

Title of Session: Blogstreams Salon
Moderator: Bee Dieu
Title of File: 20070902blogstreams
Date: September 2, 2007

Room: Blogstreams Salon Group

BeeD: in the Actions menu at the top on the right

BeeD: and also make the font bigger

BjB hugs Bee...did anyone announce?

BeeD hugs BJ

BeeD: we have started :-)

DelvaniGst9: Thanks for the tip Bee, it worked!

BeeD: I had some pb in login in with Firefox and Flock

BeeD: but managed with Safari

CenniaGst6: Now it's much better

DelvaniGst9: Definitely!

BeeD: The detached window and the larger font work wonders :-)

AnaF smiles

BeeD: OK...so Kimberley...do you want to start?

BeeD: Where do you teach and what is your experience/interest in blogs/webpublishing?

KimberlyBa: I am a student teacher at the University of Houston and am teaching pre-k

KimberlyBa: I don't know much about blogs, or web publishing

KimberlyBa: I must do this for a technology class

BeeD: I teach English as a Foreign Language (EFL) at the Franco-Brazilian school in Sao Paulo, Brazil and my stds have been publishing online for some time now

KimberlyBa: I also speak Spanish

BeeD: I teach at a secondary school (ages 14 to 18)

JuvenilGst8: How motivated do you feel about your job?

KimberlyBa: me?

BeeD: Juvenil..would you mind introducing yourself?

KimberlyBa: I am very excited about teaching the young ones!

JuvenilGst8: I'm a teacher at Cultura Inglesa Aracaju

BeeD: What is the Cultura Inglesa and who are your students?

LeonardoD: My name is Leonardo, I'm 26 and I'm a teacher at Cultura Inglesa Aracaju

IdambroGst5: I work with kids, teens and adults at Cultura Inglesa Aracaju. I was introduced to blogs recently

LeonardoD: I teach teenagers and adults, and I've been teaching for 7 years

CenniaGst6: I'm Cennia, and I also work at Cultura Inglesa Aracaju. Cultura Inglesa is an English language school.

BeeD: Thank you Cennia

JuvenilGst8: Cultura Inglesa is a Language school and I teach students at all ages. I've been teaching at cultura for 19 years.

DelvaniGst9: Hi. My name is Delvania and I've been teaching English at different Cultura Inglesa schools in Brazil. I'm starting working with blogs.

MarcioGst7: I'm Marcio, 18, and I am a Student teacher at Cultura Inglesa

AnaF: We are all part of an online course which just finished... and we are here to enjoy the monthly chat and celebrate ! All from Brazil, most of us in the NE, in Sergipe (state in NE Brazil).. Aracaju is the capital of Sergipe. I work as academic supervisor at Cultura and was the tutor for the Going Webby course

BeeD: Where have you taught Delvani?

BeeD: Beyza?

CenniaGst6: I have just finished the Going Webby Course

DelvaniGst9: At Cultura Inglesa in Salvador, Aracaju, Porto Alegre and Cuiabá....

BeyzaY: sorry I was multitasking

MauraGst10 joined the room.

BeeD: It's ok Beyza..we are introducing ourselves

BeeD: Welcome Maura

DelvaniGst9: Great opportunity to learn about cultural differences in Brazil...

CenniaGst6: Hi, Maura!

IdambroGst5: Hi Maura!

MauraGst10: Hi everyone!

BeyzaY: I'm Beyza from Turkey. I'm an instructor at a foundation university for two years

DelvaniGst9: Welcome Maura!

AnaF: [Hi Maura! Nice to see you around !]

BeyzaY: I've been teaching for almost 3 years

BeeD: what is your context Beyza?

BeyzaY: I'm not very experienced about blogging and webpublishing but I really learned a lot from Webheads

BeyzaY: university prep school

BeeD: school, university or language school?

BeeD: ok

BeyzaY: www.bahcesehir.edu.tr

BeyzaY: is the uni I work for

BeeD: So we have about 8 teachers from a language school, one student teacher, one university prep school, one secondary school teacher and one academic coordinator

DelvaniGst9: Great isn't it?

