

Using an ePortfolio for assessment and reflection

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Outline

- **What is an ePortfolio?**
- **Reasons to use an ePortfolio for assessment and reflection**
- **A sample assessment rubric**
- **A few examples of using ePortfolios for assessment and reflection**

What is an ePortfolio?

- **Product:** “An e-portfolio is the product, created by the learner, a collection of digital artefacts articulating experiences ...”
- **Process:** “... lie rich and complex processes of planning, synthesising, sharing, discussing, reflecting, giving, receiving and responding to feedback.”

Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC)

Source: <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/media/documents/publications/effectivepracticeportfolios.pdf>

Reasons to use ePortfolio for assessment and reflection

- Fuller picture of student progress and achievement (**Product**)
- More active student involvement in the process of selection, organization, presentation and self-reflection (**Process**)
- Facilitate teacher and peer feedback (**Process**)

A sample assessment rubric

Category	Description
1. Selection of Artifacts	How clear are the artifacts related to the purpose of the ePortfolio?
2. Reflections	How clear do the reflections describe growth, achievement and future plans?
3. Use of Multimedia	Can the multimedia files enhance understanding of concepts, ideas and relationships?
4. Ease of Navigation	Are the navigation links clearly organized and easy to locate artifacts?
5. Layout and Text Elements	Is the ePortfolio easy to read in terms of font size and color?
6. Captions	Are the artifacts accompanied by a caption that clearly explains the importance of the item including title, author and date?
7. Documentation & Copyright	Do the uploaded files follow copyright guidance with accurate citation?
8. Writing Mechanics	Are there any errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation and spelling?

Source: <http://www2.uwstout.edu/content/profdev/rubrics/eportfoliorubric.html>

Example 1:

Evidence of learning plan

by [REDACTED]

My Learning Plan

My Learning Plan – Year One, Semester Two
<p>What do you want to improve?</p> <p>I want to improve the structure of my writing, to tell the detail, I want to pick up the skills to use proper connecting words and pronouns, which will contribute much to the fluency of my writing.</p>
<p>Why do you want to improve this aspect of English?</p> <p>To be frank, before the exchange program, little did we received any systematic training about how to write an essay that flows well, nor did our English teacher ever offered any comment about my bad writing. Until a classmate who read my essay told me that he just think that every sentence I write didn't relate to each other did I realize that I must pay enough attention to my writing.</p>
<p>What activities will you use in order to improve on this area of English?</p> <p>1) I plan to read "China Daily" one copy per week, but it is hard for me to cover every page of it, so I will read about 4 to 5 short essays to learn how the writer organize the article. Specially, I will sort out the connecting words he used and learn how to apply them to the article.</p> <p>2) Recently, I noticed that the WAP is running for students who want to improve their writing, so I will turn to WAP every two weeks for help.</p> <p>3) I have bought a book focused on writing, and my goal is to read the book carefully, even I don't how much it will help.</p>
<p>How long will you spend on this learning goal?</p> <p>Just as our teacher said, it is the quality that matters. However, the whole process will not move on without investing enough time. Thus, after taking quality into consideration, I will spend 40 minutes everyday on my writing.</p>

Edited version of my learning plan

My Learning Plan – Year One, Semester Two
<p>What do you want to improve?</p> <p>I want to pick up the skills to use proper connecting words and pronouns, which will contribute much to the fluency of my writing.</p>
<p>Why do you want to improve this aspect of English?</p> <p>To be frank, before the exchange program, little did we received any systematic training about how to write an essay that flows well, nor did our English teacher ever offered any comment about my bad writing. Until a classmate who read my essay told me that he just think that every sentence I write didn't relate to each other did I realize that I must pay enough attention to my writing.</p>
<p>What activities will you use in order to improve on this area of English?</p> <p>1) I will use internet to help me, especially some online exercise that can teach me how to use proper words to connect sentences. Here is a website professor told me which I think is of help "http://www.uefap.com/", and I can also input "academic writing pronouns exercise" in Google to find useful website.</p> <p>2) Recently, I noticed that the WAP is running for students who want to improve their writing, so I will turn to WAP every two weeks for help.</p> <p>3) I have bought a book focused on writing, and my goal is to read the book carefully, even I don't how much it will help.</p>
<p>How long will you spend on this learning goal?</p> <p>Just as our teacher said, it is the quality that matters. However, the whole process will not move on without investing enough time. Thus, after taking quality into consideration, I will spend 40 minutes every time about 3 times a week, and I am going to keep track with the time I accentually input.</p>

Example 2:

Evidence of how to achieve the learning goal

by [REDACTED]

My Learning Plan

My Learning Plan 2013

What:

I want to improve my speaking ability, especially in intonation and pronunciation.

Why:

I always feel nervous when speaking English in public as I think my pronunciation and intonation are very weird. To express ideas and to simultaneously speak English in correct grammar is also a difficult task for me. On the other hand, English is also the fundamental language for communicating with foreign students, doing presentation or interviews. Therefore, I plan to improve my speaking ability.

