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Confident use of technology for communication in the classroom

Rachel Logan and Andrew Field

14 March 2024 09:00-10:00 UTC

Cambridge Schools Conference, March 2024
Effective communication: from competence to confidence

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Who are we?

- Rachel Logan

School Liaison and Insight manager

Involved in the process of engaging with our Cambridge teachers. Previously an Assessment Product Manager, with a background in teaching art and design with a specialism in ceramics.

- Andrew Field

Senior Education Manager (digital innovation, teaching and learning)

Focusing on supporting Cambridge teachers with the effective use of technology. Was originally a history teacher, then a Head of ICT & Computing, as well as an Adobe Educational Leader.

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Our aims of this session

- To support you to evaluate your own levels of technology confidence
- To demonstrate practical examples of five Teaching Tools
- To facilitate a discovery task for subject-based contexts
- To collectively conclude what confident use of technology looks like in the classroom

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Your own levels of [technology] confidence

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Confidence with technology

- Pedagogy first

- What is the impact?
- What is the difference?

- What works for your learners?
- Competence to confidence?

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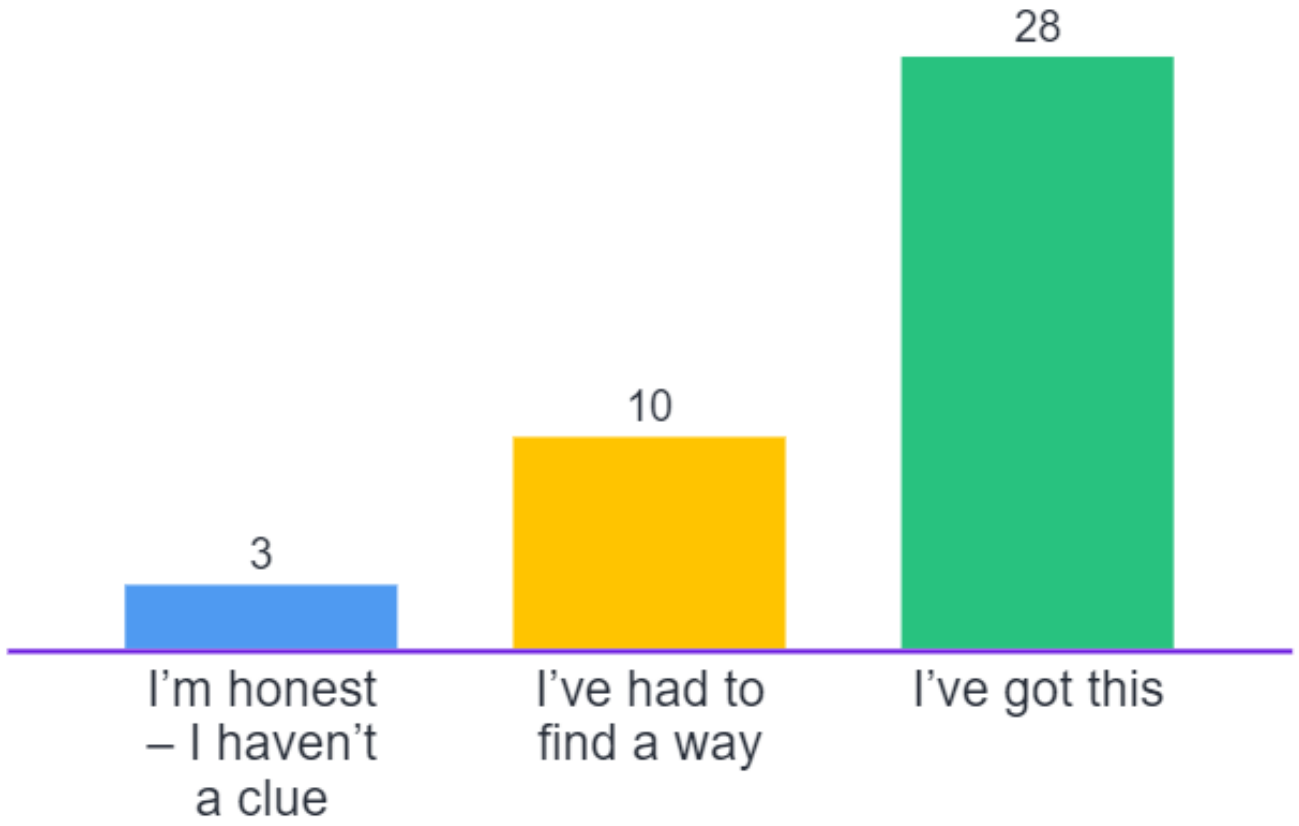
Confidence with technology?



