

Distance Teaching

How to brainstorm ideas



ACTIVATE

Practising new language in an interactive environment

- interactive online activities
- instant feedback for students
- checking students' performance online

When you start a new unit and teach topical vocabulary in groups, you often ask students to add the words they already know to the correct group in the vocabulary box. For example, "Food" vocabulary can be introduced in these groups: Fruit, Vegetables, Meat, Drinks and Others. Then students are asked to think of some more types of food and drink not mentioned in the textbook and add them to the table. Students can collaborate online to brainstorm ideas for this task in several ways.

Sharing an interactive presentation

Tell students to work on a shared presentation where each slide will be for one word category (e.g. fruit, vegetables, drinks).

- Share the link to the presentation with the right to edit in the Zoom chat window.
- Open the presentation and share your screen by clicking the Share Screen button and choosing your desktop or browser tab with the presentation.
- Watch students work in real time in Zoom and coordinate their collaboration. This means you will be able to provide instant feedback for students.

Sharing an interactive presentation

You can also use a collaborative online board, like Padlet. Students can also add images or drawings to illustrate their writing.

- Set up a collaborative online board.
- Use the appropriate template or divide the online board space visually so that it's suitable for vocabulary grouping.
- Make it open for editing.
- Make sure you give clear instructions before opening the collaborative board.
- Explain to the students that they can add images to illustrate the thematic vocabulary.
- Don't forget to bring the class together for feedback.

Alternatively...

- Ask students to collaborate on the Zoom whiteboard or to annotate a shared document using the Zoom annotation tools.
- Ask students to write their answers in the Zoom chat window.

