Enhancing student learning using online tasks

Sue Hodgson

The Language Centre: The University of Newcastle

PD FEST SYDNEY

2 May 2015
Exploiting the online space and linking it back into the classroom
Online Tasks

- Listening Logs
- WebQuests
- Audacity
- Group Journals
- Reading Logs
Listening Logs

• Listen at home ➔
  • discuss in class *(pairs)*
  • “surprise” presentations *(to class)*
TED Talks
www.ted.com/talks
**Listening Logs**

Every week on **Monday** you are required to have prepared a listening log. It's a very effective way of improving your listening and speaking. This is what you have to do.

For **homework** ..look online at TED Talks: www.ted.com/talks

Choose an appropriate TED Talk.
- Look for a topic which interests you, is linked to a theme, or is good for your future studies.
- Use the Duration button to choose the length of the talks.

Take notes on the TED Talk. This will be difficult at first.
- Listen as many times as you need to.
- Make sure you use abbreviations and symbols.
- Check your notes with the transcript after you have listened several times.
- Make any corrections to your notes from the transcript in a different colour.

Choose **five** vocabulary words which you think would be useful and write them with English meanings.

Write a short summary of your TED Talk.

__________________________________________________________________________________________

On Monday **in class** you will **explain your TED Talk to a classmate**.

YOU MUST NOT READ YOUR NOTES OR SUMMARY.

You must tell them the main idea and details and explain your vocabulary words.

__________________________________________________________________________________________

**SURPRISE PRESENTATION!!!** (1 - 2 minutes)

Two or three people per week will be chosen to present their TED Talk to the class.

You will show a brief introduction from the talk and then explain your talk to the class.

This must not be read from your summary. Therefore, you must understand your TED Talk thoroughly each week.

**Both these activities may be used to assess your speaking for your class mark.**

**Source:** Helen Askie. The Language Centre. The University of Newcastle.
Task: Your task for this WebQuest is to work with a partner to research a disease and produce a resource to help educate people about the disease. Some examples of end products are, but are not limited to: creating a brochure, poster, advertisement, Prezzi, or recording. Remember: be CREATIVE!

Research:
1. Choose your partner.

2. Go to the link below and choose a disease to research. Each pair must choose a different disease. 
   http://www.cdc.gov/DiseasesConditions/?s_cid=cdc_homepage_topmenu_001
   You can also use other appropriate reliable internet sources.

3. Tell your teacher which disease you are researching.

4. You need to decide what information is important for people to know. This should include:
   - The name of the disease
   - Causes of the disease
   - Symptoms of the disease
   - Treatments
Create your educational resource:

Now that you have researched your disease, you can put all the information together. Decide with your partner how you are going to help educate people about the disease you have researched.

Remember to be creative! You need to convince people why it is important to know about the disease. You also need to keep them interested and wanting to learn more!

After you produce your resource, you and your classmates will share them with each other. The success of your task will depend on how much you know about the disease you researched, along with whether your end-product is interesting and can keep the attention of others.

How do you know your asthma is under control?

- You won’t have symptoms such as wheezing or coughing
- You’ll sleep better,
- You won’t miss work or school
- You can take part in all physical activities
- You won’t have to go to the hospital.

How to prevent asthma?

- You can control your asthma
- With your healthcare provider’s help, make your own asthma action plan
- Decide who should have a copy of your plan and where he or she should keep it
- Take your long-term control medicine even when you don’t have symptoms

A better world for ASTHMA

How to improve quality of life?

How to protect your children from ASTHMA?
**What is asthma?**

- Asthma is a disease that affects your lungs. It is one of the most common long-term diseases of children, but adults can have it.

**Why is it a serious disease?**

- Asthma affects around 1 in 9 school-aged children.
- Causes is unknown AND don’t know how to cure it.
- Asthma is hereditary or genetic disease.
- Affect quality of life and can cause death in the asthma attack if no treatment.

**How to treat asthma?**

- Control your asthma and avoid an attack by taking your medicine exactly as your doctor tells you and by staying away from things that can trigger an attack.
- Asthma medicines come in two types
  - Quick-relief medicines control the symptoms of an asthma attack. If you need to use your quick-relief medicines more and more, visit your doctor to see if you need a different medicine.
  - Long-term control medicines help you have fewer and milder attacks, but they don’t help you while you are having an asthma attack.

**What causes an asthma attack?**

Many factors contribute to trigger asthma attack in below picture:

- Pets
- Exercise
- Pollen
- Stress
- Anger
- Pollution
- Strong odors
- Smoke
- Dust
- Fungus spores
- Cold air

**What happens in Asthma?**

- An asthma attack may include coughing, chest tightness, wheezing, and trouble breathing.
- During an asthma attack, the sides of the airways in your lungs swell and the airways shrink. Less air gets in and out of your lungs, and mucus that your body makes clogs up the airways even more.
The Australian Federal Government invites your company to attend the Renewable Energy Summit to be held later this week at the University of Newcastle.

