A Digital learning journal

Introducción

Esta actividad requiere el uso de una aplicación de toma de notas para motivar a los estudiantes a reflexionar sobre su aprendizaje dentro del aula de clase.

La reflexión es una parte importante de aprender y recordar un nuevo idioma y el uso de un diario de conocimientos puede contribuir a este proceso. Adicionalmente, los diarios de conocimientos digitales son adicionalmente efectivos, pues son compatibles con archivos multimedia, en ellos los estudiantes pueden añadir imágenes, audios, videos y archivos, así como, textos.

En su seminario web, Milton Bradbury sugiere el uso de diarios de conocimientos con estudiantes que reciben clase a distancia, sin embargo, también se puede utilizar con estudiantes dentro del aula de clase.

Consejo tecnológico

Existen dos posibles aplicaciones de toma de notas que puede utilizar para esta actividad. Estas son:


Evernote, esta aplicación está disponible en el siguiente enlace: https://evernote.com/

De igual manera, las dos aplicaciones permiten que los usuarios creen cuadernos digitales que pueden incluir textos y archivos multimedia. Evernote es la más fácil de utilizar y permite a los estudiantes tener varios cuadernos para diferentes temas y en cada uno pueden añadir anotaciones.

Referencia de duración del seminario web: 27:17 - 31:19

Nivel: Secondary A2+

Duración: 10 – 15 minutes at the end of each lesson.

Objetivo: To encourage students to think about, reflect on and remember what they learn from each lesson.
**Preparation:**
- Make sure that students have downloaded one of the suggested applications.
- Choose some reflection questions from the suggestions in the materials section below.

**Procedure:**
- Wait until about 10 – 15 minutes before the end of the lesson.
- Tell the students you want them to silently think back over the lesson. Note: You could ask them to close their eyes and do this.
- Ask the students to try to remember what activities they did during the lesson.
- Now give the students your reflection questions.
- Ask them to work in pairs or small groups and ask and answer the questions together.
- When they have finished, ask them to use their digital notebooks to make notes about their answers to each of the questions. (They could do this at home after the lesson)
- Ask the students to share a link to their notes with you.
- Check their notes, comment appropriately and add encouragement.

**Materials:**

**Reflection questions**
- Did this activity help you learn more than others we’ve done? Why?
- How can you apply what you learned today to your own life?
- What can I do tomorrow to help you more?
- How does something you learned in today’s lesson connect with something you already knew?
How would you explain what you learned today to someone in the grade below you?
If you were creating a quiz about today’s lesson, what are 2 questions you’d include?
My favourite part of today’s lesson was...
Reflect on your thinking, learning, and work today. What were you most proud of?
The top 3 ideas I remember from today’s lesson...
Two facts I learned about the topic...
What are some things you did really well today?
What are your next steps after today’s lesson?
What areas did you find most difficult to understand / complete?
What class activities or assignments help you learn the most?
What do you believe the teacher do differently to help you learn?
What is one question that you still have about the lesson?
What is something you weren’t sure about at the start of the lesson but understand now?
What is the most important thing you learned today and why?
What part of the lesson surprised you?
What’s one thing the teacher did in this lesson that you really liked?
Where did you struggle today, and how did you deal with it?
Which part of today’s lesson was most interesting?
Why do you believe we’re studying this lesson?

Additional resources

LearnEnglish Teens learner diary
- This diary offers students and teachers a step-by-step introduction to the LearnEnglish Teens website and a more motivating and communicative alternative to course book-based homework. It can be used with students with an A2+ level of English.

https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/learnenglish-teens-learner-diary

Learner diaries
- When teaching large classes of students year after year it can become very difficult to see each student as an individual with individual needs and abilities. Learner diaries are one method I have used to try to overcome this and to develop a 'one-to-one' relationship even with large classes of students.

https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/learner-diaries
Class journals

- Students often write in their English classes, following a specific genre in order to do so: the informal email; a job application letter, etc. Of course, it is important that they learn this kind of writing (which is usually essential for exam success), but it doesn’t always encourage them to write for the sake of writing, and to get used to writing in a more relaxed and creative way.

https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/learner-diaries

Learner autonomy: English language teachers’ beliefs and practices

- Learner autonomy has been the subject of many studies but there have been fewer studies of what learner autonomy means to teachers. This study, conducted in Oman, reports on teacher beliefs and reported practices regarding learner autonomy.


Promoting learner autonomy through communication strategy training

- In this webinar recording Kathleen M. Bailey discusses the topic of learner autonomy in the context of conversations in the target language. Speaking a new language entails taking risks – and that’s where communications strategies come into play.

https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/promoting-learner-autonomy-through-communication-strategy-training