



## **Edmodo and Padlet as a collaborative online tool in Enriching Writing Skills in Language Learning and Teaching**

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### **Abstract**

Language is the means of expression for social interaction. Language occupies an important place in human life for communication. A human experience is shared through language. Language learning and teaching in India has shifted its domain primarily from traditional to online learning. It offers students greater flexibility with respect to time and place as most courses are offered asynchronously. The usage of it makes every human as a technophile learner. . It represents a great way to study many fields and it boosts the level of self-motivation, creates responsibility and self-discipline of the students. This paper focuses on the use of Padlet and Edmodo- a social networking website as a collaborative ICT tool for language learning and teaching

**Keywords:** technophile, Padlet ,Edmodo, asynchronous ,ICT

### **Introduction**

Technology helps average learners to learn effectively, more interactive, with real time modalities depending on the learning style of the student. A Traditional classroom saying teach and learn bores smarter students and technology challenges towards self-directed learning by encouraging them to click and learn. Technology is a helpful tool in Foreign language classes. It is used in real life situation that incorporates in the language class. It helps the emergent learner, students with language learning disabilities and advanced child. With respect to cultural and socio-economic background, teaching effectively to different levels of ability, background, interests, learning styles is a major challenge. Technology has also been used in interdisciplinary usage such as linking science and literature.

***Education opens minds.***

***Technology connects them.***

***Online tools integrates both***

***Education and technology as one.***



## **Social Networking Sites**

Social networking sites are growing day by day. Nowadays social media plays a dominant role in the modern world that can change minds. A social networking service (also social networking site or SNS) is a platform to build social networks or social relations among people who share similar interests, activities, backgrounds or real-life connections. According to the Oxford Dictionary, a "social network" is a dedicated website or other application that enables users to communicate with each other by posting information, comments, messages, images, etc. One of the first social networking Web sites, launched in 1997, was SixDegrees.com. This site started the trend of enabling users to create personal profiles and make lists of their friends. People use social networking sites for many reasons. Some want to keep in touch with family and friends, some may use it for business or job searches. Even still others may use it for dating or just to find like-minded individuals online.

## **Padlet**

Padlet (formerly Wall wisher) is a free application to create an online bulletin board that you can use to display information for any topic. The Padlet is a very useful web tool to promote collaborative learning among our students. It's like a piece of paper, but on the Web. Padlet is a web app that lets users post notes on a digital wall. The uses for this site in the classroom are virtually endless.

Padlet is a virtual wall that allows people to express their thoughts on a common topic easily. It works like an online sheet of paper where people can post any content (e.g. images, videos, documents, text) anywhere on the page, together with anyone, from any device. This is a device-agnostic tool, available on the web but also available as both an Android and iOS app.

It Encourages creativity among students in order to create, collect ideas, images, quotes, and more in an "idea bin". Padlet is a virtual writer's journal or design notebook to collect ideas, images, and even video clips. **Padlet is a great place for gathering ideas, sharing them and modifying them later.**

## **Creating Padlet**

Go to <[www.padlet.com](http://www.padlet.com)> and create one in no time for your class and enable them to share their ideas, ask questions, participate in discussions, post messages, video and audio files etc. pertaining to any lesson taught in the class. Padlet is a better tool than other web tools for collaboration such as blog, wiki and Google drive.



Figure:1 Padlet uses

## Ways of using Padlet

### **Book Reviews:**

Padlet offers a great venue for students to share their thoughts while reading it in the classrooms. Young people can highlight favourite quotes, ask questions and discuss characters and more. Teachers take the page and present it in class to continue face-to-face discussion.

### **Topic Details:**

Padlet can help teachers in summarizing a large amount of information and present it in a visually pleasing way. Educators post in the form of text, photos, graphs and other learning tools and share the image with students.

### **"Thank You" Wall:**

Padlet is a great tool for sending a group "thank you" note. Each student can post an individual message, and the platform offers many interesting designs and other tools for personalizing the card.

### **Questions:**

Students can access a "questions" board 24/7 and anonymously post questions. The teacher can then read off and answer the questions each day.

### **Opinions:**

Educators can post a particular topic or issue, and students can post their opinions on the subject. This is a great building block for teaching students how to write opinion pieces or persuasive essays.

### **Uses**

- Classroom discussions
- To Post assignments



- tracking Grade book of their own
- For sharing and uploading Files

### Features:

- Parents can track their students' details
- To upload Classroom activity
- Student progress tracker
- Educational resource library
- Professional learning networks

### Edmodo

Edmodo makes a teacher's daily life easier by providing a safe and easy way for teachers and students to engage and collaborate for free, anytime, anywhere. It is also one of the best means of teacher-student communication.

Edmodo, also known as "Face book for school," is the premier social media and learning platform for teachers and students.

Edmodo is a global education network that helps connect all learners with the people and resources needed to reach their full potential. It allows students and teachers to stay connected via sending notes, replying to posts and checking messages and upcoming events while away from the classroom. It is used as a community building platform for our class where teachers and students share resources and interact with each others.

Edmodo is a learning platform that is more and more popular among teachers and educators. It is really amazing the regard Edmodo gained within a very short time .With over 40 million users, Edmodo is the largest, fastest growing social platform for education. Awarded the 2013 EdTech Digest Award for Best Product, Edmodo makes the idea of a paperless classroom a reality.

Edmodo is essentially an education-focused social media platform used to share messages, post documents, and form groups to collaborate. Founded in 2008 is now available in six languages, including Spanish, German and Greek.



**Figure:2 Edmodo Homepage**



**Figure: 3 Edmodo Posts**

## Uses

- Teachers bring the classroom online by giving assignments, quizzes etc to students, Edmodo users can manage their classes and consolidate all of their activities in one place. Users have unlimited options in terms of sharing digital content. Communities allow teachers to browse subjects in order to find and share information within a broad stream of content and conversations related to that topic.
- Students are benefitted by getting extra help from peers, instructors, and work for teacher reviews and get instant feedback, including teacher annotations and learn how to interact safely on online.
- Parents get the option to log in either as their children or themselves. They can review the child's work, grades and more. They also can receive updates from their child's teachers regarding missed assignments and school happenings.



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## Ways of using Edmodo

### **Role Playing**

Help students in re-enacting them through role playing activities. Create student profiles for relevant figures and integrate knowledge in action. Inject life into old curriculum and helps students develop the skills of initiative, communication, problem-solving, self-awareness, and working cooperatively in teams.

### **Language Practice**

Encourages students to practice their Foreign language skills through real life conversations. Create a co-classroom with other students from across the globe to help students learn from each other.

### **Grammar and Punctuation**

Helps students in improving their grammar and punctuation by enforcing proper usage on Edmodo. Require students to post in complete words and sentence (i.e. “you” not “u”, “I” not “i”). Teach students proper use of social media tools to help prepare them for our connected world.

### **Connect with Parents**

Helps in Sending message to students and parents in class each week to keep them updated on all of the events and achievements of your class. Provides a way for parents to reach one-on-one discussions. Keep parents up-to-date on classroom activities during the semester through parent accounts on Edmodo.

### **Conclusion**

**Edmodo and Padlet helps in giving students an enriching writing experience through. Help students tap into individualism, build self-esteem and measure how far they’ve come during the school year with excellence. Edmodo and Padlet provide students a platform for sharing their writing with teachers, peers and family.** Edmodo and Padlet helps in educating students, teachers



and parents about the digital literacy skills that all 21st-century community need. The Web 2.0 technology should never be used in the language classes just for the sake of novelty. It should be used to develop purposeful interaction in the language classroom.

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