Experts

8 Ways to Boost Students Engagement During Asynchronous English Language Learning

Mon, 01/27/2025 - 16:38

Imagine a classroom unbound by walls where students are free to learn whenever, wherever and however they choose. In today's digital age, this is exactly what asynchronous learning offers students. For some students, asynchronous learning is the ultimate game-changer, as it offers flexibilities and new learning opportunities such as self-paced learning. On the other hand, some students may face challenges, particularly in maintaining their motivation and self-discipline to learn, for example in language courses such as English, without direct face-to-face interactions during this learning mode.

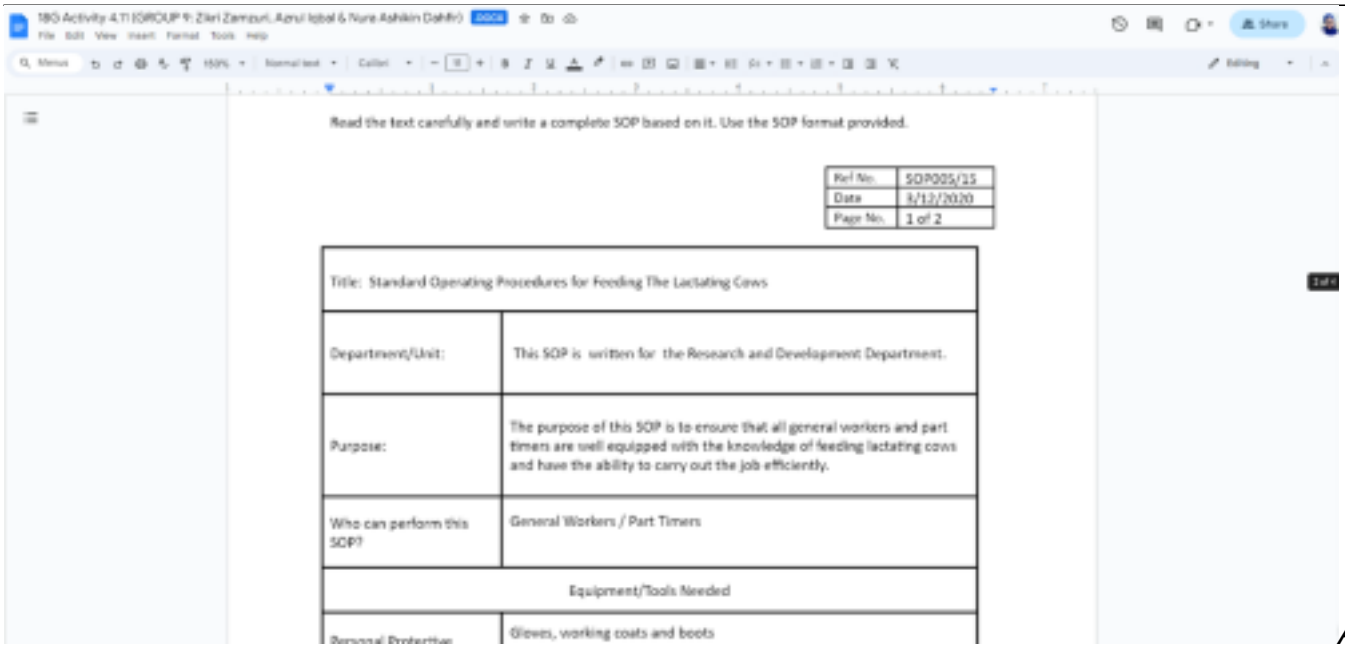
Therefore, it is important to explore and develop effective strategies in keeping students engaged and excelling in asynchronous language learning. Here are 8 suggested strategies to enhance students' participation during asynchronous English language learning:

1. Create Engaging Contents

With Gen Z's attention span is just eight seconds (similar to a goldfish!), engaging content is key to seizing and sustaining university students' attention nowadays. Instructors can utilise multimedia resources such as compelling infographics, videos, podcasts, interactive activities and quizzes, which can be prepared on platforms such as Edpuzzle, Padlet, Quizizz, Canva, and many more, to cater to different learning styles and maintain the students' interest.

2. Foster a Collaborative Environment

Instructors can encourage collaboration among students through online discussion boards, group projects, or shared language activities for example via Google Docs and Padlet. Although the students are on their own without their friends in the physical class, instructors should create learning environments where the students will not feel alone but acquire the sense of togetherness and support in their asynchronous language learning journey. For example, instructors can assign collaborative activities where students can learn together with their friends by exchanging ideas, which will significantly boost their language learning motivation.


Read the text carefully and write a complete SOP based on it. Use the SOP format provided.

