Innovative Learning and Teaching Practice in 21st Century English Language Literacy Development – Developing Students' Capability to Understand, Respond to and Create Multimodal Texts in English

Authenticity in the Classroom, Teamwork in the "Staffroom": Our Multimodal Journey

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School context:

reasons for taking part in the project

teaching team

students

Our objectives

Teachers:

- explore IT-related teaching pedagogies and useful resources
- engage in curriculum planning and task design: integrating multimodal texts

Students:

- collaborate and create multimodal texts
- conduct self and peer assessment for/as learning

Teaching team

- 1st year in the project
- 5 teachers + NET + EPC
- teaching experience
- level of cooperation in the team

Designing our units of work:

Authenticity

- Selection of topics
- Task design
- Types of assessment
- Learning and Teaching

Students' motivation

- Types of assessment/task
- Initiation
- Readiness
- Awareness

Project Overview

- 2 units: class reader & magazine article
- 2nd unit: analysis of design elements
- 2nd unit: more compact

Term 1
Unit of Work

Take Away My Takeaway

Class reader:

- 2 British teenagers
  - discover wonderful tastes
  - discover strange ingredients
  - try to cook sweet & sour pork
- uses design elements, photos, maps, cartoons, and videos

Model text (1) - Preview

PREVIEW

THE TV SHOW

In the TV show, *Take Away my Takeaway*, TV presenter Dave Berry teaches British teenagers about their takeaways. If their favourite takeaway is Italian pizza, he sends them to Italy. If their favourite takeaway is Indian, he sends them to India. There, a chef shows them how to make their favourite dish. They learn that takeaways are not the same as the real thing! They discover that real food is tastier and healthier. And then they have to make it themselves.

THE PEOPLE

Adam (left) and **Danny** (right) are teenagers. They're best friends and they live in St Albans. They like playing football and they love eating Chinese takeaways.

Dave Berry comes from London. He is a popular presenter on British TV and radio.

Vivi Cheung comes from Hong Kong in China. She is a chef and has a restaurant.

THE PLACES

St Albans is a town about 30 kilometres north of London in England. There are more than thirty Chinese takeaway shops in St Albans.

Sha Tin is an area of Hong Kong. Hong Kong has been part of China since 1997. The city of Hong Kong is a very busy and exciting place, with lots of wonderful food and street markets.

Now watch Clip 1.
List the countries where the teenagers are going.

Model text (2) - Word Bank

WORD BANK 1

What are these words in your language?

THE TAKEAWAY

egg fried rice (n) (U)

fortune cookie (n)

sweet and sour pork (n) (U)

chef (n)

market (n)

INGREDIENTS

pineapple (n)

rice (n) (U)

soya sauce (n) (U)

vinegar (n) (U)

dish (n)
Sweet and sour pork is my favourite Chinese **dish**.

fresh (adj)
If you catch a fish and eat it the same day, it's **fresh**.

ingredient (n)
The most important **ingredient** in sweet and sour pork is pork!

sour (adj)
When fruit is not ready to eat, it tastes **sour**.

takeaway (n)
On Friday nights, we always have a Chinese **takeaway**.

There's a Chinese **takeaway** at the end of our road.

I love **takeaway** food.

taste (v)
If you're not sure about a new dish, **taste** a little bit first.

tasty (adj)
I love Chinese food – it's really **tasty**.

Model text (3) – Hong Kong History

HONG KONG
PAST AND PRESENT

Busy, hot and exciting, Hong Kong is a special place with an unusual story …

An island city

Hong Kong is part of the New Territories, in the south of China. The main city grew up on Hong Kong Island and around Victoria Harbour. The harbour is wide and deep, and Hong Kong quickly became a very important trading city.

The British in China

In 1842, after a war between Great Britain and China, Britain ruled Hong Kong. Fifty years later, China agreed that Britain could keep Hong Kong for 99 years. British people and Chinese people lived and worked in the city, and Hong Kong became very rich because of trade.

In 1997, Hong Kong returned to China, but the way of life here is still different. Hong Kong even has its own money – the Hong Kong dollar.

Busy trade in Hong Kong, 1940s-1950s.

