BRITISH COUNCIL

Regional webinar programme for teachers in MENA

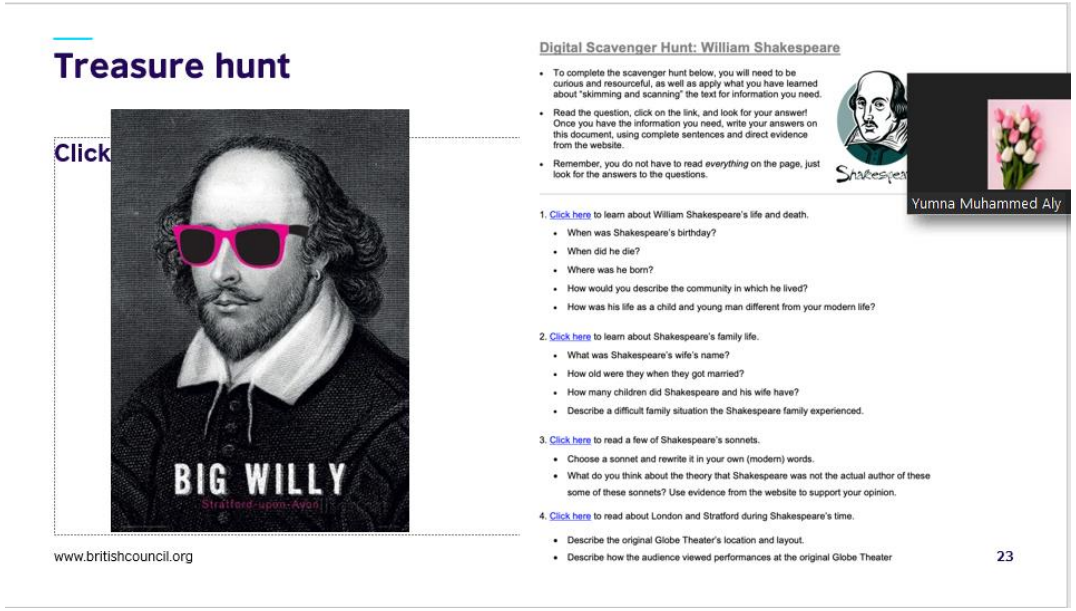
Blended learning

Webinar 24 September 2020

Blended Learning

Flashback

In our last three webinars, we had a look at synchronous teaching platforms, with a focus on MS Teams & Facebook and WhatsApp, and asynchronous platforms with a focus on Edmodo



What is Blended Learning?

What is Blended Learning?

Deliberate mix of learning ingredients – like making a cake

What ingredients have we got?

- F2F
- Online synchronous platforms like MS Teams
- Online asynchronous platforms like Edmodo
- Social media apps like FB and WhatsApp
- Printed or soft copy self-directed materials like the PPPs
- Non-digital alternatives to F2F like TV and radio broadcasts

Trying to find the ultimate definition?

It is hard to establish a universal, all-encompassing definition

Blended learning is circumstance-dependant

**** All ingredients are complementary and create an integrated learning environment.**

Why blended learning?

Accommodates different **learning styles**

Flexible, varied, convenient and **personalised** – learners have more choice over when and at what pace they learn

Increases the **amount of learning content** available – more than if you were relying on F2F only

Extends the reach of learning for learners who aren't in school, or for when schools are closed

Learners **expect** it – expect tech, expect instruction and learning on their own

Supported by **research** – it gives learners a more comprehensive understanding of the course content, more effective

It supports **social learning** and interaction

Teacher empowerment, Teachers can move within the stations or activities to interact with individual or small groups of students and check on progress.

Any pitfalls?

- Digital literacy
- Technical issues
- Some additional work for teachers
- Cognitive load on students
- Credibility of sources and academic integrity

How does it work in practice?

- Like with all teaching, the pedagogical choices we make have got to be principled.
- What do we want the learners to know or be able to do?
- What's the most effective way of achieving this?
- How are we (or they) going to check they learnt something?