How:

1. I plan to talk on topics that I found interesting, record it and listen to the intonation, mistakes or pronunciation problems. I plan to visit the drop-in centre, ask the tutors to watch my videos and see if there are problems about intonation or organisation.
2. I plan to visit the English Cafe and chat with students and tutors.
3. I plan to watch sitcoms or interviews. I will listen to the phrases, imitate the intonation and record it.

How much:

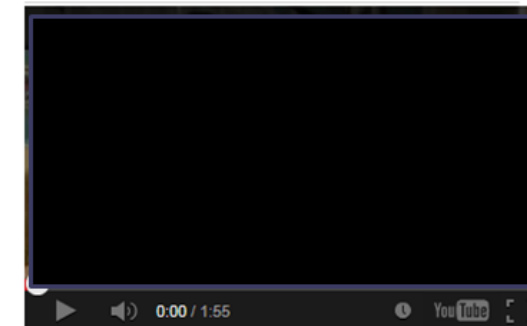
I will spend approximately an hour each time to do the activities every two weeks.

Expectation:

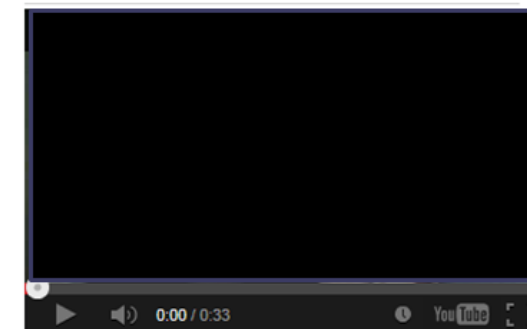
I want to be able to confidently speak English in a more fluent, organised way in correct grammar and pronunciation.

Learning Activity Record 1
What material(s) / resource(s) did you use?
Emmy Awards - Modern Family - Lily is a Monster (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHdAjbCKIQM)
What did you do with it / them?
I wrote down the phrases and record them.
How much time did you spend on the activities?
30 mins
How well did the activities work? Did you learn anything? Were they interesting? Why were they (or weren't they) successful? Is there anything you want to do differently with these activities in the future?It
It works well because the phrases I learnt can be applied in daily conversations I have learnt the following phrases: 1.Our show really is a family Yeah and it's crazy how I adore everyone in this cast 2.Shouldn't you get to make up? Honey I just came from make up Really? yikes! 3.Aww you look so pretty today! Can somebody tell me what the heck she's saying? 4.We've replaced Lily before, no one will notice I'm a middle-aged man.. and frankly, this whole thing feels a little bit racist, I'm in See ya monday, Lilly

LAR 1



LAR 1



Example 3:

Evidence of learning outside class



My Profile

- First Name: [REDACTED]
- Last Name: [REDACTED]
- Email Address: [REDACTED]

Course

[REDACTED]

Purpose

The purpose of this ePortfolio is to:

- present evidence of my English skills
- record the progress and development of my English
- reflect on my English learning and progress



Reflection: My speaking skills in English

This Certificate of Appreciation was obtained during my exchange study. It serves as a recognition of my oral ability in presentation.



Reflection: My English learning

Last week, I watched the movie of Academy Award-winning actor, Nicholas Cage. The film's called "Knowing" and it revolved around a series of apparently random numbers jotted down by a mysterious girl and put in a time capsule. 50 years later, the predictive power of those numbers for major disasters was discovered by an astrophysics professor. I liked this latest sci-fi movie. I was really astonished at those disastrous scenes like the plane crash and subway sequence in the film.

I discover that I can practice my English listening skills not only at school, but also during my leisure time when I watch movies. Even though I really find it hard to catch up with the dialogues sometimes, I think it's a challenging and exciting learning process for me to improve my English. For instance, I can learn the ways of how different people express their feelings. This will in turn benefit my spoken skills as well.

Image source: <http://teaser-trailer.com/movie/knowing/>



Reflection: My English learning

This video presented a sharing of my exchange study in Australia. I really benefited a lot from participating in the exchange study in Australia, I had much improvement and progress in my English language. As I had to use English to communicate with other people all the times, I had plenty of chances to practise both my listening and spoken skills. I am more comfortable to communicate with others in English as I get used to speak more.

Video source: [REDACTED]

Example 4: Evidence of learning growth

My Profile

- First Name: [REDACTED]
- Last Name: [REDACTED]
- Email Address: [REDACTED]

Course

Purpose

The purpose of this ePortfolio is to:

- present evidence of my speaking skills
- demonstrate my progress in English speaking
- reflect on how I can improve my speaking skills

My reflection

My thoughts:

I know that my oral English is really bad. Exchange students are often confused about and don't understand what I want to say. I guess the problem is I don't even know anything about IPA.

To improve my spoken English, I must start from the basic- Pronunciation. So, I registered a course to learn pronunciation and believed that it could help. At first, I don't realize that there are actually far more sounds in English than there are letters. Now, I know that there are 44 sounds in English including 20 vowels and 24 consonants. They can be further classified into short pure vowels, long pure vowels, diphthongs, voiced consonants and unvoiced consonants. There is not a simple one-to-one relationship between letters and phonemes as I thought before. Certainly I have learnt a lot about pronunciation.

