Communicative Approach and Task-Based Teaching Online

This is the fourth 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, October 11 http://myenglishonline.wiziq.com/online-class/1422488-communicative-approach-and-task-based-teaching-online

The communicative approach is based on the idea that learning language successfully comes through having to communicate real meaning. The teacher sets up a situation that students are likely to encounter in real life. The focus of language instruction is on authentic interactions, real materials and meaningful activities.

Extra reading:

- A Task-based approach by Richard Frost
- Criteria for identifying tasks for TBL by Jane Willis
- Six types of tasks for TBL by Jane Willis
- Wikipedia entry for Task-based language learning
- Tinkering with tasks knows no bounds: ESL Teachers' Adaptations of Task-Based Language-Teaching by John L. Plews and Kangxian Zhao
- Task-based speaking by Richard Frost
- Watch Taking learners to task! Successful task-based language teaching by Monika Altenreiter
- Communicative Language Teaching Today by Jack C. Richards

F2For Online?

Task-based teaching is not face-to-face option only. Your learners can complete language tasks online: before your class, after your class or even in class, if you let them use their mobile devices. There are several Web 2.0 tools that enable you to have an online meeting room to create webinars, give tutoring, have discussions, forums, collaboration projects and share files and information in **REAL TIME**.

Vyew.com Features:

- ✓ whiteboarding
- ✓ drawing tools
- ✓ video conferencing
- ✓ screen sharing
- ✓ voice-over-IP
- ✓ voice-notes
- ✓ embedded comments
- ✓ text chat
- ✓ track and log activity
- ✓ user permission control
- ✓ synchronous and asynchronous
- ✓ Cross-platform (PC, Mac, Linux)
- ✓ online (no installations needed)
- ✓ useful plug-ins (mp3, video, graphing calculator, quiz/poll generator)
- ✓ **FREE!**

Visit our Vyew Room **www.vyew.com/356242/Online_Task-Based_Activities** and explore our suggested task-based activities.

Feel free to leave comments, draw, leave voice messages… !

Language Task	Description	Language skills	CLB level	Vyew Features
Looking for an apartment	Look through the rental advertisements, discuss possible variants with your roommate and agree on the best variant for you	reading (read ads) writing (take notes) listening and speaking (discuss options with a partner)	CLB 4+: learner gets the overall meaning; identifies type and purpose of the text; finds key information and specific details; compares simple information	upload images/upload webpage, drawing tools, sticky notes, comments, voice/video chat
Leave a voice message	Read a wedding invitation, record a voice message (accept or decline the invitation)	reading (read the invitation) speaking (leave a voice message)	CLB 4+: learner understands moderately complex public social messages; accepts or declines invitations; leaves short simple voice mail messages	upload images, voice comments

Making a shopping list	Watch and discuss video recipes, agree on the Thanksgiving dinner menu, and make a shopping list	listening (watch video recipes, listen to a partner) speaking (discuss, make suggestions) writing (make a shopping list) reading (read notes in the video)	CLB 5+: authentic speech (normal rate), not face-to-face (recorded)	Upload video, sticky notes, voice/video chat
Making appointments	Schedule your meetings for the upcoming month	speaking and listening (discuss a possible date) writing (take notes)	CLB 3+: learner understands specific details, asks and responds to simple questions	upload images, drawing tools, sticky notes, voice/video chat
Writing a cover letter	Read a job posting, brainstorm areas of expertise related to the position, write a cover letter	reading (read a posting) writing (make notes, write a cover letter)	CLB 7+: context of educational and work-related life experience	drawing tools, upload webpage, sticky notes
Space planning	Plan the layout of your room with your roommate	speaking and listening (discuss with a partner) writing (take notes)	CLB 3+: learner gives simple, common, routine instructions related to everyday activities.	upload images, drawing tools, VoiP, sticky notes, comments
Initiating small talk	Initiate small talk with a stranger in a given situation	speaking and listening	CLB 2+: learner opens a short conversation; participates in a short, casual conversation in non-demanding context	upload images, voice/video chat
Giving directions	Agree on a place where to meet at lunch and give directions	speaking and listening writing (taking notes)	CLB 3+: learner gives short simple directions, expresses movement and location	upload images, drawing tools, voice/video chat

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

Yulia Savchuk
Volunteer e-Tutor
English Online Inc.
www.myenglishonline.ca
E-mail: yulia.tronina@gmail.com