

MODULE 2 - TOPIC 2.5: SHARING MATERIAL

This session aims to:

- Share tools for sharing educational content online.
- Deem the best sharing tool according to the size & type of learning material.
- Advice on the most efficient online websites to reach for information.

As language teachers, you might want to share materials with your students. How do you go about that? It is not always easy to share content. Different types of content require different sharing tools. It is always possible to share a folder through Facebook or email, but what if this folder is too big to be shared through these applications?

Sharing content online can benefit learners in multiple ways. Additionally, the more you share the content the better and more quality it can be. Discussing the topic with learners with different perspectives can lead to high-quality results and improve the content.

Sharing learning materials not only allows both teachers and learners to expand their skills and competencies, but also to raise a dialogue, build relationships, interact, and exchange ideas.

With technology being as advanced as it is, it is easier than ever to exchange all sorts of exciting and valuable information online. As TBLT practice is based on “communicative approaches”, sharing content can boost learners’ skills. The more valuable the content is, the more people will be willing to engage other people in the learning process.

When you give content to other people, you are strengthening your relationships with them. The more you give them, the more they will understand your trustworthiness and credibility. Your interactions either online or offline are successful because the relationships that you exchange with other people are at the heart of that success. There are many different reasons why people have a need to exchange information and the approach that they use when sharing. Additionally, sharing content can work in both ways, as learners expand their knowledge and skills, and teachers create or adjust content according to the learners’ needs and make it as appealing to the group as possible.

Interesting tools to share content online are Google Drive, WeTransfer, and Dropbox. Of course, you can share content with students using Facebook, Skype, or other forms of social media, but choosing this path is not always trustworthy. For instance, there are fake profiles, spam files and viruses, access tokens and third-party apps or frauds that are possible. Other users could also invade your privacy, or discriminations in chat groups could happen.

It is up to you to choose the best sharing tools according to the activity you want to complete.

To “communicate” content also depends on the dynamic of the group and the tools needed. Such proposed tools like Google Drive, WeTransfer, Dropbox offer a free space to work on, so it is accessible to everyone.