BeeD: it is Delvani..it's great to compare our experience

AnaF: good mix!

BeyzaY: yeah we have a diverse group

BeeD: and our expectations

BeeD: how do you envisage technology in general? what experience have you had? was it positive or negative and why?

KimberlyBa: Technology has made teaching the young ones easier because they are more interested in it and it keeps their attention better.

BeyzaY: I only used blogs with my sts and understood they became much more productive and creative.

BeeD: what have you used Kimberly?

DelvaniGst9: I have been using teaching sites in the classroom and also the smart board, I think it makes learning languages more dynamic and appealing.

KimberlyBa: power point with the second graders.

BeeD: right

BeyzaY: I'm planning to integrate wikis into my lessons next term

CenniaGst6: Students are fascinated with these smart boards

KimberlyBa: We have smart boards at my school too, but I have never used them.

BeyzaY: they re great!

CenniaGst6: Kim, they're great

IdambroGst5: I recently introduced my students to quia on an activity I prepared based on the course. It was very positive. I'm planning together with other teachers to work on blogs...

KimberlyBa: Yes, I have heard, I would love to learn how to use them.

DelvaniGst9: The projects students are doing are great! We just give them guidelines and they produce very nice material to present to their mates and other groups.

BeeD: so from what I understand...technology has been used inside your classroom and to complement or expand your material, right?

KimberlyBa: yes

IdambroGst5: yes

CenniaGst6: yes

DelvaniGst9: Quia is a very interesting pedagogical tool, I agree with you Bel

BeyzaY: yep

LeonardoD: I think technology is great. And it's even greater if you know how to apply it to your classes.

LeonardoD: I have used the e-board, powerpoint presentation, discussion forums, and I'm developing an

LeonardoD: activity page for one of my groups on QUIA.

AnaF: this is big question. I think of technology as the great enabler, in terms of what we can do (teachers and learners) and who we can reach (I am now thinking of teacher association members in far off places)

BeeD: What does ICT mean for you? What does it stand for?

BeeD waves to Jeff

DelvaniGst9: I think you are right Ana, teachers can develop a lot in the ELT communities and discussion forums

BeyzaY: webtools provide more real contexts than the old cds used to teach English.

CenniaGst6: is it related to technology?

BeeD: it is :-)

BeyzaY: ?

BeeD: quizzing you..hehehe

IdambroGst5: yes Beyza. I agree with you

CenniaGst6: C for computer?

BeeD: cold :-)

KimberlyBa: International cultural technology?

BeeD: Cennia...you got the T and so did Kimberly

IdambroGst5: Class can be much less book centered with this tool

AnaF: communication

CenniaGst6: c for communication?

BeeD: YES!

BeeD: and I?

DelvaniGst9: As for me, technology enlarge our opportunities as teachers and make things so interesting...there's a lot to learn about the use of tech in the classroom.

BeeD: Information

CenniaGst6: good

BeeD: Information and Communication Technology

BeyzaY: it broadens our and our sts' horizons

BeeD: how much communication have you been encouraging through technology?

JuvenilGst8: We usually Think about young learners when the topic is technology. How the middle-aged students feel about it?

BeeD: as teachers of a foreign language...this is our key interest, isn't it?

DelvaniGst9: We are not bounded to the classroom anymore. We can share opinions with the world...

MauraGst10: good question Juve

CenniaGst6: my students used to feel afraid, Juve

IdambroGst5: I think it's a challenge for middle-aged students...

BeeD: if you use technology as a provider of information only

BeyzaY: especially if they re computer illiterate

BeeD: you reduce the Web and all out there...to a book...and to a grammar exercise book

BeyzaY: so u have to include lots of tutorials in your blogs

BeeD: what is to be computer illiterate?

BeyzaY: good question

BeeD: learners must have a good reason to go online and participate

BeeD: and the best reason is their own interest

CenniaGst6: Is it a person who doesn't know anything about it?

