

Benefits of using multimedia in efl classes

It is extremely important in English as Foreign Language (EFL) classes to create the exciting and dynamic environment of exposing learners to language. Learning with technology provides a unique and very adaptable arrangement limited only by the imagination of teachers and students. The presenter describes the ways of effective using of the Interactive Whiteboard as a replacement for video and computers.

First of all, it is great for demonstrations. It is easy to show the important features running the application from the board. Since the Interactive Whiteboard is a colorful tool, it attracts attention and holds it. Students respond positively to displays where color is employed. In addition, the board can accommodate different learning styles.

Finally, EFL classrooms can maximize the use of limited computer access by using the Interactive Whiteboard. Students can work together with individuals contributing on the board, other participants at the computer, and the group as a whole discussing the activity.

Video contains many of the features of a real communicative situation: the soundtrack and visual information which accompanies the language. They provide samples of authentic language use. At the same time, because the language is authentic, there are many problems of language difficulties connected with different aspects. Therefore, teachers need to choose suitable materials and devise activities to go with them. The presenter uses New Opportunities UK/US and Around the World DVD/Video (Longman Publishing House) to illustrate these statements. It is a collection of mini documentaries that give students an insight into the life of teenagers in different English-speaking countries. The Workbook includes before, while and after watching exercises, extension activities, projects and tape scripts of all episodes. Developing classroom ideas based in video films can create a powerful resource for teaching and learning English.