Social Media in the Online Classroom

Órla Ní Shéaghdha

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- 2017 - ELT teacher

- 2020 - Author & contributor

- Upcoming publications:

- *100 Top Tips: Ideas for English Teachers from the Irish ELT Sector*

- *Copy and Teach: Irish Culture*

- www.new-way-press.com

"Put Away your Phones!"

"Get Off Instagram!"

Face-to-face

"Turn your camera on!"

"You're on mute!"

Online classes

English Through Social Media

Greater purpose to learning objectives

Daily Life and Interaction

- Primary link to home
- Class WhatsApp groups
- Catch up on classwork/homework
- Socialise with classmates
- "Real English"

Social Media in the Online Classroom

What are some things to consider?

Social Media - Things to Consider

- Appropriateness
- Learning outcomes
- Group of students (age, level & learner style)
- Topic/theme of lesson
- Support learning outside of class
- Share resources eg. recipes, book recommendations

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Social Media in the Online Classroom

Social Media Applications

And how to use them

Social Media Applications

Application	Topic	Task/Activity	Learner Style
Instagram			
YouTube			
Facebook			
Twitter			
WhatsApp			

Social Media Applications

Application	Topic	Task/Activity	Learner Style
Instagram	Any topic with images, eg. Travel	Speaking Writing Vocabulary	Visual Linguistic Interpersonal Kinaesthetic
YouTube	Any topic with video, eg. TED Talks	Listening Exam practice	Musical Visual Linguistic Intrapersonal
Facebook	Any topic with image/ video/ text, eg. Advertising Study groups	Reading Vocabulary Writing	Linguistic Visual Interpersonal Intrapersonal
Twitter	Short-form texts Breaking news	Breaking news lessons Speaking	Linguistic Interpersonal Kinaesthetic
WhatsApp	Communication Sharing resources	Class updates Pronunciation (voice message)	Linguistic Interpersonal Logical

Implementation

Advantages

- Promotes risk-taking & learner autonomy
- Personalises content
- Multiple learner styles
- "Real-life" English
- Easy to incorporate online
- Project-based lessons

Disadvantages

- Privacy - GDPR
- Limited use by students
- Limited scope
- Spamming
- Time-consuming - create, curate & adapt material
- Inaccuracies

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Social Media in the Online Classroom

Over to you!

In groups, plan a lesson which includes the use of social media

Plan a lesson using social media

1. Join the following Facebook group:
   [Social Media in the Online Classroom](#)

2. Download the lesson plan template from the link on the page

3. Choose one of the class groups on the next slide

4. Plan a lesson using social media for your chosen group of learners

5. Update the Google document

6. Post it to the Facebook group to share your ideas!

Plan a Class for the Following Groups

Group 1

Topic: Work

Level : Elementary

Age : 18 – 30

1. Identify key vocab at this level
2. Choose a suitable medium for a variety of learner styles
3. Skills to incorporate & how?
4. Design a production task
5. Anticipate problems

Group 2

Topic: Health

Level : Intermediate

Age : 25 – 40

1. Identify key vocab at this level
2. Choose a suitable medium for a variety of learner styles
3. Skills to incorporate & how?
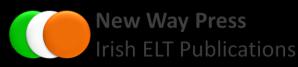4. Design a production task
5. Anticipate problems

Group 3

Topic: Environment

Level : Adv IELTS

Age : 30+

1. Identify key vocab at this level
2. Choose a suitable medium for a variety of learner styles
3. Skills to incorporate & how?
4. Design a production task
5. Anticipate problems

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Stay in touch:

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