BLOGS AND FORUMS FOR ESL/ EAP

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How ‘techy’ are you?

What are some ways you use to integrate technology in your ESL/ EAP Classes?

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COMMON TYPES OF TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

- Online Learning and Blended Classrooms, e.g. Blackboard
- Game based learning, e.g. Kahoot
- Learning with mobiles and hand held devices, e.g. cell phones
- Collaborative Online tools, e.g. Google Docs and blogs
- Use of social media, e.g. Twitter and Facebook

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Why Blog

learning friendly teaching chronological great ideas journey classroom students

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- Support learner writing development, e.g. problem-solving, critical thinking, and critique skills
- Useful for shorter and less formal assignments.
- Allow for embedding and display of multimedia, which offers an advantage over paper submissions
- Provide a means for learner response to or discussion of readings that are assigned as independent work
- Can be a place where students reflect and express their thoughts and opinions on readings

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“Blogs have what is called an open architecture, meaning that they can be viewed by anyone connected to the Internet. This openness is unlike the structures underlying other forms of asynchronous technologies such as WebCT, which cannot be viewed unless permission is given”
OBJECTIVES

■ Evaluate learners’ ability to think critically

■ Enhance academic learning

■ Observe the level of interaction between learners

■ Encourage learners to express own ideas and opinions

■ Make learning more interesting!

■ Make sure learners are learning and producing English outside the classroom

■ Prepare those who are going to study at Canadian universities and colleges

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CHALLENGES

- PBLA Implementation and assessments
- Learners access to technology
- ........
METHODOLOGY

- Each learner would respond to the weekly class blog, posting an approximately 80-word response to the week’s readings.

- Hand a reading article—could be found in the suggested websites.

- Formulate insightful questions about the reading and then ask learners to answer your questions; or respond to another student’s post, building upon it, disagreeing with it, or re-thinking it.

- Design an online code of conduct and explain it well to the learner before posting your first thread.

- Design your rubric and give every learner a copy of the assessment of their online work.

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ASSESSMENT

➢ Rubrics could be provided every week indicating student’s mark

➢ Assessment based on:
  ■ Number of postings
  ■ Demonstration of knowledge and understanding from the assigned reading/video
  ■ Compliance with online guidelines and etiquettes

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MEET!

www.proboards.com

&

www.freeforums.org

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Free online forums 😊

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Voted Best Forum Hosts 😊

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FEATURES

■ Easy to use
■ No size limit
■ Customizable
■ Mobile App

■ YouTube Embedding
■ File Upload
■ Remotely Hosted
■ Environmentally Friendly
USE

The forums can be used as:

- **Methods** of professional communication between the Instructor and the students
- Course **Update** tools
- **Assessment** tools
- Academic **Calendar** (Course Calendar)

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### General

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Board</th>
<th>Threads</th>
<th>Posts</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Discussion - 1 viewing</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus Skills: Reading and writing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderator: Admin</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Post</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online assignment 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by Admin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 6, 2016 at 8:41am</td>
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### Moderators

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<td>You can talk to other moderators here.</td>
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<td>Moderator: Admin</td>
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<th>Last Post</th>
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<tr>
<td>No posts have been made on this board.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
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<td>------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Online assignment 1</td>
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<td>Reading and Writing Test</td>
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<td>Midterm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vocabulary Test 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Day of Classes</td>
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<td>Week 4 - Summary Writing</td>
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SUGGESTED WEBSITES FOR FORUM MATERIALS

- www.hbr.org
  Articles and reading materials
- www.uefap.com
  All language skills- Academic
- www.ted.com
  Videos and listening
- www.cbc.ca
  Reading and Podcasts
- www.bbc.co.uk
  Reading and Podcasts
- www.youtube.com
  VOA Learning English Listening Skills
- www.businessenglishonline.net
  Case studies
- www.readinga-z.com
  Reading

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FREE FORUMS AND BLOGS

- www.proboards.com
- www.freeforums.org
- www.wordpress.com
- www.padlets.com
- www.forumotion.com
- www.former.com

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www.linc6-7.freeforums.net

Go to Academic English 7/9
Thank you.