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Evaluating your technology confidence

- How do you evaluate your own teaching & learning?
- Technology as a tool to support you?
- Technology as a tool to support the learning process?

- What is the consequential validity?
- So what?

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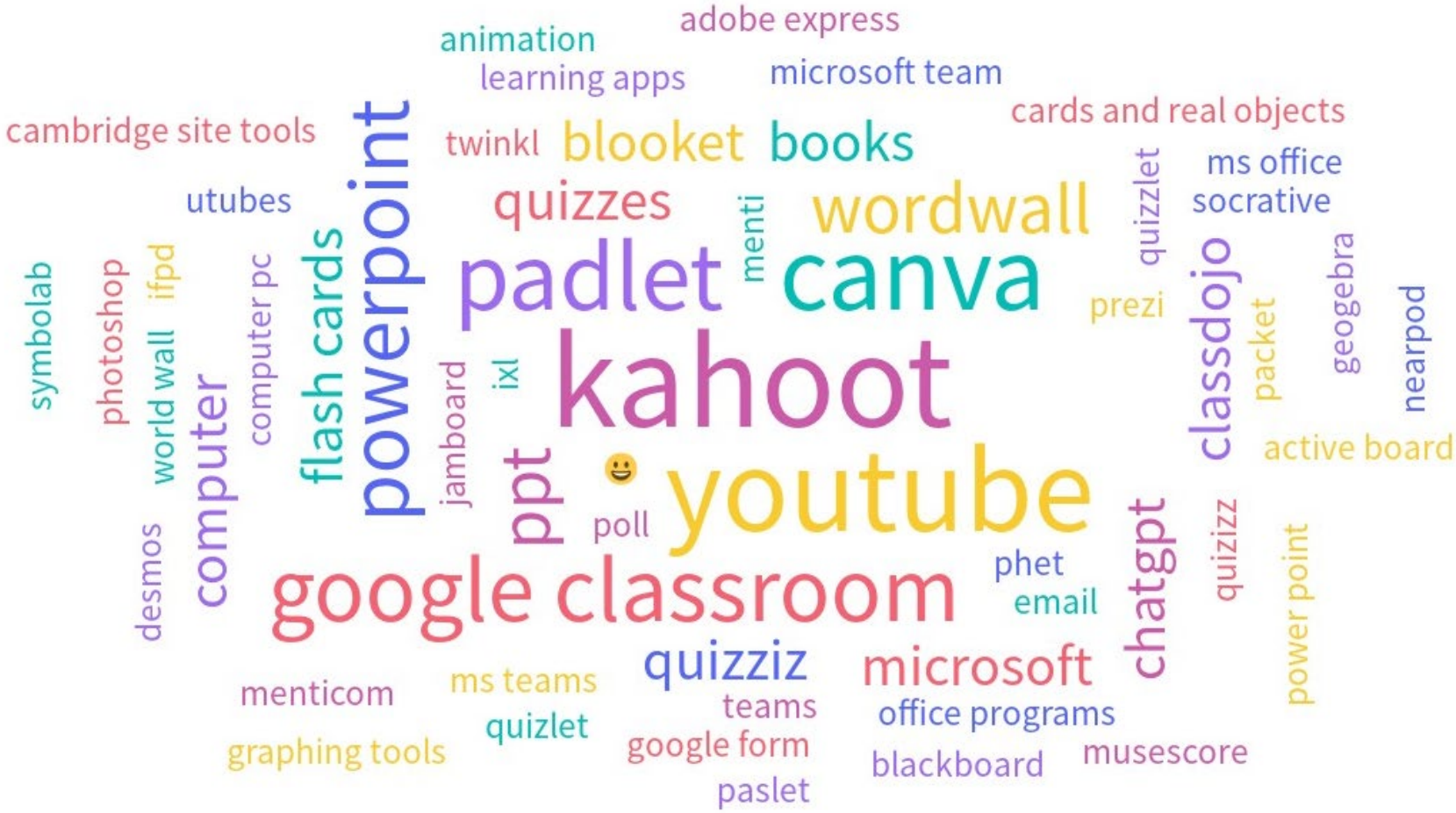
Which tools do you use?