Different models of blended learning

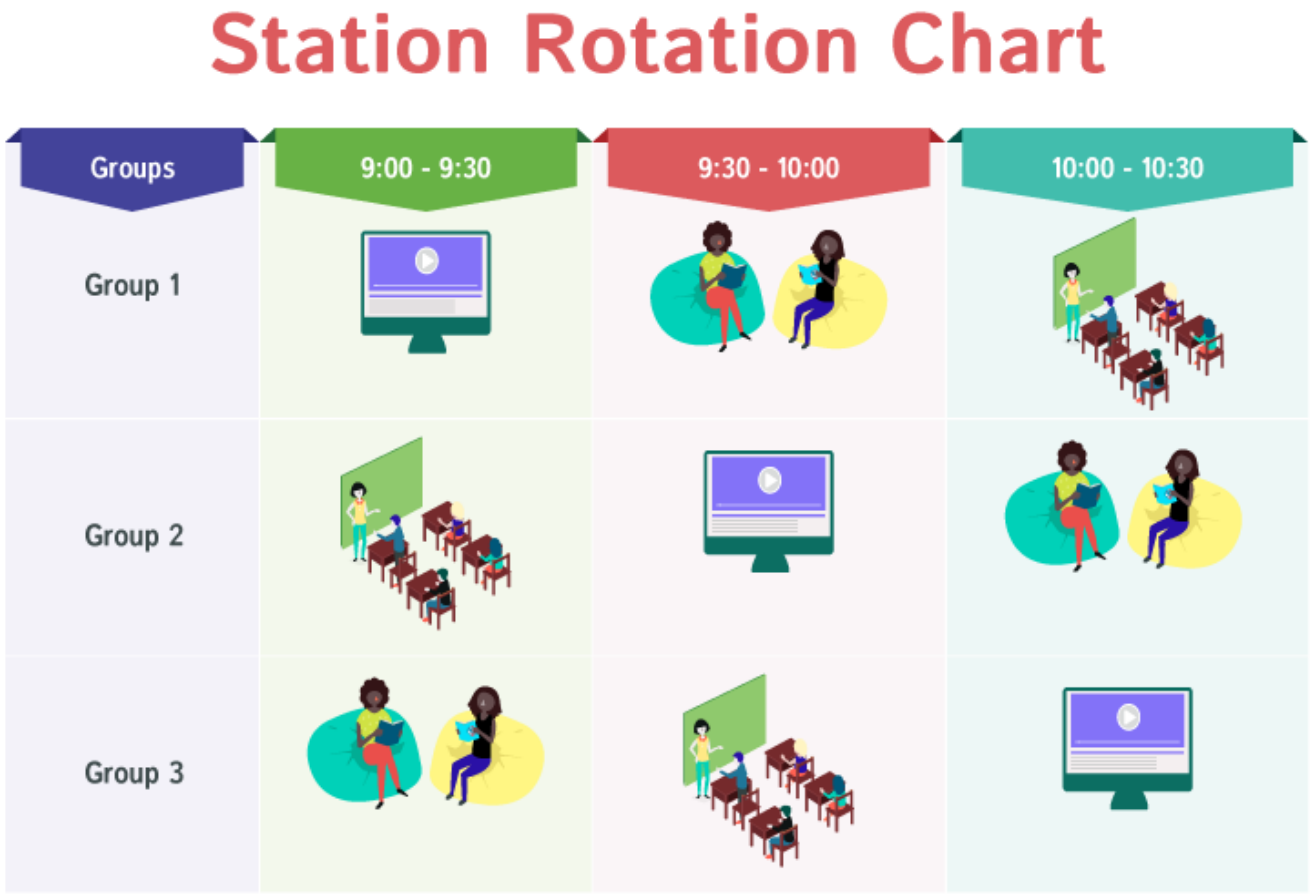
#1 Station Rotation Model

smaller learning communities within the larger class.

working directly with small groups of students.

