



Distance Teaching

How to assign authentic communication writing tasks



ACTIVATE

Free language production

- practising language in writing in pairs or groups in writing
- practising group discussions via writing blog entries and commenting on them
- practising creative writing

We often teach students to write emails or messages. While teaching online you can make these tasks as authentic as possible.

Teaching authentic writing

- When you teach writing emails, you can ask students to write you real ones and share their real news with you.
- When you teach them how to write messages, you can ask students to write you or each other short messages in a closed group on a social media platform.
- Don't forget to teach students to make texts short by cutting some words, using emojis, symbols and abbreviations. They will enjoy using these features in real tweets or messages.

Writing a blog post

Another authentic communication writing task is writing a blog post. You can create a classroom blog and ask students to write blog posts expressing their opinion on the theme you are studying. For example, they can write on topics such as "Favourite sport or hobby", "Favourite film, play or video", "National food", etc. To make this task communicative, ask other students to read and comment on their classmates' blog posts.

Alternatively...

If you are using Zoom for synchronous video lessons, you can ask students to write you messages via Zoom chat with symbols and abbreviations.