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Teaching Tools

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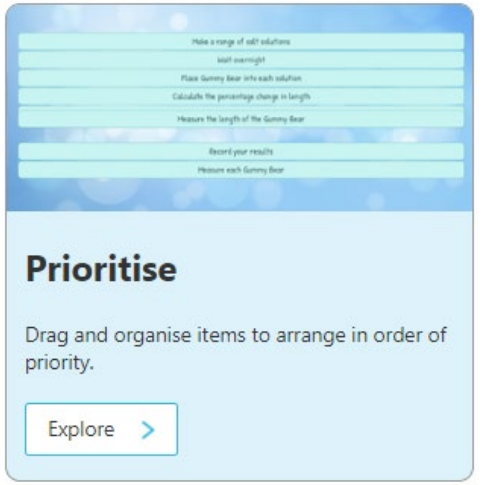
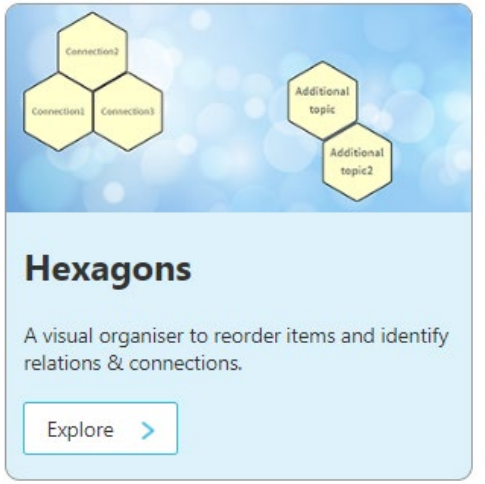
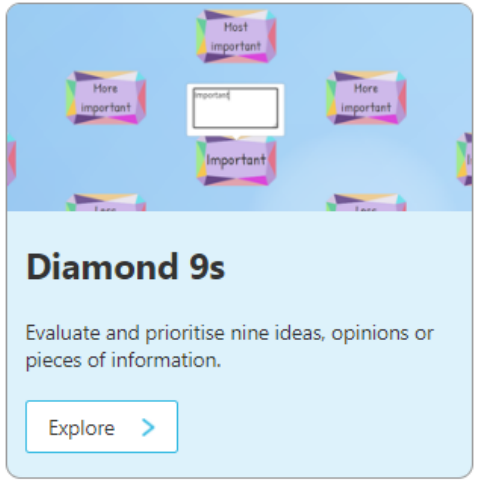
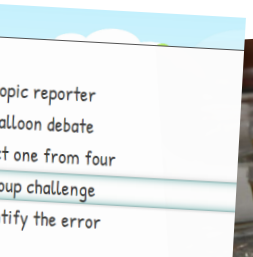
Teaching Tools

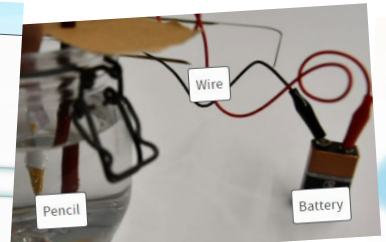
- Tools to create quick classroom activities – all in one place.
- Drag & drops, Prioritisation, Hexagons, Diamond 9s, Name selectors, Activity generators …
- Effective use of technology for teaching & learning without any technical pressures.
- Access through the **School Support hub** (part of your Cambridge programme fee - no additional cost).

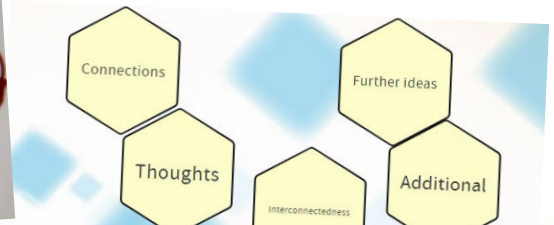












Spinner

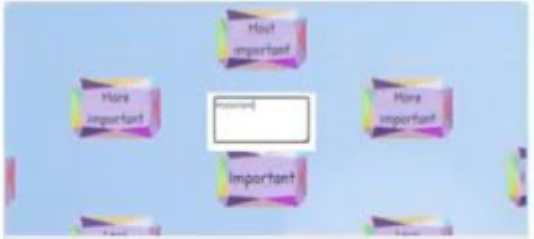
Add names or activities to appea a spinning selection wheel.

Explore >

Activity generator

Create your own collection of activities and press to watch one being selected.

Explore >



Diamond 9s

Evaluate and prioritise nine ideas, opinions or pieces of information.

Explore >

Drag and drop

Upload an image, add labels, create an immediate drag and drop activity.

