

Promoting communication and autonomous learning with the help of Weblogs and RSS in an ESP distance education context

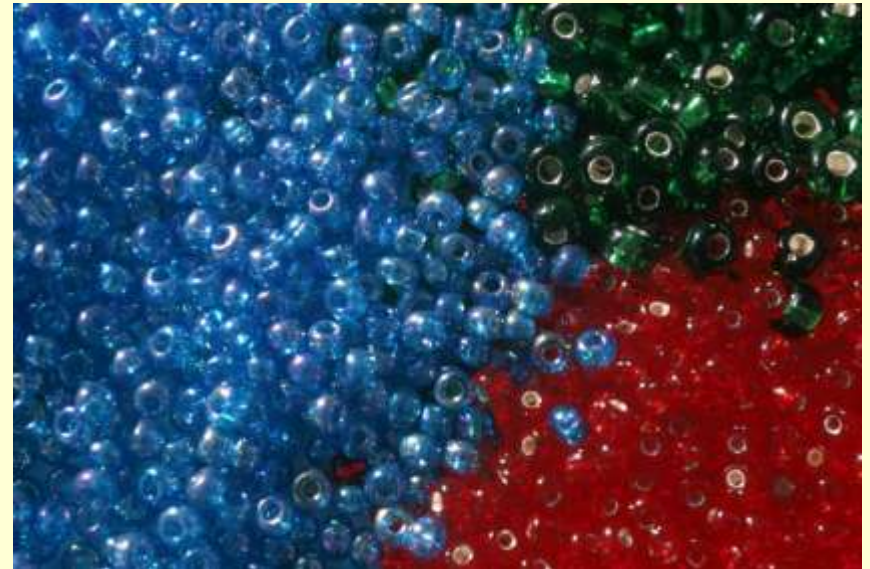


By María Jordano de la Torre

AESLA 2009, Ciudad Real, 26th-28 March 2009

what's web 2.0?

- **Web 2.0** is a trend in World Wide Web technology, and web design, a second generation of web-based **communities** and hosted services such as social-networking sites, wikis, blogs, and folksonomies, which aim to facilitate **creativity**, **collaboration**, and **sharing** among users.
(Wikipedia)



Why using web 2.0 to teach ESP?

- **Real material** focussed on the field could be added with no effort
- Not only **teachers** but also **students** could collaborate with their knowledge (they know more than us)
- A way to **train ourselves** as ESP teachers
- Easily **editable**, error **correction**
- **No** need to have much **ICT knowledge**

Description and definition of Web 2.0 tools applied to ELT

- **Blogs:** Commonly used to practice *writing* (blogger) / **Ipodcasting** (listening)
- **Feeds:** to get informed faster (google reader)
- **Wikis:** to create content in a collaborative way (wikispaces)
- **Social bookmarks:** to share links with the whole class (Delicious)
- **Photo sharing:** Great for commenting pictures, oral skills (Flicker)
- **Music sharing:** for listening (Jamendo)

Our subject, English for Tourism

- **More than 2000** students
- We have **never meet face-to-face**
- They **know more** on the field **than us**, teachers
- They need to **practice writing before the exam**. Difficult to do on their own
- **Adult learners**, different interests, jobs, familiar context, etc...

A meeting point, our blog (apart from our online course & “tutorías”)

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Tags 417 By Alpha A-Z

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ingles turismo 08 09

Welcome to this space to practice English for Tourism. Here not only UNED students are invited to participate but other

Saturday, January 17, 2009

Improving your listening by podcasting



A very good way to practice your English listening could be [podcasting](#). The web is now full of this very good audio invention for ESL learners. Why? It is a cheap and efficient way to listen to fresh content based English. You can listen to all these audio recording either in the way or by copying them all to your mp3/podcasting player in order to hear them while in the underground or by car in your way to work. The quality of sound is great in most cases and you could find them in many different accents, which is very recommended for you are tourism professionals to be in a very close future.

Here you are some suggestions for you to listen:

- <http://www.learnoutloud.com/Catalog/Travel> (very practical in order to study unit 5, you will see why)
- [Open University \(iTunes\)](#) (You need to have iTunes software installed)
- [University of Oxford \(iTunes\)](#) (Arts and Humanities)
- [Tourism, Travel, Geography and Education Podcasts](#) (A very complete compilation of podcasts dealing different fields of tourism, including airplane topics, new destinies,

Listen to some good piano music while you read this blog...



English-Spanish dictionary

[WordReference.com](#)

Diccionario: Inglés-Español

Blog stages

- I: Only **teacher writes**
- II: **Teacher writes, students answer**
- III: **Teacher & students write** (tutors, in our case)
- IV: **Students** have their own blog
- V: the whole group is working in collaboration with other **blog projects** (ex. dekita)

What can do *feeds* for
you and your students?