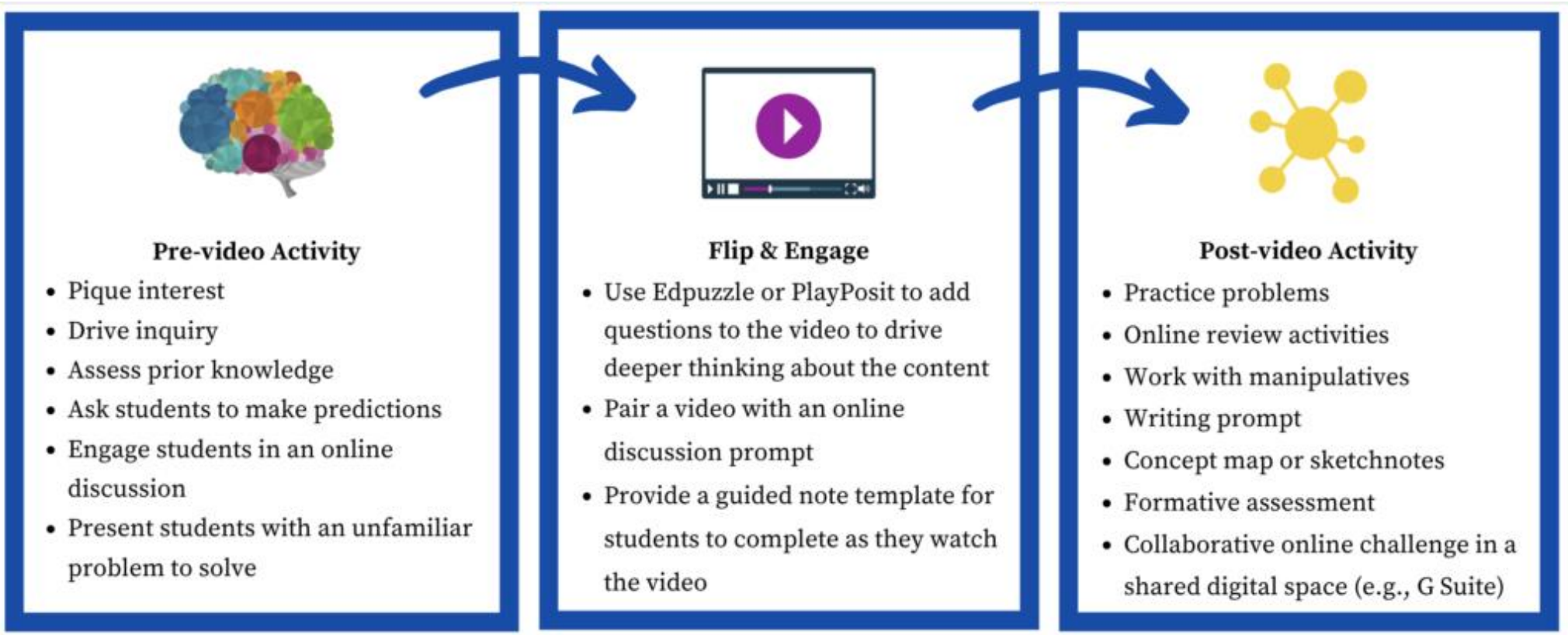
Differentiate learning (e.g., instruction, scaffolds, practice, assignments).

Balance online and offline work to give students a break from the screen.



Different models of blended learning

#2 Flipped Learning Model



Different models of blended learning

#3 Playlist Model or Individual Rotation Model

Shifts control over the pace of learning

Paths can be differentiated or personalized.

Mixes media and learning modalities.