BeyzaY: not being able to use basic features of computers

DelvaniGst9: I see eye to eye with you Bee.

BeeD: there are different levels of literacy

BeyzaY: yeah

KimberlyBa: not knowing how to get around.

BeeD: this is technical literacy

BeeD: but easy to teach

CenniaGst6: I had students who didn't know how to use the mouse

BeeD: then there is functional literacy

BeeD: knowing which tool to use for the right function and desired outcome

BeyzaY: yeah

CenniaGst6: Bee where can I read more about this literacy thing?

BeyzaY: they need tutorials in that case

BeeD: they need mostly experience in handling the tools

BeeD: and being exposed to tutors, peers and other users of the Web

BeeD: let me give you an address Cennia

CenniaGst6: thanks, Bee!

JuvenilGst8: I think that a beginner student who can't use computers might feel really frightened as he/she has to face two challenges.

BjB nods to Juv. I don't think that feeling is limited to beginner students!

AnaF: there's this very basic BBC site <http://www.bbc.co.uk/computertutor/computertutorone/index.shtml> which I have used years ago with a private student

BeyzaY: when I first started class blogs I had assumed they knew almost everything about computers

BeyzaY: so I didn't put any tutorials to our class blog

BeyzaY: as a result my sts ate my office hours

BeyzaY smiles

AnaF smiles

BeyzaY: then we had a two tutorials with problematic sts

BeeD: Cennia..you asked me for material on Multiliteracies

BeeD: if you google it

BeeD: you will find a lot

BeeD: I recommend the paper by the New London Group

CenniaGst6: I will do it. Thanks

BeeD: and also an article by Vance Stevens

BeeD: <http://tesl-ej.org/ej34/int.html>

BeeD: My students have been blogging for 4 years now

BeeD: but each year I find something else they can learn with it

KimberlyBa: I just started blogging at the University level

BeeD: it's a great tool to build your e-portfolio

JuvenilGst8: Have you taught the same group of students?

BeeD: and document the reflection on your learning process

BeeD: and also establish your presence online

DelvaniGst9: I think blogs are powerful tools!

BeeD: yes...very powerful Delvani

BeyzaY: how can I find an example e portfolio?

BeeD: I have mine

BeeD: personal

BeyzaY smiles

MauraGst10: Del, have you used blogs with your sts?

BeeD: <http://beewebhead.net>

BeeD: and a class blog

CenniaGst6: I started blogging about two weeks ago....and it's nice....but I'm still getting used to them

BeeD: <http://lycee.wordpress.com>

BeeD: it takes some time

BeeD: to get used to the technical part

CenniaGst6: I used wordpress

BeyzaY: yeah process is more important

BeeD: and then to connect to other teachers

BeeD: and show your learners

BeeD: how to connect to people who share the same interests as they do

BeeD: I try not to use blogs for classroom assignments

BeeD: Wordpress is nice

CenniaGst6: why not?

BeeD: because it allows you to make posts and pages

DelvaniGst9: I have used with a teen group some years ago and it worked fine, SS used to write their feelings and impressions about learning English and they used to give tips to each other...Now I'm starting something more guided....

BeyzaY: what makes it different?

BeyzaY: I mean wordpress?

CenniaGst6: wordpress is very easy to use

DelvaniGst9: what about you Maura?

BeyzaY: I use blogger

CenniaGst6: self explanatory

BeeD: wordpress is a mini content management system tool...it allows you to make posts, which belong to the blog..they are chronologically updated

BeeD: and it also allows you to have pages

BeeD: which are static

BeyzaY: and I'm really confused about RSS feeds

BeeD: so in my personal blog I use the static pages for CV or info about me and posts for my impressions and comments

BeeD: the stds use the static pages for their homework and the posts for their own free writing

BeeD: if you check the two addresses I gave you above

BeeD: you will see the difference

BeyzaY: I can't access the lycee page

BeeD: check whether it is correctly spelt

BeeD: <http://lycee.wordpress.com>

BeyzaY: it seems it's about my connection

BeeD: it opened here without pb

MauraGst10: I cannot access too

BeyzaY: I'll have a look when I'm in my office

BeyzaY: Is this our last meeting Bee?