Explore >

Spotlight

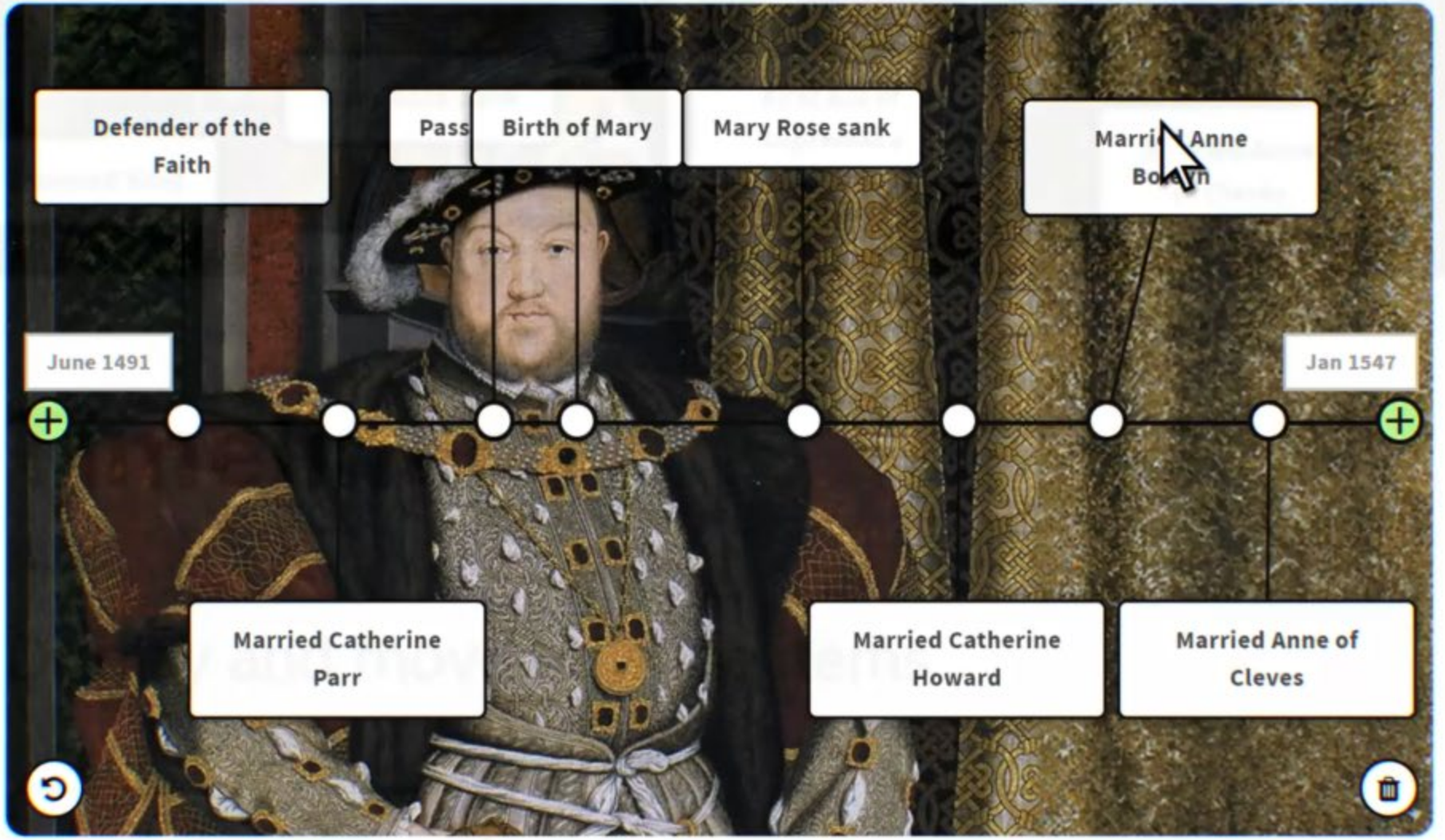
Shine a light on an image

Explore >

Drag and match

Drag answers into a question

Explore >


Defender of the Faith
Pass
Birth of Mary
Mary Rose sank
Married Anne Boleyn
June 1491
Jan 1547
Married Catherine Parr
Married Catherine Howard
Married Anne of Cleves

00:12.90

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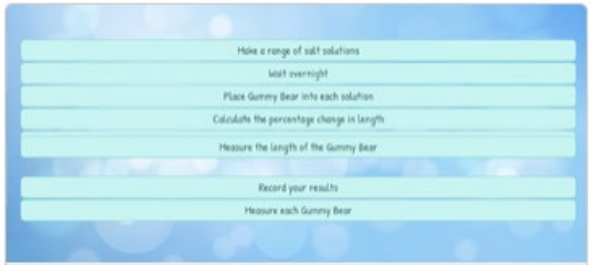
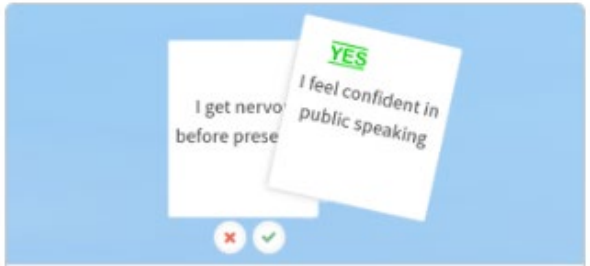
Live demo of 5 examples



Prioritise

Group maker

Image compare



Swipe

Names from a hat

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Discovery task!