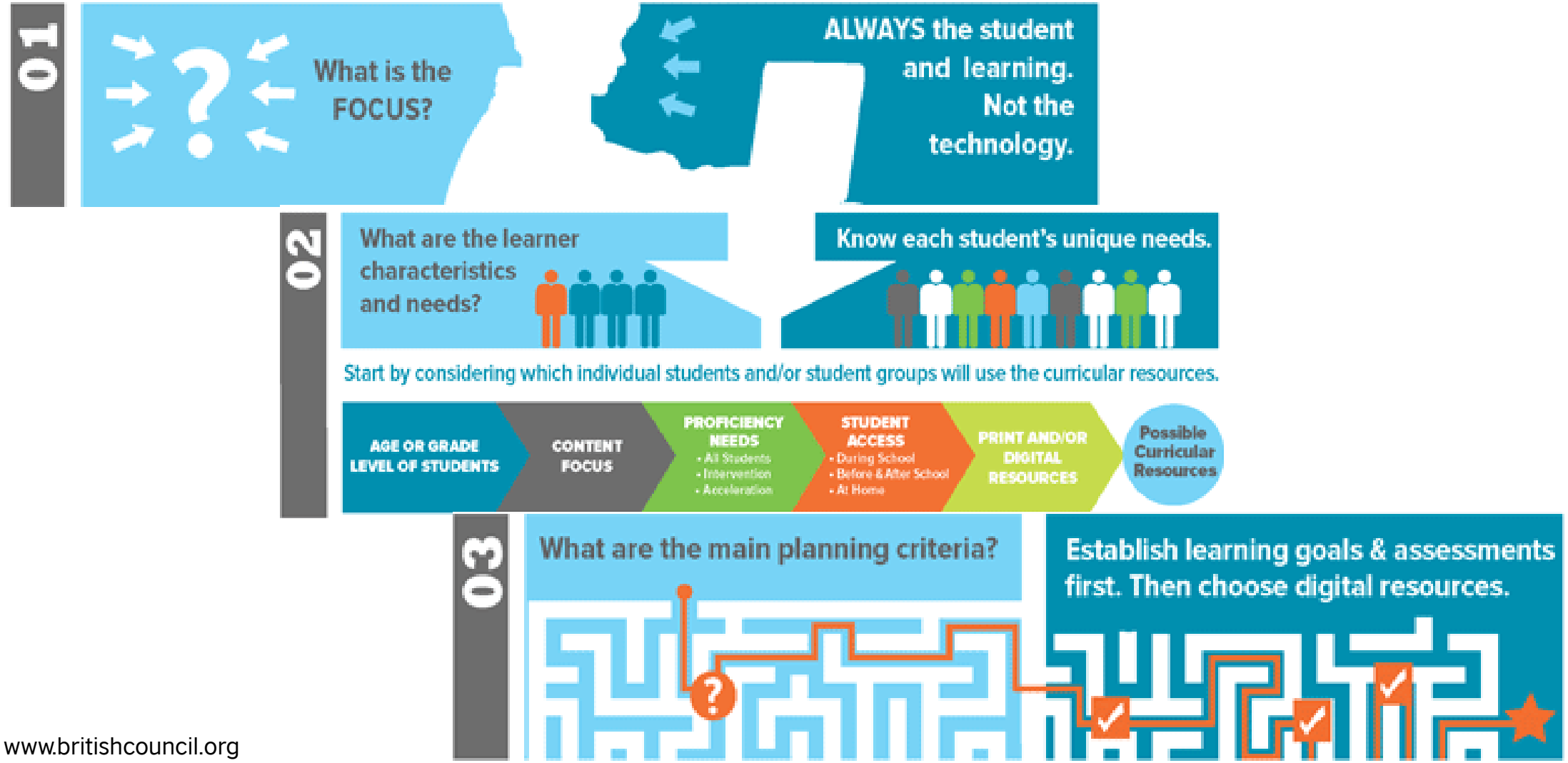
Pulls feedback and assessment into the classroom or synchronous virtual sessions.

Playlist [Title]

This playlist is designed to...[articulate purpose]. Follow the directions for each activity and complete the items in order!

Activity	Directions	Notes	Date Completed
Example 1. View Requirements of this playlist	*Example* Watch this screencast that reviews the requirements of this playlist. Post your questions HERE.		
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
Check Point			