Hong Kong today

Hong Kong has everything – shiny new buildings, old teahouses, street markets, parks, beaches and mountains. Around 95% of people are Chinese, but many people speak Cantonese *and* English. There are other signs of the city's British past too. Hong Kong's main harbour and the island's tallest mountain are both named after Queen Victoria (who ruled Britain from 1837 to 1901). You can still see tall British buses on the streets and you can buy English sandwiches for tea in some Hong Kong hotels!

Today, Hong Kong is a very important Chinese city. Thousands of ships bring goods in and out of Hong Kong every year. And millions of visitors come to the city every year for business, for good food and for fun.

Choose a famous city. What do you know about its past ?

What do these words mean? You can use a dictionary.
island war to rule trade harbour

Assessment

Homework

Choose an international dish you want to find out about.
You can choose one from the list above. You can also choose a dish not listed above as long as you consult your teacher.
Too simple dishes (e.g. fried chicken) should be rejected.
Research the recipe and ingredients.
Choose 8 words you don't know, find out their meaning and write it down on the recipe.

Spark Page

- History
- Word Bank
- Recipe (Ingredients + Procedures)
- Spark Video

Unit of work (Term 1) – Food

- *Take Away My Takeaway Hong Kong*
- Modal texts:
  - Preview
  - Word Bank
  - Recipe
  - Hong Kong History
  - Hong Kong Culture
- Assessment:
  - To introduce an international dish
- IT in Ed:
  - Spark Page Presentation

Example Activity

- Identify the design elements and features of multimodal texts:
  - Text
  - Font
  - Colour
  - Design
  - Pictures/Photos
  - Map

Analysis – Text

FACT FILE

HONG KONG

PAST AND PRESENT

Busy, hot and exciting, Hong Kong is a special place with an unusual story …

An island city

Hong Kong is part of the New Territories, in the south of China. The main city grew up on Hong Kong Island and around Victoria Harbour. The harbour is

title

brief intro

sub-headings

content

Divide into 3 parts, very clear for readers

Analysis – Font

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NEW TERRITORIES

Sha Tin

big, all capital letters

3 different font styles

bolded sub-headings

Know the content easily

Analysis – Colour

WHY?

mainly red and white

eye-catching

the colour of HK's flag

Analysis – Design

WHY?

FACT FILE

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The British in China

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In 1997, Hong Kong returned to China, but the way of life here is still different. Hong Kong even has its own money – the Hong Kong dollar.

Busy trade in Hong Kong, 1940s-1950s.

14

Hong Kong today

Hong Kong has everything – shiny new buildings, old teahouses, street markets, parks, beaches and mountains. Around 95% of people are Chinese, but many people speak

15

text with photos

organised (in a rectangle)

simple and easy to understand

Analysis – Pictures and photos

WHY?

full-screen photo

an old photo (black and white)

show the changes of HK from past to present

Film analysis

Task 2 – Film Analysis

Watch the film of Chapter 2 and complete the table below.

	What can you see/hear in the film?	What does it mean / suggest?
In the beginning of the film (00:00 - 00: 18)	*e.g. A narrator gives an introduction of the film*	*e.g. to **introduce** the purpose of the video – to buy the ingredients for making sweet and sour pork*
	• a _**wide**_ shot of Shatin	• To let viewers know _**where**__ the characters are
	• meeting with __**Vivi_Cheung**__ using a medium _**long**___ shot	• To _**introduce**__ the guest • To show how we ___**greet**___ someone when we meet for the first time e.g. __**shake**__ hands and say

A still image from the start of the video

Create a short video scene

Your group is going to buy the ingredients for making seafood spaghetti in one of the supermarkets in Hong Kong. In groups of four, divide your roles according to the instructions below. Write a simple script of what different roles are going to say using the correct tense.