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Access to Teaching Tools

- For the conference, you have a special quick link – see the chat
- Afterwards, access is through your School Support Hub login

Spinner

Add names or activities to appear on a spinning selection wheel.

Explore >

Names from a hat

Add names, choose your hat, watch as a name gets selected.

Explore >

Drag and drop

Upload an image, add labels, create an immediate drag and drop activity.

Explore >

Hexagons

A visual organiser to reorder items and identify relations & connections.

Explore >

Diamond 9s

Evaluate and prioritise nine ideas, opinions or pieces of information.

Explore >

Flip cards

Quick review - definitions, questions for whole class review.

Explore >

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Discovery task #1

You have 5 minutes

- Access your Teaching Tools
- Explore, try out, and locate 3 different types of tool:
  - Random selection
  - Image based
  - Review
- Consider how you might be able to make use of such a tool

Reflect

- ~~Consider how you might be able to make use of such a tool~~
- The wrong approach

- Remember pedagogy first, then technology
- Use these tools to
  - solve a problem
  - support an issue
  - enhance your teaching

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Discovery task #2

- Imagine the scenario – you need to pause and pivot your lesson

- What might have happened?
- What might you do?

- Is this something that your Teaching Tools help you?

You have 8 minutes

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How would you use Teaching Tools?

Magnetic words for sentence building.

I use teaching tools after lessons in order to review material, formative assessments, fun review games, and lesson openings.

For descriptive writing

I would use technology to keep my class engaged and to make sure the the information is delivered.

This works well in our revision for exam, assessment and introductory activity.

In science, I could use the group maker to randomly place students into groups for experiments

Exchange ideas, give feedback, hands on

I would use for AS/A level Math class while revising topics so question spinner could be used

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How would you use Teaching Tools?

I would use for checking the students understanding of the students, or for a quick recapitulation. I can also use it to make it more interactive class

I will be using these tools as an option to ask questions to the students. I will also use these as a tool for Prior Knowledge.

Usually in the opening of new chapter or activities. I can use it for reflection as well.

So the pedagogy first and following the syllabus and SoW, I will use Think pair, Share to engage the students for better understanding. It will also help the concrete level students and also better.

To teach, assess and have some fun with students.

To introduce topics, support topics as shown in your example, assessment, reflection. Bringing students back on topic.

Use it as an Aid for better understanding of the topic

The resources can be used as activities in the classroom to meet specific learning objectives

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How would you use Teaching Tools?

Review Reinforcement Remediation

Accounting - As summary for each topic. Eg- Timeliner - students need to know the Accounting Process/Cycle

I will use this to group students, I can use the tool shapes for teaching order of rotational symmetry. I will use arranging in chronological order etc

Using animation to explain the abstract teory

I can make use of these tools to encourage students to focus on the lesson. Inclusivity , learn and play.

In maths, we could use the flip cards to ensure learners can follow the logic to problem-solving using specific concepts

I have even used it to make professional development sessions with our teachers more fun and interactove

Using Activity Generator to suggest some brain break activities to help students refocus.

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How would you use Teaching Tools?

As a summary aft class

Apart from the whole class these tools also help in personalized teaching which is of great help for individual studentsI have been using few of the tools in my classes.

Using animation

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Confident use of technology

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Confident use of technology

- How is your teaching and learning improved?
- How do you know?

- What is the difference?
  - Competence (using technology)
  - Confidence (impactful learning)

- Are you able to identify the clear impact?

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Questions & Answers

Teaching Tools

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Names from a hat

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Drag and drop

Upload an image, add labels, create an immediate drag and drop activity.

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Hexagons

A visual organiser to reorder items and identify relations & connections.

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Diamond 9s

Evaluate and prioritise nine ideas, opinions or pieces of information.

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Flip cards

Quick review - definitions, questions for whole class review.

Explore >

Swipe

Justify your choice to swipe left or right.

Explore >

Question spinner

Randomly select a topic for a question

Explore >

Prioritise

Drag and organise items to arrange in order of priority.

Explore >

Activity generator

Create your own collection of activities and press to watch one being selected.

Explore >