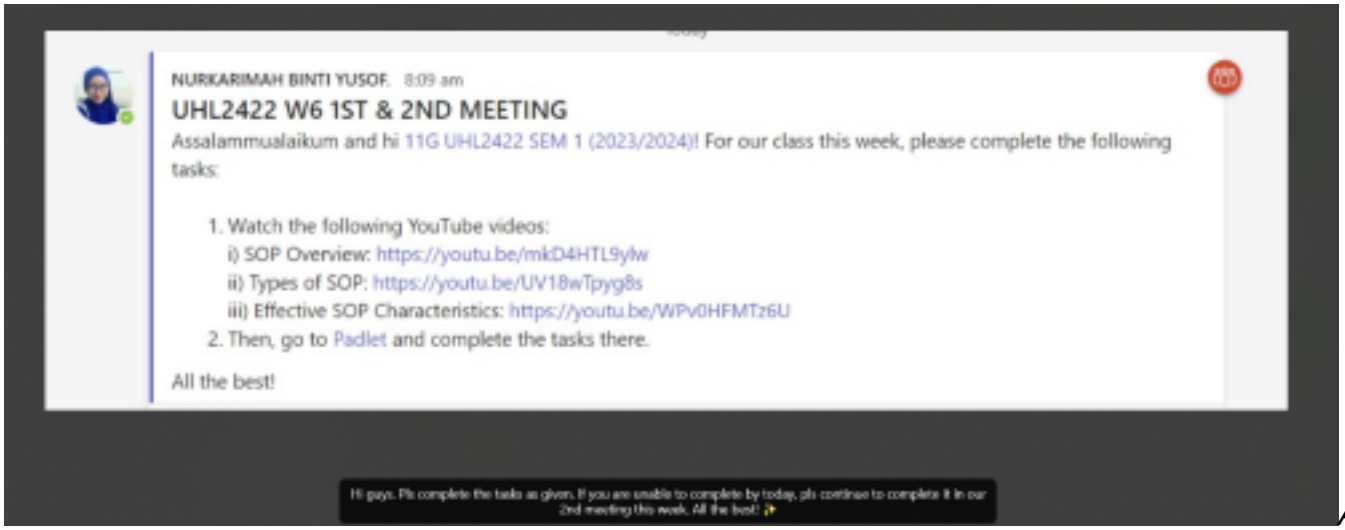
Ref No.	SOP005/15
Date	9/12/2020
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Title: Standard Operating Procedures for Feeding The Lactating Cows	
Department/Unit:	This SOP is written for the Research and Development Department.
Purpose:	The purpose of this SOP is to ensure that all general workers and part timers are well equipped with the knowledge of feeding lactating cows and have the ability to carry out the job efficiently.
Who can perform this SOP?	General Workers / Part Timers
Equipment/Tools Needed	
Personal Protective	Gloves, working coats and boots

A collaborative writing activity conducted during asynchronous language learning using Google Docs.

3. Set Clear Goals and Expectations

Establishing achievable goals and communicating them clearly to students are crucial to motivating them to keep on learning. This will help the students to understand the learning purpose and direction, then further boost their motivation to complete their lessons until the end.


NURKARIMAH BINTI YUSOF 8:09 am

UHL2422 W6 1ST & 2ND MEETING

Assalammualaikum and hi 11G UHL2422 SEM 1 (2023/2024)! For our class this week, please complete the following tasks:

1. Watch the following YouTube videos:
   i) SOP Overview: https://youtu.be/mkD4HTL9ylw
   ii) Types of SOP: https://youtu.be/UV18wTpyg8s
   iii) Effective SOP Characteristics: https://youtu.be/WPv0HFMTz6U
2. Then, go to Padlet and complete the tasks there.

All the best!

Hi guys. Pls complete the tasks as given. If you are unable to complete by today, pls continue to complete it in our 2nd meeting this week. All the best! ✨

An announcement post in Microsoft Teams (with a follow-up reminder post in WhatsApp) with clear instructions and due date for the students to complete the assigned tasks during asynchronous language learning.

4. Offer Flexibility and Autonomy Grant

Instructors should allow flexibility in deadlines and offer self-paced learning opportunities. A respondent of an action research from Developing Strategies to Motivate Students in Asynchronous English Language Learning (PBM22022) shared:

"No limit on the time to watch the video but need to set a deadline by the day. Since the video needs to take time to digest the information given, I prefer to study asynchronously during the nighttime when all classes are finished."

This dynamicity will enhance the students' sense of control and ownership, transforming their language learning experience.