The government recognises that climate change has reached a crisis point and that alternatives to the use of fossil fuels must be developed and implemented as soon as possible.

This Summit will provide your company with the opportunity to seek substantial government funding for the research and development of renewable energy sources.

You are invited to present your submission for funding to the Government Renewable Energy Committee. The Environment Minister will chair the meeting.

Your submission must cover the following:

- A brief description of the type of renewable energy
- The advantages of this form of energy over other energy sources
- Examples of how the energy can be used
- Supporting data

Each group will have 10 minutes to present their submission. Each member of the group must participate. You may choose to support your submission using Powerpoint, Prezi or video. Participants will have the opportunity to ask questions after each group presents their submissions.

The following renewable energy industries have been invited to participate:

- Solar
- Wind
- Bioenergy
- Geothermal
**TASK**

Your group must research and prepare your submission for the Renewable Energy Summit. You can use the following resources as well as any other relevant resources.

**SOLAR**


http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/category/solar-energy

http://www.clean-energy-ideas.com/solar/solar-energy


http://www.sciencearchive.org.au/nova/005/005key.html
Audacity

http://audacity.sourceforge.net/
A **phobia** is a type of **anxiety disorder**. It is a strong, **irrational** fear of something that **poses** little or no real danger. There are many phobias such as fear of **heights**, enclosed spaces or animals. Phobias can **interfere** with the ability to socialise, work, or go about everyday activities. **Experts** really don’t know why phobias develop, but research **suggests** there may be a **complex interaction** between **heredity** and the **environment**. **Treatment** may involve **gradual exposure** to the **feared** situation.
File / Export

mp3 file / Save
Set another task so you can give feedback
Gapfill listening – from video transcript

Fears and Phobias


A phobia is a type of anxiety ____________, and is defined as an ____________, irrational fear of a particular situation, object, ___________ or activity. People who___________ from a phobia may experience extreme ____________ and physical ____________ when encountering their particular fear. Nearly everyone fears something. Some people become ____________ during thunderstorms. Others get queasy in tall ____________. Still others find themselves jumping onto a ____________ at the sight of a ____________ mouse. But there's a big difference between ______________ anxiety that's experienced occasionally and the often crippling, ____________ fear that can result in a person going to great lengths to___________ their phobia - even if it means missing a job interview, ____________ or school play. When people with phobias can't avoid what they're afraid of, they may experience various ______________, such as a rapid heartbeat, dizziness, shortness of breath, ____________ sweating, trembling or weakness. Most people with phobias realize their fear is excessive and irrational. But they typically are unable to _________ their feelings of dread and the often desperate need to escape the subject of their phobia.
Group Journals

UP102 - Sue Feb 2015

When a grade is assigned for a Group Blog or Journal, the grade is automatically given to all members of the Group and is populated in the Grade Centre for each Group member. More Help

Create Journal Entry

Wednesday, 1 April 2015

Kevin
Posted by Hongshan Zeng at Wednesday, 1 April 2015 10:58:18 o'clock EST
Attached Files:
Phobias.mp3 (1062.4kb)

Jihuan-Phobias
Posted by Jihuan Bai at Wednesday, 1 April 2015 10:54:04 o'clock EST
Jihuan-Phobia.mp3
Creating a Group

![Image of UONline interface showing the process of creating a group]

1. Navigate to the Blackboard section within UONline.
2. Expand the 'My Groups' section.
3. Click on 'Groups' to access group management options.
4. Click on 'Create' to start creating a new group.
5. Under 'Groups', click on 'Manual Enroll' to proceed with manual enrollment.
Yesterday, it was a busy day at the hospital. One of the nurses was sitting in front of a computer and two other nurses were standing. A woman who had a child was talking to the receptionist. A patient who had a broken leg was sitting on the bed while he was eating, and two patients were lying in the next beds. The doctors were checking two patients who had a big problem with their health. A man was pushing a trolley in front of patients’ room.

Fadil - hospital.mp3
Hospital.docx
Reading Logs

Blackboard

Discussion Board

Forums are made up of individual discussion threads that can be organised around a particular subject. Create Forums to organise discussions. More Help

Create Forum

Welcome to our class Discussion Board. This is the place where we share interesting articles we have read on the theme for the week. This will help to improve your vocabulary and increase your knowledge about the topic.
Welcome to our class Discussion Board. This is the place where we share interesting articles we have read on the theme for the week. This will help to improve your vocabulary and increase your knowledge about the topic.

This is a **compulsory task** and will count towards your class marks.

Each student must choose an interesting article on the theme of the week and post the link to the Discussion Board.

You must choose your articles from online newspapers. [Upper Intermediate Web Resources / Reading / Newspapers]

To post your article to the discussion board, click on the appropriate week.

