#### In Each Other's Pockets

Closed Facebook Groups

Theoretical and Practical Perspectives

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#### Overview

#### Theoretical Perspectives

Rationale for educational use

#### **Practical Perspectives**

- Sharing  $(S \rightarrow S \& T \rightarrow S)$
- Tracking

#### Theoretical Perspectives

What is the rationale for using closed facebook groups in language learning?

### Rationale l (A Brave New World)

The new generation of language learners are dependent on technology

 "... the emergence of the new generation of language learners who cannot lead a normal life without accessing one or more types of social media." (Jabbari, Boriack, Barahona, Padron, & Waxman, 2015)

# Rationale 2 (Everyday Education)

Technologies that learners access regularly could be utilised to enhance education

 "... tools and services like wikis, social networking sites, online forums, blogs, and tools have become relevant not just in everyday life but also in the context of learning and education." (Kimmerle, Cress, Held, & Moskaliuk 2010)

### Rationale 3 (Transferability to Learning Settings)

Facebook in particular can be a useful classroom management platform

 "Collaborative social media are also causing changes in formal learning settings, for example, where a class of students sets up a Facebook group for distributing course-related announcements and sharing materials." (Wang, Woo, Quek, Yang, & Liu, 2012)

## Practical Perspectives: Sharing

How can a closed facebook group facilitate sharing:

- among language learners?
- between language learners and teachers?

### Social Sharing $S \rightarrow S(S)$



This picture in the immigration museum with teacher Ashly

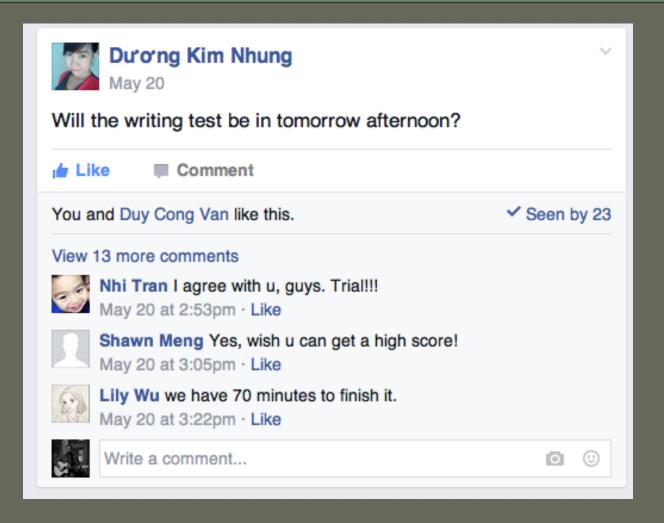




### Information Sharing $S \rightarrow S(S)$



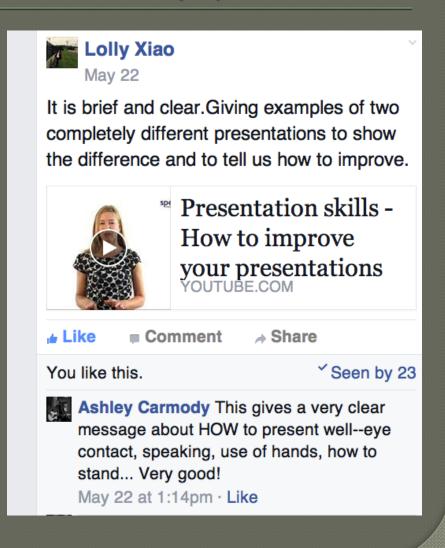
## Information Sharing (Asking Classmates to Verify) S → S



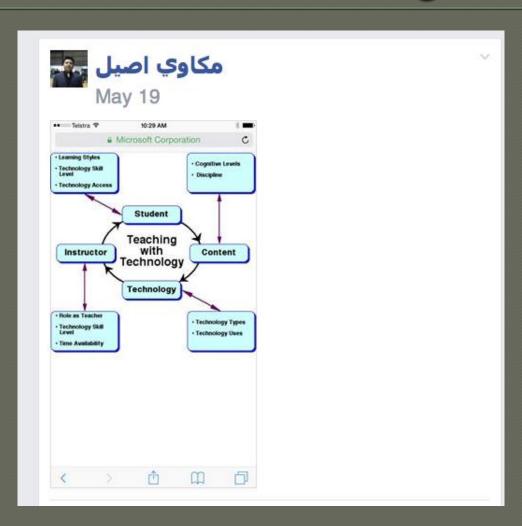
## Resource Sharing and Feedback S -> S (T)

