Changing Tire Scenario:

I am Austin Chrysler (a.k.a. Prof. Aguilar), the owner of the ACME driving school. We are the largest franchised driving school in the country and operate within the context of some of the best private schools in the country. Our curriculum consists of 8 weeks of classroom training followed by 8 weeks of intense driver practice. Our graduates have some of the best insurance rates in the country because of their combined safety records. Since 1995, we have been using a text-based, self-paced training book to teach many subjects during our classroom training. However, changes in standard equipment and especially in safety equipment are making those self-paced texts obsolete.

In addition, we are dealing with a computer aware group of students between the ages of 16 and 18. They are not afraid of computers. One hundred percent of them have computers at home and use them for gaming as well as for completing schoolwork. Most also use them for scheduling classes, special classes, sports and entertainment. All of our our students come from the private schools that I mentioned before.. These students are on a college preparatory track. They are highly intelligent and many of the youngest students are already reading Advanced Preparatory textbooks in English, Science and Math.

We believe that it is time to modernize our curriculum. We have invited you to produce the design for an on-line course in changing flat tires. We want you to use a variety of automobile makes and models and from various years. (You will use the owner's manual of your own car or truck as the primary document to complete this project).

We have a state of the art computer lab consisting of 24 Dell 3GHz computers with 160 Gb hard drives and 500 Gb external drives. The computers are connected to the internet by T1 lines.

The students are anxious to get hold of good web-base instruction. The text-based solution was OK but students called it "unrealistic." The constant flipping back and forth of pages was annoying and old-fashioned for these motivated students. These students realize the importance of the classroom training but would rather be outside driving. They resent having to wait so long in the semester before being able to really drive. Students do not like training videos very much. Most are old anyway. However, students call even our newest videos "Z-Monsters." Apparently these high-energy students hate the idea of having to view videos for learning. They want to DO things. Please do not make any kind of group training. They get enough of that in other courses and resent it.

If you have any more questions, please post them in the "Student Questions Forum." Make sure you read the forum to see other student questions and answers from Prof. Aguilar. This could save you headaches.