

From blended to mobile: apps in language learning

Handout

Apps

Area	App	Description	Practical ideas
Grammar	Calendar app	Time management tool	Use the students' own diary for practising the present continuous as future
	Stocks	Stock market reports	Displays market information. Good for practising the language of trends; simple past / present perfect
	The Big Picture	Based on 'Where's Wally' concept	Great game-like app for practising (among other things) present continuous; adjectives
	Visual Grammar	New app to accompany Jim Scrivener's book	Grammar practice for elementary students. Awesome graphics.
Vocabulary	Quizlet	Vocabulary practice app	Good for practising new words. Students can input definitions and /or a translation. Vocabulary can be recycled in various ways, such as mix & match exercises
Listening	TED	Conference presentations	Students can download a presentation and listen to it off-line, using the pause button at will
	Podcasts	Download / listen to podcasts	Recommended: the BBC news bulletins
Reading	Flipboard	Personalised magazine	Displays your Facebook and Twitter streams
	Mind Tools	Business articles	Short, easy-to-read articles; like Flipboard, can encourage extensive reading
	IELTS	Exam practice app from Macmillan	Skimming – words in a text made to disappear at various speeds – slow, medium or fast
Speaking	Prezi viewer	Presentation software	Prezi is presentation software which zooms in on each slide. Students can practise off-line
	Google Voice Search	Search engine using spoken input	Search using the Google search engine by speaking your search criteria instead of typing it
	QR code reader	Uses phone's camera to decode a QR code	QR codes are scannable barcodes. Can be used by the teacher to create 'treasure hunts'
	Screen Chomp	Screen capture app: make screen recordings	Record your voice / annotate a picture using the pen tools. Transforms the tablet into a mini interactive whiteboard
	Simple Mind+	Mind map creation software	Good for brainstorming topics
Writing	Evernote	Notes organiser	Allows students to share notes with others using the app
	Dragon Dictation	Speech to text software	Tap on the 'Record' symbol and speak into the microphone. The app will display what you have said as text
Integrated skills	Escape from Pizza palace	Business Maze from Richmond's @work series	Students work through a story. They have to make various choices. If they make a bad decision, they have to start the chapter again. They can go back to a previous section.
Pronunciation	Sounds	Phonemic chart	First app to win an ELTon; from Macmillan. Includes exercises.

For more on apps: <http://the-round.com/resource/apptivities-for-business-english/>

Visit: <http://www.smashwords.com/>

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