

30 Practical ideas for using technology in ELT

Handout

Grammar

- 1 Conditional conundrum
- 2 Likely-unlikely language: drag expressions on an Interactive Whiteboard (IWB) to the following places on a cline: *correct / likely / unlikely / incorrect*
- 3 Grammar matrix
- 4 Apps e.g. The Big Picture app (Richmond) – grammar practice based on the idea of ‘Where’s Wally?’

Vocabulary

- 5 Word frequency quizzes based on Macmillan English Dictionary star system:
<http://www.macmillandictionary.com/>
- 6 Create word-clouds <http://www.wordle.net/>
- 7 Store words in concept groups on the Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary app (OUP)
- 8 Apps for reviewing vocabulary e.g. Quizlet / Oxford English Vocabulary Trainer

Receptive skills

Listening

- 9 Course book audio: use pause / ‘show transcript’ features / Video podcasts
- 10 Lesson Stream www.lessonstream.org Lesson plans based on clips from YouTube
- 11 TED app www.ted.com Awesome presentations
- 12 In the news – podcasts / BBC iPlayer

Reading

- 13 Heads-up – annotating an IWB / using the screen reveal tool – speed reading from an IWB
- 14 Graded reader + website activities e.g. <https://www.helbling-ezone.com/>
- 15 Encourage extensive reading using apps e.g. Flipboard app <https://flipboard.com/>
Students choose their own interest areas in an online curated magazine / Newsmart (pay-for service) <https://www.getnewsmart.com/> Wall Street Journal
- 16 Matching text and pictures using QR code generator / QR code reader

Productive skills

Speaking

17 www.prezi.com Presentation software

18 Using Web 2.0 e.g. brainstorming ideas-sharing tool such as: www.popplet.com / mind-mapping software; record video clips and send to teacher using screen recorder tools e.g. Jing / Voice recorder – MailVu / Create an avatar e.g. Voki

19 Use ScreenChomp, screen-recorder app, in conjunction with Google maps for asking for / giving directions

20 Speech to text software – e.g. Google Voice / Dragon Dictation app

21 Voting tools e.g. Socrative app / Kahoot! Encourage discussion before voting

Writing

22 Handwriting recognition software on an IWB

23 Online notice board / virtual wall e.g. Padlet www.padlet.com

24 Creating a class blog / wiki for collaborative writing

25 Note-taking software - Sonocent

Pronunciation

26 Record yourself, compare with an original & re-record e.g. OALD app (OUP); Sounds app (Macmillan)

27 Using audio clips from an online dictionary in class e.g.

<http://www.collinsdictionary.com/dictionary/english-cobuild-learners>

28 Games e.g. Phonics Stories – British Council app / Word Stress – Clear Speech (CUP) app

Games and projects

29 Escape from Pizza Palace app (Richmond) Learners read and work their way through a maze

30 Students create a movie in English with iMovie

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