

VoiceThread for Digital Conversations

This is the fifth webinar in the series of [monthly professional development events](#) for volunteer e-Tutors and ESL/EAL professionals. The main goal of the series is to increase e-tutors' online teaching skills by providing more in-depth introduction to online tools for language teaching and learning and discussing creative use of those tools, covering both technological and pedagogical aspects. The webinar was recorded:

Friday, November 15

<http://myenglishonline.wiziq.com/online-class/1477973-voicethread-for-digital-conversations>

Saturday, November 16

<http://myenglishonline.wiziq.com/online-class/1477976-voicethread-for-digital-conversations>

Recognized by TESL Ontario
as a PD activity!

Ask me about your certificate of
attendance

mberezyanskaya@myenglishonline.ca

Text alone can't deliver the subtlety and expression required for meaningful communication. In our 1-hour webinar "VoiceThread for Digital Conversations" we've discussed a web 2.0 tool which can add a sense of empathy and expressiveness of the human voice to your learners' digital discussions in the blended learning environment.

[VoiceThread](#) allows users to record text, audio and video comments about uploaded content.

Through the use of voice comments, VoiceThread creates an interactive and personalized environment.

How-to Links:

- [Creating a VoiceThread](#)
- [Sharing a VoiceThread](#)
- [VoiceThread Support](#)

To leave a comment on a VoiceThread, you have se

- Audio from a Microphone
- Text from a Keyboard
- Video from a Webcam
- Audio from a pre-recorded Audio File
- Audio from a Telephone



VoiceThread in EAL/ESL classroom:

- ✓ Speaking activities
- ✓ Pre-reading/listening activities
- ✓ Prior knowledge activation
- ✓ Vocabulary
- ✓ Individual and collaborative projects
- ✓ Language tasks
- ✓ Your ideas? Let's discuss on Tutela.ca!

Explore a Sample EAL/ESL Activity:

<https://voicethread.com/#q.b1016940>

Vocabulary:

- Upload several pictures and ask your learners to select those relevant for their purpose and circle them explaining their choice;
- Upload a busy picture, accompany it with a short description of one detail to give your learners a model. Ask your learners to post a description of a new detail in the picture that hasn't been noticed by anyone else yet.
- Upload a picture of an object that typically is supposed to have some content (a fridge or a bag, or a room). Ask your learners an open-ended question about it, such as "What's in your fridge now?"

Language Tasks:

- Upload a map of the city. Ask your learners to describe the best way from 1 starting point to some location (without mentioning the place itself). Other learners are to guess final destinations of each other and leave their voice comments with suggestions.
- Upload a map of the city. Ask learners to give directions and draw the route at the same time.

* Video comments would let your learners use their body language.

Discussions:

- Post a picture of a culturally relevant situation (like shaking hands). Ask each student to talk about handshakes in their cultures.

* Video comments would let your students visualize their explanations

Storytelling + VoiceThread = intonation, facial expressions, body language...

- Upload a succession of images (daily schedule of a character, dialogue, situation). Ask your students to record their own stories based on the visual prompts.
- Collaborative storytelling: every learner listens to previous narrators and creates a continuation of the story.

Projects:

- Favourite national holiday (voice presentation)
- Digital recipes (Have a F2F class? Try those dishes together in class!)

VoiceThread for Assessment:

- Personalized feedback
- Easy 24/7 access to learner's speaking samples
- PBLA: learners' digital portfolios



Thank you for your participation!

See you online!

Margarita Berezyanskaya

e-Tutor Coordinator

English Online Inc.

www.myenglishonline.ca

E-mail: mberezyanskaya@myenglishonline.ca

Skype: [margarita_myenglishonline](#)

Twitter: [@ber_margarita](#)

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