10 questions when you implement blended learning



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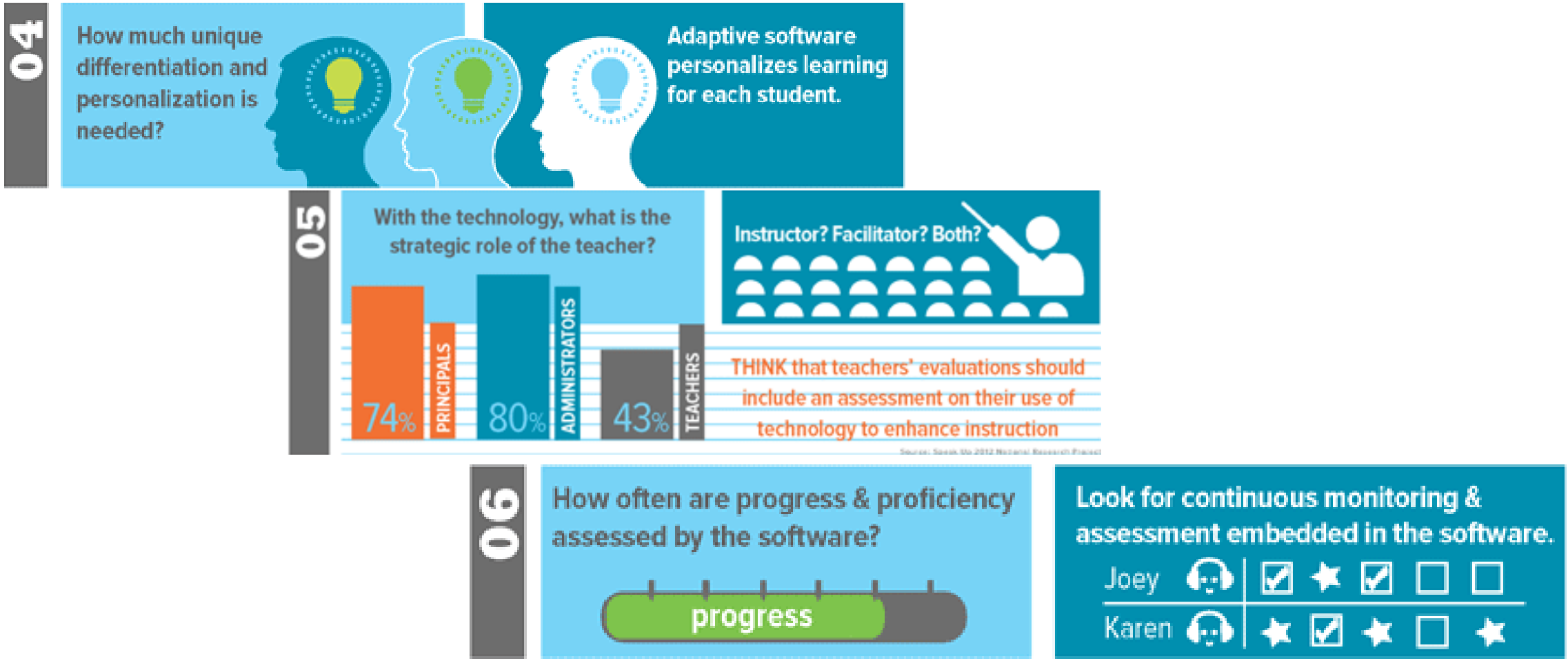