BeeD: last?

BjB: Bee meets on the first Sunday of each month, Beyza

BeyzaY: sb dais it was the lasts meeting in the beginning of the session

BeeD: I usually hold a session at Blogstreams once a month

BeyzaY: I know that's why I was surprised

BeeD: oh..this is for the Brazilian group Beyza

BeyzaY: sorry

BeeD: they are following a workshop with Ana

BeeD: and this is the last event

BeeD: but you are all welcome to continue

BeyzaY: I c

BeyzaY: I need to go it's midnight here

BeeD: and drop in whenever you wish

BeyzaY: it was very nice to meet u all

BeeD: Tapped in has a lot of great professional development sessions

BeyzaY: yeah

IdambroGst5: Your blog is lovely! Did you take the pictures?

AnaF: we finished an online course and decided to celebrate with a final chat with Bee

BeeD: on different topics

BeeD: Yes, Idambro

BeyzaY: have a nice session. Cya soon Bee:)

BeeD: I love photographing

AnaF: though I hope some will become regulars :)

BeeD: it was great having you

BeeD: and I hope we continue meeting online Beyza

KimberlyBa: thank you! I learned a lot!

BeeD: feel free to explore the Blogstreams Salon room

BeeD: there is a lot of material here

BeeD: and recorded interviews

BeeD: with expert bloggers

BeeD: so when you have a little time

BeeD: have a go

IdambroGst5: It was nice to see you here Beyza!

BeyzaY: and lots of links

BeeD: and drop me a line if you have any doubts

BeeD: or need anything

BjB: thanks, Bee!

AnaF: bye Beyza and good luck with your projects

BeeD: If you click on the page Classes in my class blog

BeeD: you will find the different classes I am teaching this year

BeeD: and also an archive from last year

BeeD: you can always ask your students to leave a comment on my stds blogs

BeeD: they will be happy

BeeD: to start a conversation

BeeD: Here is the link to the New London Group paper Cennia

BeeD:

http://wwwstatic.kern.org/filer/blogWrite44ManilaWebsite/paul/articles/A_Pedagogy_of_Multiliteracies_Designing_Social_Futures.htm

DelvaniGst9: Sorry, I need to leave...many thanks Bee and see you around moodlemates!
Great to be with you again!

MauraGst10: Bye Del

DelvaniGst9: Ana, Definitely!

BeeD: and here a short url

BeeD: <http://tinyurl.com/2qdob2>

AnaF: bye del!

BeeD: See you Del

BeeD: Any questions?

AnaF: certificates coming you way anytime now evryone!

CenniaGst6: Bee, I took a look on the article right now, I will read it.

JuvenilGst8: See you Del.

CenniaGst6: Bye Del

Maura Gst10: Bye everyone! It was very nice to be here with you!

BeeD: Thank you for coming

AnaF: bye Maura, and have a great holiday!

BeeD: and hope to see you around

AnaF: thank *you* Bee!

IdambroGst5: Bye Maura!

MauraGst10: Thanks Ana! Please, call me if you need anything, ok?

MauraGst10: Bye, bye!

JuvenilGst8: Maura I hope you enjoy every moment of your holiday.

AnaF: and thanks everyone .. for making it here and for your participation in the GW course

MauraGst10: Thanks Juve!

MarcioGst7: Thank you all

AnaF: thanks Maura!

BeeD: Nice group

AnaF: thanks Bee

IdambroGst5: Bee, I loved your blog and I'll do my best to learn as much as I can. Thanks for your help.

LeonardoD: Guys, I have to go now.

LeonardoD: I'd like to say that I really appreciated this course and all the contributions given by each one of you.

AnaF: thanks Leo!

LeonardoD: I'm looking forward to having another online course as good as this one

BeeD: See you around..I have to go as well

BeeD: and hang around Tappedin

BeeD: there are a lot of good things happening here

BeeD: ciao4now

MarcioGst7: thanks for the nice time