

Integrating Technology in the Foreign Language Classroom*

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Here are some technological tools that we can use in the Foreign Language classroom; although they do not involve three dimensional games, they do provide good technological support:

For Internet-Based Courses:

Nicenet <http://www.nicenet.org/>

Nicenet is a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to providing free services to the Internet community. Nicenet's primary offering, the Internet Classroom Assistant (ICA) is designed to address the pedagogical needs and limited resources of teachers and their students. Nicenet offers a new Internet Classroom Assistant (ICA2), a sophisticated communication tool that brings powerful World-Wide-Web based conferencing, personal messaging, document sharing, scheduling and link/resource sharing to a variety of learning environments.

Moodle (Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment) <http://moodle.org/>

Free software package for **producing Internet-based courses and web sites.**

For Listening/Speaking

Wimba Voice Tools module http://docs.moodle.org/20/en/Wimba_Voice_Tools_module

Used to create audio recordings directly in Moodle. The tools can be used by teachers and students.

Audacity <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>

Free, easy-to-use and multilingual audio editor and recorder.

For Reading/Writing

Blogs, Wikis, Podcasting <http://www.sc.edu/cte/laras/doc/presentation.pdf>

The basics of blogs, wikis, and podcasting; Potential uses in and out of the classroom; Assessment- (Podcast = iPod + Broadcast)

Webquests <http://webquest.org/>

A WebQuest is an inquiry-oriented lesson format in which most or all the information that learners work with comes from the web.

For Assessment

Hot Potatoes <http://hotpot.uvic.ca/index.php>

The *Hot Potatoes* suite includes six applications, enabling you to create interactive multiple-choice, short-answer, jumbled-sentence, crossword, matching/ordering and gap-fill exercises for the World Wide Web. Hot Potatoes is freeware, and you may use it for

any purpose or project you like. It is not open-source. You can also use it to create your own reading comprehension exercises to support an article of your choice.

ProProfs Quiz Maker <http://www.proprofs.com/quiz-school/>

Quiz Maker is the easiest way to make a quiz. It supports LCTLs such as Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, etc.

Electronic Portfolios:

- **How to Create Your Own Electronic Portfolio**
<http://electronicportfolios.org/portfolios/howto/index.html>
- **Portfolio Assessment** <http://www.nclrc.org/portfolio/2-1.html>