

# Technology and language learning: the great debate

## 1 New technologies

Tick any of the following which you use in your teaching.

Internet	On-line tests	Electronic dictionaries
CD-ROMs	DVD-ROMs	Multi-ROMs
Blogs	Wikis	Podcasts
Virtual Learning Environment	Word	Power Point
Interactive whiteboard	Portable IWB (mimio)	Second Life
Speech recognition software	Screen capture software	Flip video
Desktop video conferencing	Dictaphones	Computer language games

## 2 Key controversies in Technology-enhanced language learning

Place a cross [X] on each line which best shows your own opinion on the statements.

**Blended Learning is:**

'the best of both worlds' – the best of the teacher and the best of the technology



'the worst of both worlds' –students who enjoy f2f dislike the distance learning mode, and vice versa

**The Interactive whiteboard is:**

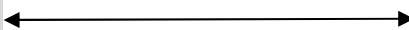
essential – a powerful learning tool!



not essential – an interactive 'white elephant'!

**The language classroom:**

will survive, as students will always want to be taught there



will disappear, as more students take language courses on-line

**On-line grammar practice exercises:**

are helpful for learners in self study, and free the teacher to give communicative lessons in class



skewer language to 'fit' the exercise, & are based on outdated, stimulus-response methodology

**The ELT course book:**

will disappear, replaced by digital material



will never disappear; we will always have books

Please visit [www.te4be.com](http://www.te4be.com) for the plenary PowerPoint (lite version) and bibliography.