

# Exploring new media and its potential in teaching: individual activity

**Collection:** Online teaching

**Resource:** Designing learning with new media

## Approximate duration

60 minutes

## Learning outcomes

By the end of this activity you should have a clearer understanding of the types of new media that can be used effectively in educational contexts like your own, how and where the new media might be used and have a clearer insight into the implications for your teaching of using different types of new media.

## Introduction

Depending on your experience with using new media you could structure this activity in a number of ways.

- Start by watching the two videoclips detailed below where English lecturers talk about how they have incorporated different kinds of new media into their teaching.
- Or jump directly to part two of the activity based on completing a handout.

## The activity

1. Have you ever used PowerPoint or Facebook in your teaching? Do you use any of the 'advanced' features of PowerPoint e.g. animations. Do you encourage your students to use them? If so what kind of feedback did you get from the students?



**1 |** This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.

This work by English Subject Centre is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License.

2. Now watch a couple of videoclips illustrating how both PowerPoint and Facebook are being used in English studies (Creative Writing & Induction):
- The first is a short presentation from the digital poet Judy Kendall. Judy describes how she uses *PowerPoint* to teach Digital Poetry on a Creative Writing module at the University of Salford. (<http://vimeo.com/23793023>)



- In the second clip, Ruth Page describes how her department used *Facebook* for pre-induction activities online. (<http://vimeo.com/23793117>)



3. After you have watched one or both clips think about the techniques being discussed and whether you might use or adapt any of the ideas for use with your students.



4. Now we are going to look a little more closely at the various types of new media that could be used with your students, where they might be used and why. Are there any challenges or affordances to using it? Below there is a template for a [downloadable handout](#) that you might use to capture your thoughts.

## Example

| <i>Media type</i> | <i>Context</i> | <i>Possible pedagogical uses</i> | <i>Other (e.g. risks..challenges)</i>             |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Videoclip         | lecture        | Provide context                  | technology might not work/<br>internet connection |
|                   |                |                                  |   |
|                   |                |                                  |   |
|                   |                |                                  |   |
|                   |                |                                  |   |
|                   |                |                                  |   |
|                   |                |                                  |   |
|                   |                |                                  |   |

\* Other media you might mention could include:

- Discussion forums
- Digital facsimiles
- Blog postings
- Video clips
- Digital texts
- Corpus analysis tools
- Audio clips / podcasts
- Digital images
- Primary or secondary source materials
- RSS feeds
- Electronic text archives
- Websites
- Mobile phone apps
- Wikis
- PowerPoint slides



**3** | This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.

This work by English Subject Centre is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License.

## Links & References

- [Creative Writing: Teaching & Technology](#) - was an English Subject Centre event exploring the uses of technologies in the pedagogy of Creative Writing. There are a number of video presentations in the event archive.

## Relationship to the Professional Standards Framework

- **Area of Activity 1:** Design and planning of learning activities and / or programmes of study.
- **Core Knowledge 2:** Appropriate methods for teaching and learning in the subject area and at the level of the academic programme
- **Core Knowledge 4:** The use of appropriate learning technologies

More information about the Professional Standards Framework can be obtained from the summary factsheet in the *Subject & Pedagogy* collection in HumBox.

<http://humbox.ac.uk/2731/>

---

## Resources in the Online teaching Collection

- Online teaching: introduction to the collection
- What are VLE's good for?: resource overview
  - What is a VLE and why use it?: group activity
  - What is a VLE and why use it?: individual activity
- The design of online activities in English Studies: resource overview
  - Evaluating online activities in English Studies: group activity
  - Evaluating online activities in English Studies: individual activity
- Designing learning with new media: resource overview
  - Exploring new media and its potential in teaching: group activity
  - **Exploring new media and its potential in teaching: individual activity**  
**(\*you are here)**
  - Designing an online activity in English Studies: group activity
  - Designing an online activity in English Studies: individual activity
- Teaching with digital archives: resource overview



**4 |** This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.

This work by English Subject Centre is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License.

- Teaching with digital archives: group activity
  - Teaching with digital archives: individual activity
- Online discussion in English Studies: resource overview
  - Should online discussion be assessed?: group activity
  - Should online discussion be assessed?: individual activity
- Workshopping online: resource overview
  - Designing an online Creative Writing workshop: group activity
  - Designing an online Creative Writing workshop: individual activity



**5 |** *This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.*

*This work by English Subject Centre is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License.*