1 narrator

1 shopkeeper

2 main characters (like Amy and James)

1. **At the supermarket**

The image of a local supermarket

Narrator: *Today, Amy and James are in one of the Hong Kong supermarkets in Shatin to* _____

_____

_____

_____

Teacher model of the video

Unit 1: Student Work

Take Away My Takeaway

Student work (M)– Spark Page & Video

https://sp

Student work (M)– Spark Page & Video

https://spark.adobe.com/page/NS3m6Wx8lHm8k

Vocabulary

Student work (M)– Spark Page & Video

https://spark.adobe.com/page/NS3m6Wx8lHm8k

History

Student work (M)– Spark Page & Video

ying ingredients

Student work (H)– Spark Page & Video

https://spark.adobe.com/page/Aeoy5PiOPRyAD/

Term 2
Unit of Work

Sports

Model text – Magazine article

Assessment

- You are writing a feature article for a teenage magazine to introduce a special kind of sport and your favourite local sports centre.
- Write and design your article to attract the reader to your sport giving them 3 reasons why they should try it.
- Also give them useful information about your sports centre and why it is good to go there.
- Think about how your writing and design elements can go together to make your article effective.

Reading the multimodal elements

Features used	*How are the features used?*	*Why are the features used?*
1. Size	What is the size of the heading of the article? ------ What is the size of the sub-title of the article? ------ What is the size of the content of the article? ------	
2. Font	What are the fonts the writer has chosen in the article? Are they of the same font type?	
3. Colour	What are the colours chosen in the article? Are they of the same colour?	

Reading the multimodal elements

Features used	*What is your choice? How are the features used?*	*Why are the features used?*
1. Size	What is the size of the heading of your article? _____ What is the size of the sub-title of your article? _____ What is the size of the content of your article? _____	
2. Font	What are the fonts you have chosen in your article? Are they of the same font type?	
3. Colour	What are the colours you have chosen in your article? Are they of the same colour?	

Self assessment – **Pre- & Post-Writing**

Content /50	An interesting title and subtitle: • A short, eye-catching phrase – not more than six or seven words. • It gives the reader an idea of what the article is about.	
	Main body 1: Introduce the special sport & choose appropriate photos or cartoons	
	Main body 2: Give 3 reasons why people should take up the sport & choose appropriate photos or cartoons	
	Focus sections on your local sports centre - Useful facts - your favourite facility - Why should people go there - Choose appropriate photos	
Organisation /25	Clear paragraphs for each section of the article	
	Paragraph organization – topic sentences, evidence and examples	
	Design elements – text (font, size, colour, typeface), use of colour, overall layout, placement of photos	

Self assessment – **Pre- & Post-Writing**

Target Language /25 Underline in your report.	- Address your reader directly with imperatives. It makes your writing more powerful. - E.g. Forget the advice you always got as a child to keep clear of other riders	
	- Use adverbs to give more information about manner, place, time, frequency or degree. - E.g. Sarah Lee is particularly inspiring as she brought home Hong Kong's first Olympic medal in cycling	
	- Use modals to give advice. - E.g. We reveal the top reasons why you should take up this exciting sport! - you need to cycle so close to others that the handlebars are touching	
	- Use phrases like It's often said that...,Many people agree that...,Some say..., According to...to introduce facts. - E.g. Many road cyclists say that the intensity of track cycling makes them fitter and faster.	
	- Use questions to maintain your readers' interest. - E.g. It's enough to put anyone off, right?	
	- Use comparative and superlatives - E.g. Many road cyclists say that the intensity of track cycling makes them fitter and faster.	
	- Use persuasive language	

Peer assessment – **Post-Writing**

Peer Assessment

Writer of the article : _____

Read the magazine article carefully and write your comments :

A. Reflection

1. After reading the article, are you persuaded to take up the sport and visit the sports centre introduced? Why/ Why not?

_____

_____

_____

2. Is there any other piece of information about the sport or the sports centre you want to know?

_____

_____

_____

Peer assessment – **Post-Writing**

B. Appreciation

1. Write 2 good things about the writing of the article. Give reasons.

a. _____

_____

b. _____

_____

2. Write 2 good things about the design of the article. Give reasons.

a. _____

_____

b. _____

_____

C. Suggestions

Give suggestions to improve the work.

1. Suggestion(s) about the writing

_____

_____

2. Suggestion(s) about the design

_____

_____

Student work

Unit 2

Sports

Modal text – Magazine article

The textbook text about track cycling

Student work – Magazine article (H)

Gymnastics

You should start stretching yourself!