This course is really helpful for my improvement in spoken English. I was taught about dividing sentences into thought groups, counting the number of syllables in the words and where to stress, the special 'schwa' sound and the confusing minimal pairs. With these techniques and knowledge in mind, I can now express myself in a better and more effective way that everyone finds no problem in understanding. Here, I have attached two audio files to display my progress. This shows the effort I played to improve my oral English during these several weeks.

Sample Paragraph:

I was very happy because I got to stay home from school. My mom took my temperature and said I had a fever. My mom gave me lots of medicine, and I stayed in bed for the rest of the day. I watched cartoons for most of the day and then I fell asleep. When I woke up it was the next day and I felt much better. My Mom decided that I could return to school today.

Before the course



After the course



Feedback

0 comments

Building an ePortfolio in Mahara

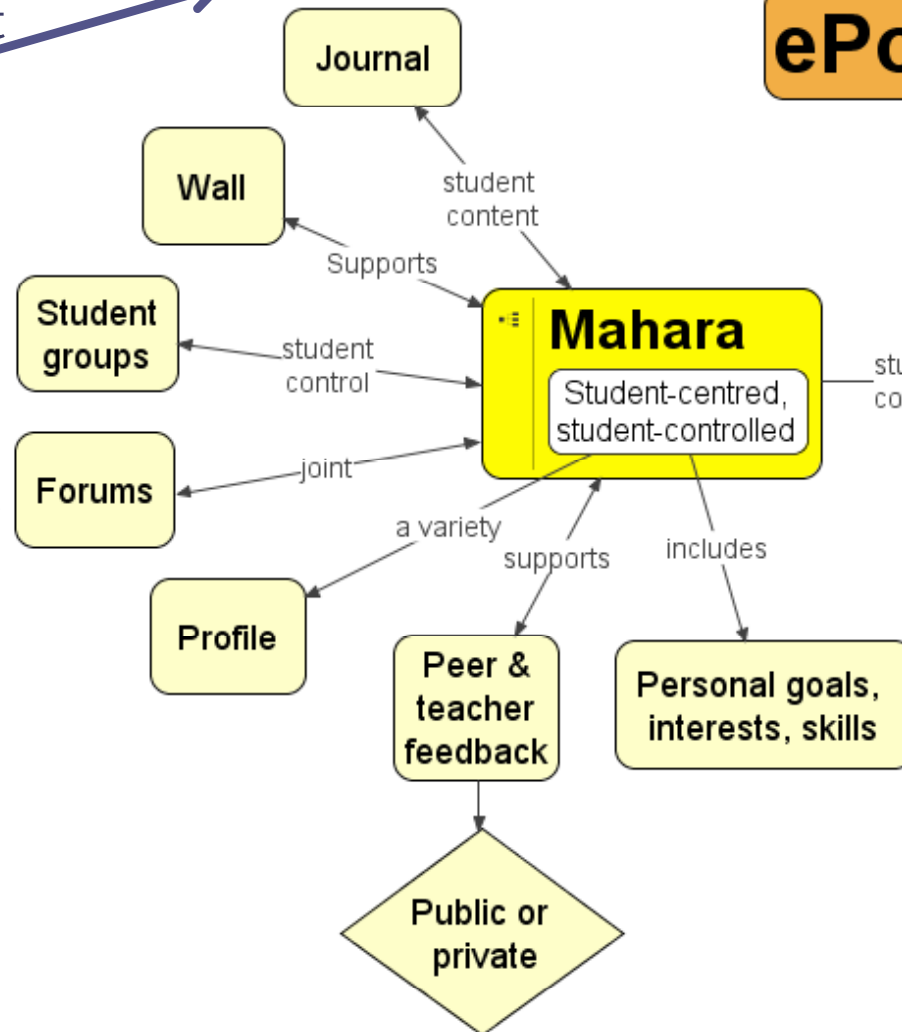


Open source eportfolios
[mah-hah-rah;verb] to think, thinking, thought

Source: <http://mahara.org/>

Overview of Mahara

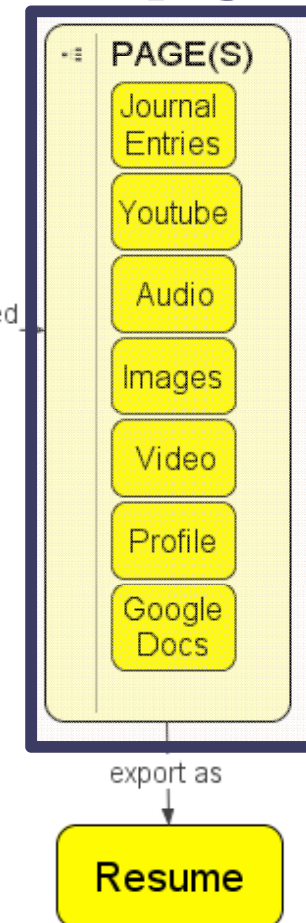
Various content types



ePortfolio



Multimedia web pages



Additional Features



Thank you