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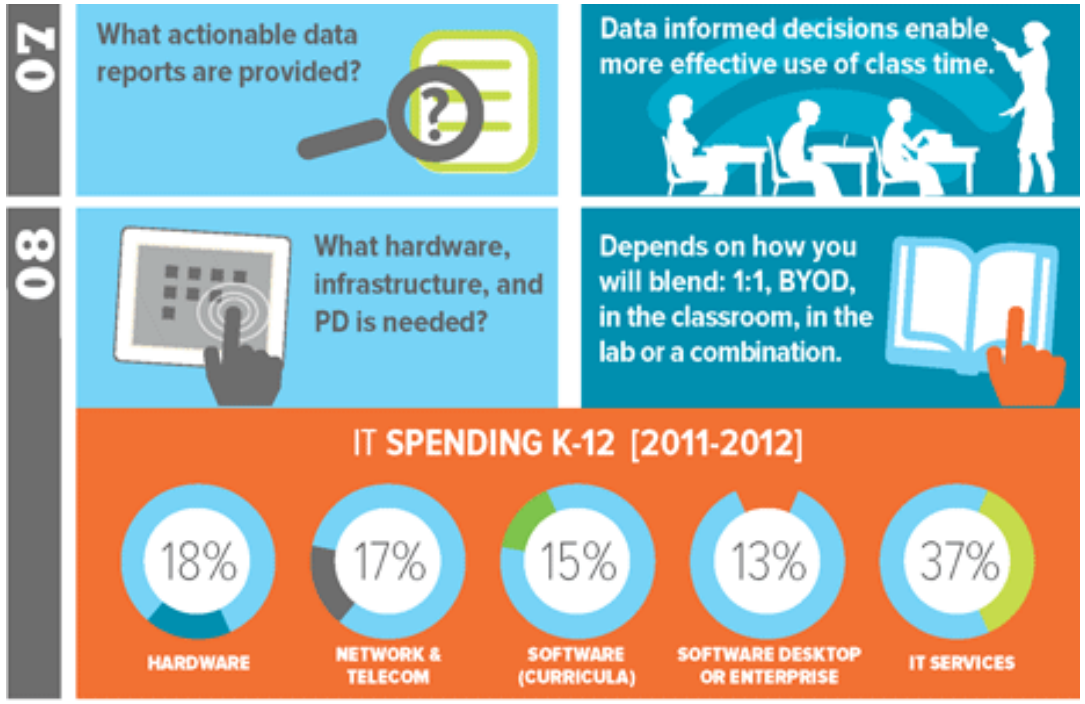
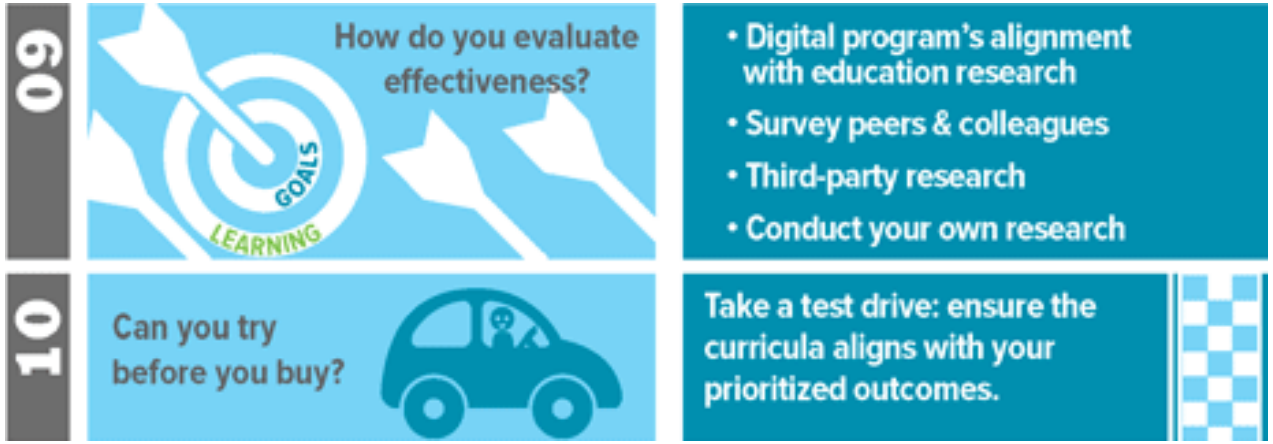
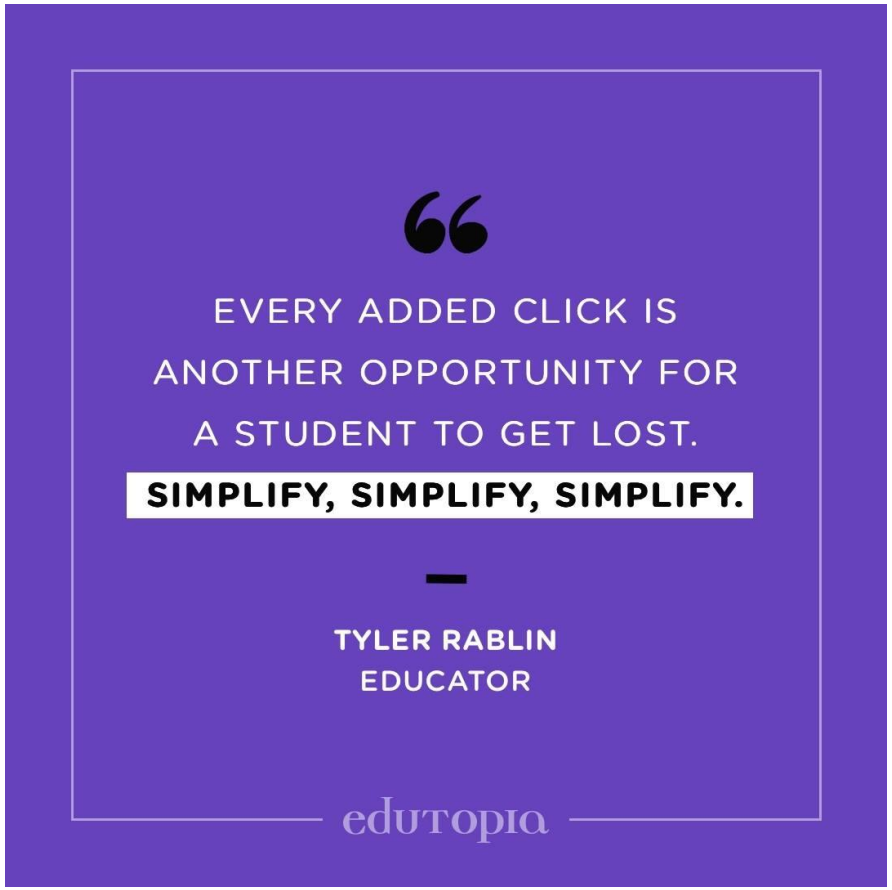




