply add a URL parameter, `start_at_slide`, with a value equal to the slide's position, starting the count with 0 for the overview slide"





Embedding StoryMapJS- Start on a selected slide

- Make a numerical list of your StoryMapJS slides (Overview slide = 0, the next slide = 1, the following = 2, and so on)
- Copy and paste (CTRL+C, CTRL+V) the embed code for your StoryMapJS project into a blank document
 - Keep a document with the codes for future use and as a backup
- At the end of the URL in the embed code add "?start_at_slide=" with the number of the slide you want to start on.
 - If you want to start on the second slide after the overview slide, you would add "?start_at_slide=2"
- Embed into your Scalar page



Embedding StoryMapJS- Start on a selected slide





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You can absolutely learn to use and create with Scalar!

Our time together was not meant for you to achieve Scalar perfection, but to

empower you to try!



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Thank you!

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