



BLOOMSBURY INTERNATIONAL

Using mobile technology in the classroom



Mobile technology

has transformed the way we communicate with each other. It's also changed the way we socialise and the way we buy things. Everything is available to us at the touch of a button.



So why do we not use it in the classroom? Why do teachers insist on making you switch your phone off during the lesson? How can you use your phone more effectively?

Teachers are usually happy for you to use your mobile device if you are using it to help you with learning English in and outside the classroom. However, they are not happy when you are playing Candy Crush or are on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter.

There are a lot of things that you can do with mobile technology to enhance your learning. Here are some ideas taken from the British Council website which can help you.

Cameras and microphones

SMART targets are targets which are: Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-based. Don't just say that you want to "speak better English" or that you want to "get a 6.5 in your IELTS exam", but mention a specific part of the English language that you want to improve, something that you can measure so that you know when you've achieved that target, something realistic and attainable, something relevant or useful for you as an individual and then set a time in which you want to achieve it.



You can use the camera or the microphone to record language around you in and outside the classroom. You can take photos of street signs, menus, advertisements and any other examples of written English that you see around you.



You can also take photos of when English is misused or when people make mistakes with spelling or punctuation. This can be shared in class with you teacher and other students.

The camera and the microphone are also good for recording yourself, your friends and teacher (but remember to ask for permission first). It is a good way to go back and listen again to what has been said, and it also helps with pronunciation. You can record conversations with native speakers and replay them for clarification and listening practice. You can record your own personal diary about what you do every day or what you did last weekend. You can share your videos with your classmates. you.

Apps

There are a lot of apps that can help you learn English. You can try them all and find one that suits you. Apps add variety to the classroom and can support your learning in another form. Here are some you can try :



Site: www.fluentu.com

iPhone: FluentU on the AppStore

Android: FluentU on Google Play

Site: www.translate.google.com

iPhone: Google Translate on the AppStore

Android: Google Translate on Google Play

For listening practice

Site: www.esl.culips.com

iPhone: English Podcasts on the AppStore

Android: English Podcasts on Google Play

For games

Site: www.zynga.com/games/words-friends

iPhone: Words With Friends on the AppStore

Android: Words With Friends on Google Play

Site: www.studycat.net

iPhone: Fun English on the AppStore

Android: Fun English on Google Play

For grammar

LearnEnglish Grammar (UK ed)

For vocabulary

Memrise

Flashcardlet by Quizlet

**Please remember that you may have to pay for some Apps.*