A big question is……

What kinds of learning lend themselves to what kind of medium?



5. Practical examples of cakes I’ve made

Virtual Debates

a written piece disputing what the expert believes

a video response to the speaker

a podcast episode

a fictional “debate” in which a classmate plays the role of the expert

Comical Dialogue/ Dubbing!

Group your students into teams of two or three students.

Have each group of students find a video online.

Tell the students to watch the video without sound or subtitles.

Assign the group to write a language dialogue using the video for inspiration.

Let the students practice.

Play the video with no sound in class while the students dub in their own comical dialogue

Create your TED ED lesson!

Is it effective?

Is a bit like asking the question does teaching work?

And the answer is the same

Yes if it's principled pedagogically, purposeful and learner-centred and like with all mixtures and blends the constituent ingredients need to work well together

And ultimately you and your learners are the best judges of what works

Useful sources

https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/sites/teacheng/files/pub_D057_Blended%20learning_FINAL_WEB%20ONLY_v2.pdf

https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/keith-harding-elt-tle-taking-learning-beyond-classroom

Join us on 10 Oct!

BRITISH COUNCIL

Teaching for Success

World Teachers' Day

Online conference: Middle East and North Africa – 10th of October, 2020
The theme for World Teachers' Day this year is: *Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future*.
To mark the occasion and to bring together teachers and community of practice leaders involved in the strengthening teacher networks initiative, the British Council is organising **an online conference on 10 October**:

Virtual learning for teachers and students – doing it together

The conference will be an opportunity for teachers and community of practice leaders to discuss and present ideas and practice connected with the strengthening teacher networks initiative – with a focus on the constraints, opportunities and skills associated with remote delivery. It will also be an excellent opportunity for teachers to connect with fellow practitioners beyond national boundaries.

To register for the conference please follow this link: registration form

Programme

Session	Egypt time	Theme
1	10:00 - 11:00	Panel: *Do you speak Zoom?* Learning to learn in the virtual envronment (constraints, opportunities, skills required)
2	11:00 - 12:00	*Voices from the network:* Why are communities of practice important for teachers? What makes a successful community of practice?
		Lunch break
3	13:00 - 14:00	*I'm virtually fluent.* Quicfire practical presentations on: • Synchronous platform • Asynchronous platform • Social media for professional learning • Blended learning
4	14:00 - 15:00	Panel: *Getting the balance right - F2F, digital and non-digital*

E-Certificates will be provided for attendees.

www.teachingenglish.org.uk

Thank you