5. Provide Timely and Constructive Feedback

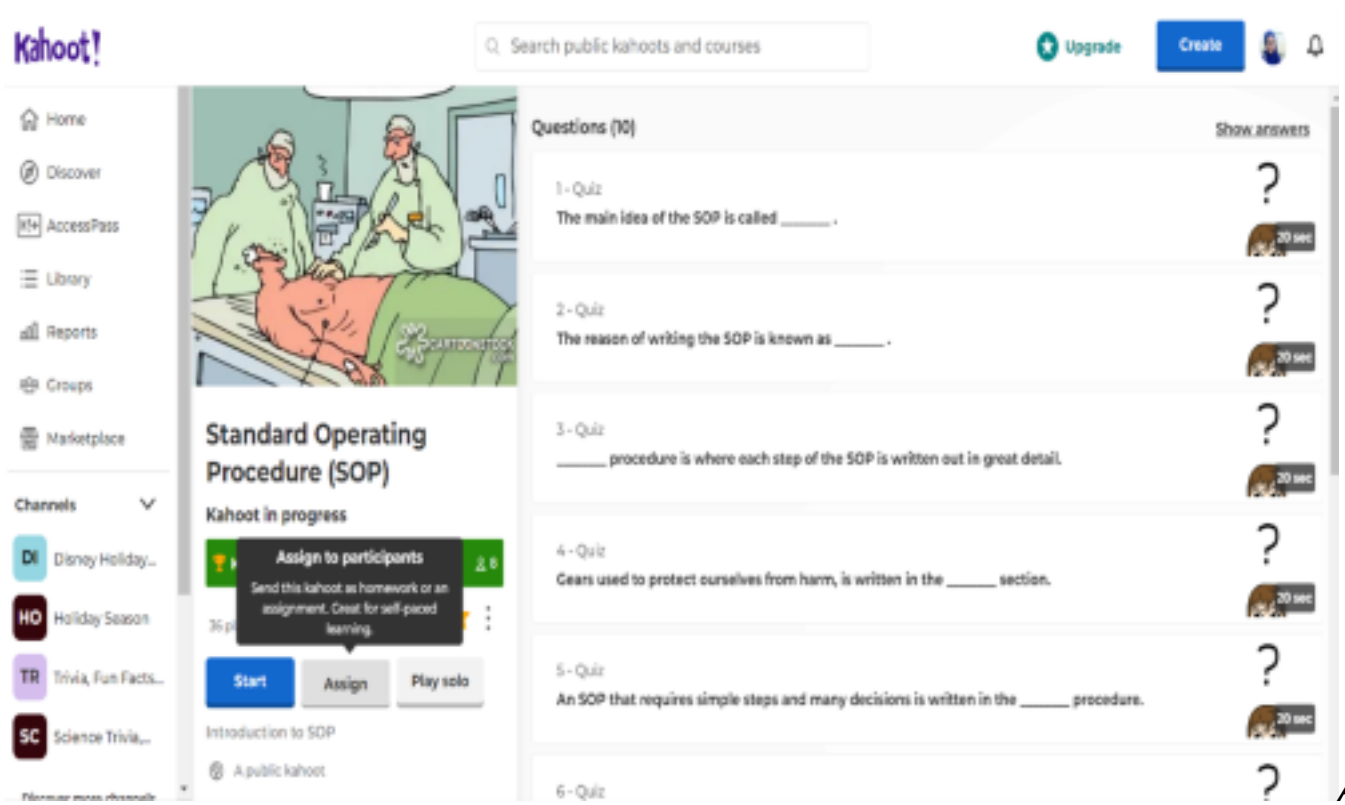
When it comes to asynchronous learning, not only the students need to be disciplined in completing the activities or assignments, but instructors should also deliver timely comments and guidance on the submitted work to acknowledge the students' efforts, maintain their learning momentum, and ultimately reinforce positive learning behaviours. Nowadays, instructors can use automated feedback or Artificial Intelligence (AI) assistance to provide instant feedback on students work such as on spelling, grammar, capitalisation, punctuation, style and many more.

6. Integrate Real-world Applications

Instructors can prepare asynchronous language learning activities or assignments that require students to solve real-world problems or case studies, as well as assign community-based tasks such as participating in local events where they must conduct interviews in English. This will connect asynchronous language learning with real-life scenarios.

7. Gamify Learning Experiences

Implementing gamification during asynchronous language learning can assist students in enhancing their understanding in more entertaining and engaging ways. For instance, language instructors can assign self-paced language learning tasks such as interactive language quizzes via platforms like Quizizz and Kahoot!.