Student Post

Teacher Feedback



### Class Content Sharing $S \rightarrow S(T)$



## Class Content Sharing $S \rightarrow S(T)$



# Lecture Sharing $S \rightarrow S(T)$



#### Exam Skills Sharing $S \rightarrow S$



#### Non-Virtual Skills Sharing $S \rightarrow S$



# Skills Resource Sharing (Listening for Research) $T \rightarrow S$

Hi all.

I hope you are having a good week.

To continue your listening practice, why not listen to some TED talks on the effects of immigration. This is just one example. If you go to the site and use the search, I am sure you will find many more interesting examples.... See More



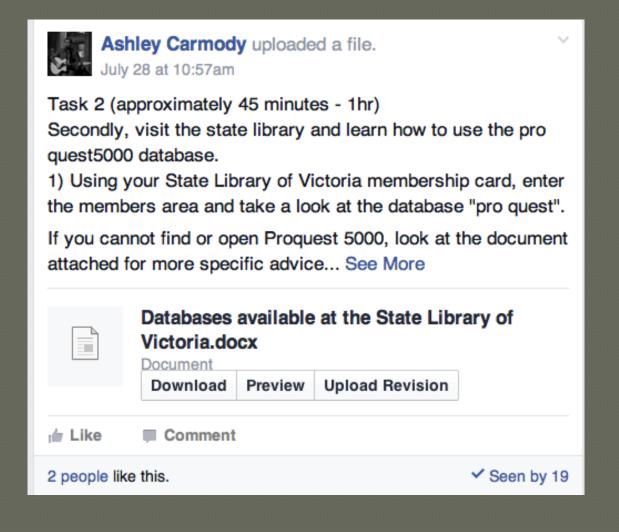
My immigration story

TED.COM I BY TAN LE

# Skills Resource Sharing (Grammar for Academic Writing) T ightarrow S



# Class Content Sharing (Instructions and Documents) T -> S

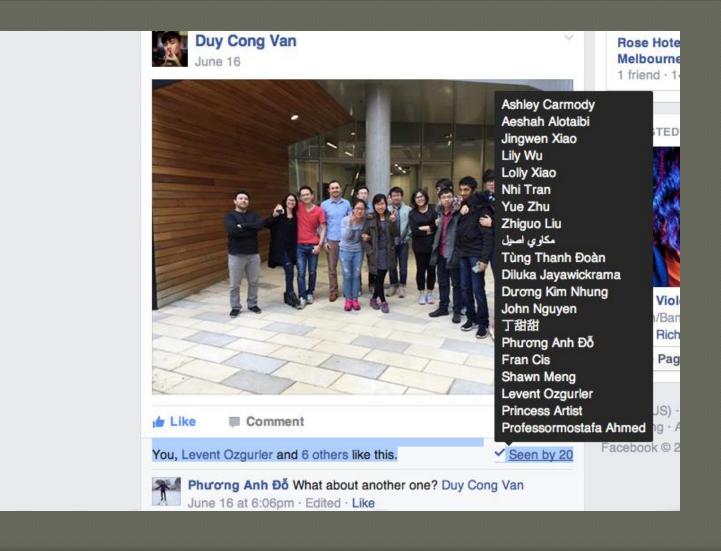


## Practical Perspectives 2: Tracking

Is it possible to see whether students:

- have read and or engaged with posts?
- have contributed to an activity?

# Tracking Reading and Engagement (Views and Likes)



# Tracking Contributions (Posts and Comments)



#### Conclusion

#### Clear rationale

 High acceptance among learners because of: technology dependency existing patterns in social web use

#### **Increased Engagement and Autonomy**

• Learners:

share information, skills, ideas and resources influence how course content is acquired/practiced/retained

#### **Class Management Benefits**

• Teachers can:

share accessible information, resources, activities etc. track student participation and engagement

#### References

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