Balancing yourself on a balance beam may sound very easy to you,but in fact it is a very risky and challenging activity. You need a few months or even years to master this skill. If you are not careful enough, you might even fall off the balance beam and break a bone or sprain your ankle! Sounds painful, right? But in order to become a successful gymnastist, you must never give up and strive hard to fufill your dream! Here are THREE reasons that you must take up this activity!

1.Are you following the footsteps of local champions?

Local gymnast Angel Hiu Ying Wong once won a silver medal at the Asian Championships. She is particularly inspiring as she designed her own gymnastic jump. It's a 180 degree front flip .Although she got hurt before the competition and scored11.866marks in her own designed flip, she strove hard for it. Her own designed flip was also named after her- The Angel flip.

GAHK

This is The Gymnastics Association of Hong Kong.It is established in 2003 and was set up by a group of enthusiastic athletes.they offer different kinds of gymnastic interest classes for public.Feel free to join them!

2.There are six types of gymnastics

Forget about getting tired of gymnastics, there are actually quite a lot of types of it so you won't get bored. Such as artistic gymnastics,rhythmic gymnatics,trampoline gymnastics,power tumbling and acrobatic gymnastics.All the types of gymnastics can be performed in any age group.gymnastics doesn't have borders,anyone can be out of it.!There's certainly a type that suits you.

This is the Queen Elizabith's Stadium.it has a3500 seat arena,gymnasia,squash and badminton courts,and a multi-purpose hall.An activity called "The Hong Kong Gymnnastics for all Festival" was held there in 2017. Besides gymnastics, various competitions or events was held there including basketball and badminton competitions.

3.Benefits of gymnastics

It's often said that doing gymnastics can help tighten your muscles and improve your balance and flexibility. That's quite true! It can help to reduce the risk of grtting injured.Besides, if you are on a diet,gymnastics can also help keeping fit and burning your calories.You can also enhance your social skills if you are having lessons with some other people. Gymnastics is definitely worth a shot!

Student work – Presentation

BENEFITS OF GYMNASTICS

3.Benefits of gymnastics

It's often said that doing gymnastics can help tighten your muscles and improve your balance and flexibility. That's quite true! It can help to reduce the risk of grtting injured.Besides, if you are on a diet,gymnastics can also help keeping fit and burning your calories.You can also enhance your social skills if you are having lessons with some other people. Gymnastics is definitely worth a shot!

- Gymnastics can help tighten your muscles
- Reduce the risk of getting injured
- Improve your balance and flexibility
- Keep fit and burn your calories

I chose the color blue as the color of the heading as I think it's a color that can represent elegance And I think gymnastics is an elegant activity.

Student work – Presentation

I chose the girl doing a hand stand because it's one of the iconic gymnastic postures

When you turn off the lights, it reminds me of an exciting show. Exciting is the perfect adjective for describing gymnastics.

Samples reading

How have the students improved?

- multimodal literacy knowledge and skills
- collaboration
- self and peer assessment for/as learning.
- more engaged

Pedagogy

The Backwards Planning Process

- Analyse the task, check curriculum requirements
- Develop assessment critieria
- Plan unit of work & activities

Creating teacher models

The 3 E's Model

exposure	a variety of multimodal texts

exploration	a model (or cornerstone) text

engagement	produce multimodal texts themselves

Gradual release of responsibility

Observe then reflect

Learner diversity

- Shared materials adapted
- differentiated tasks

Planning as a team

- every teacher responsible
- enhanced communication and cooperation
- advice on design of the learning and teaching materials
- lesson observation
- constructive feedback was given by the project facilitators.

Benefits for teachers

- a platform to share their experience and reflect
- modification of existing approaches
- exchange of ideas
- enhanced IT skills and knowledge of IT in Ed

Overcoming challenges

Challenges:

- students lacking basic computer skills.
- new pedagogy
- development of new materials
- convincing experienced teachers

Solutions:

- guidance: e.g. Google Slides
- support
- flexibility needed

Further planning & sustainability

- S1 into S2
- integration in JS curriculum
- Differentiation
- Materials organised and saved for next year.
- S1 teachers involved next year

So that’s our multimodal journey

authenticity

teamwork

Thank you for listening!