

Webcam activities

Here are some suggestions for activities which use video as a communication tool.

Video learning journal

After each lesson ask students to go home and send you a short video clip telling you what they learned and what they remember from the lesson. They could also ask you questions about things they felt were unclear or that they didn't understand. To make this work well you also need to reply to your students using the video tool that you choose.

Video dictation

Record yourself on video saying a short monologue. Tell your students they have to write down the monologue and then record themselves saying it and send it back to you.

Chain story

Record the first sentence of an imaginary story and send it to your students. Tell them they have to record your sentences and invent and record the next sentence and send it back to you. You then record the two sentences and add another and send it back to your students. You continue to repeat this process until you have built up a story together.

Video dictionary

When new vocabulary comes up in class, give words to different students and ask them to research the words and then create a video dictionary entry about the word. They can include information about different meanings, parts of speech and an example sentence. They then send the clip to you and you collect the clips together to make a video dictionary.

News report

Ask students to collect news items, either from world or local news or from around their school. They can then use the information they collect to produce their own short news report video. They can do this either alone or in groups or pairs. This works particularly well if the students have phones with video cameras as this will enable them to add video clips from around their environment.

Guess the object

Ask students to record a video of themselves describing an object. They should never say what the object is or show it, but only describe it. Collect the videos together and show them in class. The other students have to guess what the object they are describing is.

Sales pitch

Ask students to choose a normal household object and record a video of themselves describing the useful properties of the object and attempting to sell it. They can show the object as they describe it and even invent a price. Collect together the videos and then show them in class. Give students a budget and they can watch and decide which objects they would like to spend their money on.

Video interviews

Try to arrange a time for an interview with someone from outside of the class. This could be with another teacher or an English speaking friend. Tell your students that they are going to interview the person and to prepare some questions. Use one of the live video conferencing technologies so that your students can interview the person in class (from wherever they are).

These ideas were originally published on: [20 WebCam Activities for EFL ESL Students](http://nikpeachey.blogspot.it/2009/07/20-webcam-activities-for-efl-esl.html)
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