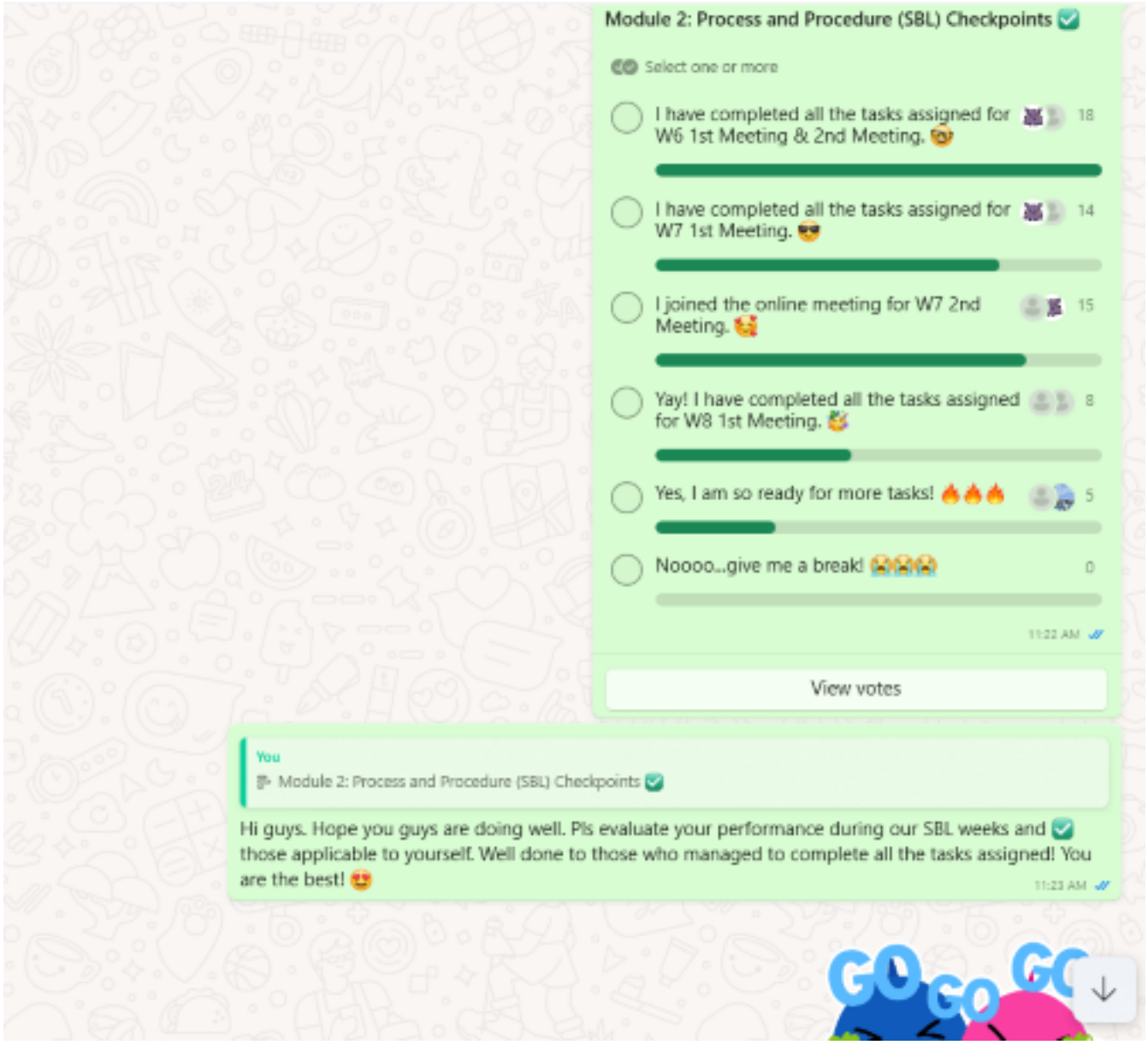


A Kahoot! quiz prepared for English for Technical Communication self-paced learning.

8. Celebrate Achievements

Students will feel more accomplished if their achievements are acknowledged, regardless big or

small, especially where limited interactions usually occur during asynchronous language learning. Instructors can reward students with leaderboards, virtual celebrations such as customised e-badges, participation e-certificates, recognition e-posters, or even by just giving them simple congratulations shout-outs in class WhatsApp/Telegram groups after the students have completed their assigned tasks or goals during the asynchronous language learning. This will recognise the students efforts and commitment to complete the assigned tasks and can motivate them to continue learning.



A simple congratulations shout-out posted in WhatsApp to celebrate the students milestones during asychronous language learning.

In conclusion, enhancing students learning motivation during asynchronous English language learning may require more efforts, but it is feasible with comprehensive strategies. Before the asynchronous English language learning takes place, instructors should discuss with their students about their learning preferences, such as the types of activities, as well as platforms to be used to conduct the suggested activities. Asynchronous language learning can become a fulfilling and joyful educational experience with benefits for both teachers and students if appropriate approaches are implemented.



Nurkarimah Yusof

Writer is a Language Teacher at Centre for Modern Languages (CML), Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah (UMPSA).

This article represents the authors' personal views and does not reflect the official position of Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah (UMPSA).

E-mail: nurkarimah@umpsa.edu.my

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