

Suggested Uses of Real-Time Communication Tools

Created by Anna Carissa Rozzo in the TESOL online course, Teaching Speaking and Real-Time Communication Online

Real-Time Communication & Speaking Online

I. Instant Messaging

1. AIM, ICQ, Skype, Google Hangouts (g-chat), Facebook Chat, Texting
(Note: AIM is outdated and may be replaced by ICQ, which is not widely used but is gaining ground.)
2. Possible Class Activities
 1. Planning
 1. Group Projects
 2. Imaginary Vacations, Events, Parties etc.
 2. Conversation Questions
 1. Students discuss conversation questions provided
 2. Students A has questions, Student B has complementary questions, etc.
 3. Book Discussion/ Literature discussions
 4. Comparing/ Discussion Homework
 5. Contacting students
 6. Instructor Q&A with students
3. Assessment & Accountability
 1. Students could turn in screen shots and/or record of chat and/or texts. (G-chat) might be easiest for this as Google Hangouts are automatically saved in g-mail so students can forward the transcript by e-mail to the instructor.

II. Video Chat

1. ICQ, Skype, Google Hangouts (g-chat), FaceTime
 1. Possible Class Activities (same as above 1-5)
 1. Video Chat Office hours (Alice)
 2. Group conversations moderated by instructor
 3. Presentations (Skype now allows 9 video conference- Robert)

4. Tours, Guides- Tour of room or house with laptop, tours of town or museum or bar etc with smartphone.
5. Introduction/ Explanation of family/friends (with family picture or real people)
6. Cooking Demonstrations
7. Dance classes
8. Karaoke

2. Assessment & Accountability

1. Honor System
2. Student reviews or comments on presentations
3. Capture Video Chat
 1. <http://www.real.com/resources/how-to-record-skype-video/>
 2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YN9zqK2OPgQ>
 3. <http://orangecountycustomwebsitedesign.com/record-facebook-video-chat-5-different-ways/>

III. Class Chatrooms

1. <http://www.chatzy.com/advanced>
2. <http://backchannelchat.com>
 1. Possible Class Activities
 1. Pre-class discussion/Scaffolding (Alice)
 2. Brainstorming
 3. Post-Class Discussion/ Extension (Alice)
 4. Extra Practice time with instructor or other student(s)
 5. Remedial Sessions
3. Assessment & Accountability
 1. Teacher sets up and moderates chatroom.

IV. Back Channeling

- Students react synchronously to a lesson, a lecture, a video or presentation with chat, reactions, questions, polls, and by responding to quizzes or exit tickets
1. Today's Meet
 2. Socrative

V. Social Media-*The advantage of using social media is that students will most likely already be utilizing these platforms, so they don't have to log on to a separate system to communicate with the instructor or classmates. Likewise, they may be more inclined to communicate more casually and more often if it is incorporated into their already established Internet or mobile device usage.*

1. Twitter
 1. Create a Twitter handle for the class @EFLCurrentEvent- for example. Students Tweet in English about current events happening in their country or about events in the news that interest them.
 2. Twitter discussions based on class content or topics put out by the instructor
 1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6WPVWDkF7U8>
2. Facebook
 1. Form closed FB group with members of the class so students can get to know each other better.
 2. Facilitate a few FB chats.

IV. Creating Projects with Narration

1. YouTube Videos
2. BrainShark
3. Prezi
4. PowerPoint
5. Creating Podcasts/ Video Podcasts (vodcasts)