You must create a thread - please put your name and the title of the article in the Subject box.

To add a link to your article- click on the paperclip symbol (Insert File). / Attach File - Source URL.

Make sure you put the name of the article, the name of the newspaper and the date.

You have to write a short summary of the article in your own words and explain why you found it interesting. DO NOT just copy and paste from the article.

You must also list 5 new useful vocabulary words that you found in the article and give their meanings in English.

You **must read and comment** on at least one article that other students have posted.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route/Topic</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Discussion Board</th>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Send Email</th>
<th>Homepage</th>
<th>Customise Group Banner</th>
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<td>21/03/15 13:28</td>
<td>kadim- 100,000 slaughtered animals: but still the Gadhimai festival should go on Deepak Adhikari</td>
<td>Kadhim Al-Sahlani</td>
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<td>Tony-Melbourne International Comedy Festival all-woman shows on the rise</td>
<td>Shaohui Wang</td>
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<td>Arthur-Newcastle Tomato Festival: Preserving the last tastes of summer</td>
<td>Chang Liu</td>
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<td>India’s Great Sand Artist</td>
<td>Yujia Wang</td>
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<td>18/03/15 21:35</td>
<td>Mushtaq - Religious festivals: how sustainable is Kumbh Mela,Hajj and Christmas?</td>
<td>Mushtaq Mariany</td>
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Siqi Wang

Cooper-Transnational marriages: More about finding true love


Transnational marriages: More about finding true love

When I was young, I had seen many foreigners in my country. In the 1980s, Chinese didn't accept foreign cultures and persons because we didn't know what they thought and they have different color of hair and eyes. However, the number of marrying foreigner is rose, and many foreigners admire China, Chinese and Chinese culture. For example, Stephen Marbury, who is a famous basketball player in the United States, has played basketball for 4 years in CBA. He said that his families live in Beijing. When I retired, I want to continue to stay here. I know China is an old country and having some traditional culture that the foreigner couldn't understand, but I wanna foreign friends could know the changing of China.

Vocabulary
narrowing - range reduced
obedient - obeying
family-oriented - thinking family is most important
assimilating - understand
correlation - relation and compare

Classmates post comments

Tien Thi Nguyen
RE: Cooper-Transnational marriages: More about finding true love
"more than 70 percent of them said they would like to have a Chinese son-in-law or daughter-in-law" Why? I don't understand it. Can you explain it? Thanks :)

Nan Chen
RE:
Chinese people value family, also, they can cook Chinese food, and they more respect elder. In Chinese culture, people are responsible to take good care of parents, sometimes, they cost more money for parents than themselves. They like spending a lot of time on accompanying with parents, so people like to have a Chinese son-in-law or daughter-in-law, not Chinese husband or Chinese wife. It's a joke!
Teacher can correct entries to improve writing skills

Sue Hodgson ✮

RE: kadim- 100,000 slaughtered animals: but still the Gadhimai festival should go on Deepak Adhikari

I read the whole interesting article which talks about hundreds thousands of animals killed as sacrifices in a big festival in Gadhimai. This festivel is held every five years in Nepal and there are tens of thousands of the pilgrims – both from the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, and Nepal’s plains. The two-week festival is about much more than the ritual sacrifice. The story began some 250 years ago when a farmer named Bhagwan was in jail. He prayed to the Goddess, so he dreamt that the Goddess had saved him to re-establish her shrine in this place in order to release him to the end of story. This story looks like several religious story around the world whose events about hte fulfilmen and always the animales offered as a sacrifice. I think these art festivales must be changed the bad rituals with the new modren technology and the civilization influences.

vocabulary:
sacrifice: the act of offering something to a deity in propitiation, especially the ritual slaughter of an animal or a person.
quinquennial: happening once every five years
jail: prison
ritual: custom, ceremony
fulfilment: to bring into actuality: effect or make real
Contact details:

Feel free to email me for more information

Sue.Hodgson@newcastle.edu.au
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Sue Hodgson. The Language Centre. The University of Newcastle.
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- Wind
- Bioenergy
- Geothermal

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**SOLAR**

- [http://www.sciencearchive.org.au/nova/005/005key.html](http://www.sciencearchive.org.au/nova/005/005key.html)
WIND

http://www.originenergy.com.au/asset/GD5CKaMiO3Y  Wind farm video (1.43m)
http://www.sciencearchive.org.au/nova/037/037key.html
http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/category/wind-energy

BIOENERGY

www.stanwell.com/Files/Fact_Sheets/Biomass.pdf
http://www.sciencearchive.org.au/nova/039/039box03.html?q=nova/039/039box03.htm

GEOTHERMAL

http://vimeo.com/44080546  Geothermal video – 2 minutes (very clear explanation)
http://www.conserve-energy-future.com/category/geothermal-energy
http://www.clean-energy-ideas.com/geothermal/geothermal-energy