



Language Teachers in Virtual Worlds: or How to Create a Digital Euphoria with Web 2.0 Tools, Interactive Boards and Mush Up

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Abstract

Today's students are wired to learn. By the time they begin school, they are already astute users of technology, from channel surfing to websites to digital cameras, mp3 players and cell phones. Today's classrooms need to meet students where they are—as high-tech learners.

Studies consistently show that when teachers teach with interactive tools, today's wired students learn better and their test scores improve more successfully because interactive contents spark interest, engage attention and foster learning. Web 2.0, interactive whiteboards and mush up are, therefore, new solutions giving teachers flexible, versatile tools that keep pace with the demands of today's students. Moreover, by delivering true interactive performance, students are engaged with high-tech multimedia, multisensory, multidimensional lessons. Success and motivation are granted.

This presentation will explain how a "dull" theory-based course can be enlivened with the use of Web 2.0 Tools and Technologies. The presenter will demonstrate the entire process and will offer an opportunity for hands-on experience with the Web2.0 tools moving from primary to higher classes.

The Virtual and Language activities will: challenge Intelligences; adjust perspectives; fight techno daemons; explore unimagined spaces ... sometimes Alone ... but mostly together; leave aMAZEd and lost in virtual spaces; gain some mastery over the virtual kingdom; take flight for language learning; visit far away places; offer immersion into cultures; speak foreign tongues; engage in discussions; teach and learn as a team; share expertiseand share success!