Feed (students and other teachers)

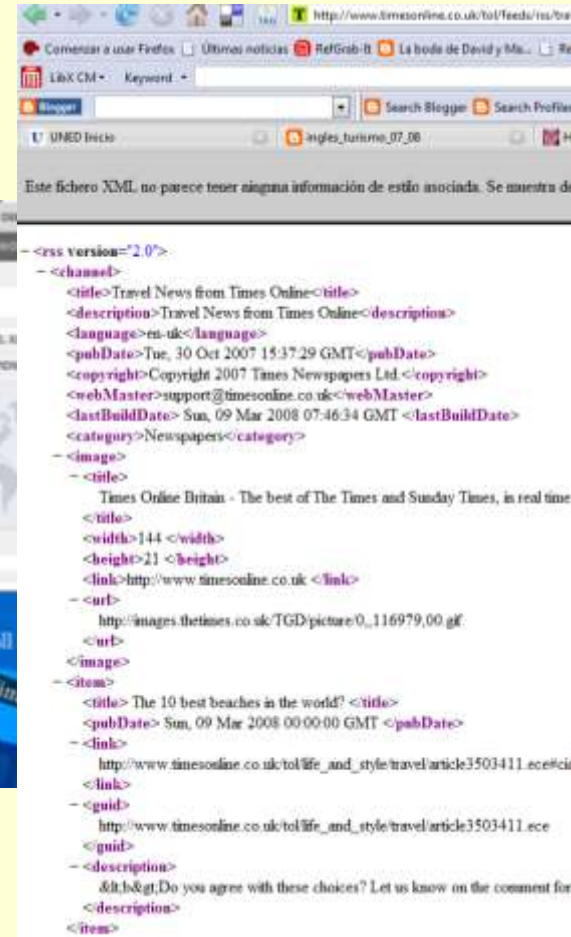


-It is a quick way to **receive information of all the posts sent** to the blog in real time

- Not only posts for students, but also “**comments contents**” for us, teachers (and also students).

- It's a way to **have a record of the activity produced** on the blog (feedburner in this case).

Our blog as feed reader...



Thanks to our blog we can see at a glance fresh travel headlines from...

- ***New York Times*** (Travel News) Am E.
- ***Times on line*** (Travel News on line) Br. E.
- ***The Independent*** (Travel) Br. E.
- ***Daily Telegraph*** (Travel) Br. E
- ***CNN*** (Travel) Am. E. (Tv)
- ***Via Michelin*** (Tourism & Gastronomy) Eu. E.
- ***National Geographic*** (Travel & Culture) Am. E

Also some EFL ones...

- *BBC Learning English*
 - *ESL About*

And not only text...

- *The Independent Travel Guides*
- *National Geographic podcast*
- *Via Michelin* (videos)
- *National Geographic* (includes also videos in their news)
- *Learn English* (a podcast <http://www.listen-to-english.com/index.php?id=124>)

Thanks to the power
of feeds...

We have *updated* articles dealing with tourism topics...

Independent.co.uk/Travel

[The Tsar of California](#) - 09-Mar-2008

[Food of the week: See the world through a wine glass](#) - 09-Mar-2008

[Hotel Of The Week: The Verandah Resort and Spa, Antigua](#) - 09-Mar-2008

[Around the UK](#) - 09-Mar-2008

[Wildlife Holidays: Look, it's a Brachytron pratense! \(That's the hairy dragonfly, stupid\)](#) - 09-Mar-2008



Hotel Of The Week: The Verandah Resort and Spa, Antigua

Spare a thought for the local environment while you lounge by the pool

By Kate Simon
Sunday, 9 March 2008

How often is a guest invited to inspect a hotel's sewage plant? Contrary to the belief that travel writers spend much of their time supine staring at the sun, this was one of my first tasks on visiting The Verandah, the latest resort to open on the Caribbean island of Antigua.

I tell you this not just because it was an unusual chore but because it is key to the hotel's ethos. The Verandah calls itself an "eco-friendly" resort, with efforts including turning sewage into greywater for use on the grounds, harnessing the sun's power, and desalinating seawater for guests to drink.

It makes sense for a 200-room hotel to recycle, but it is also a saleable feature for the parent group, Elite Island Resorts, in these green-sensitive days, especially following some bad press about the resort's location, which some claim the government should have protected, and the alleged destruction of mangrove swamps.

There have also been grumbles on travel blogs about the "cramped" layout of the resort across the 30-acre bluff overlooking Dian llay on the island's east coast. Yet, for a complex of its kind, the intrusion of the structures on the landscape is minimal. Guests stay in elegant one-storey wooden cottages that have been painted pale green and white to meld with the vegetation, and set on piers to prevent water erosion. It's only once inside the resort, traveling by electric buggy from the remote reception to the hotel proper, that the density of the buildings has an impact. For most guests – mainly families – that just means easy access to its restaurants, bars, pools, spa, gym, kids' club and two beaches.

The bedroom

Waterfront cottages overlook the bay; "waterview" cottages are set further back. Each is divided into two apartments, but you'll meet your neighbours only on the signature verandah (though you may hear them: soundproofing needs to be attended to).

All rooms have the same footprint – an open-plan space with separate bathroom – and sleep up to four, making this a good choice of resort for families. The double bed and built-in wardrobe define the sleeping area and a sofa bed and kitchenette provide a retreat from the heat during the day and a handy place to rustle up snacks. Patio doors open on to a terrace, which can connect with the next apartment for large parties. Bathrooms are spacious, with huge bathtubs.

The food and drink

Buccaneers serves good bistro food. Sealreeze, the main restaurant, offers buffets with a

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Change font size: A A

Ready to create your own reading quiz...

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LENGUA INGLESA I (5617191)

Inicio > Unit 5 > Villars-sur-Ollon, the leading resort of the Vaudois Alps

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Consejos
EVALUACIÓN
Mis calificaciones
Hoja de respuestas
Proyecto



Warm brioche of game with vinaigrette, walnut oil and beetroot juice...

By Emmanuel Tresmontant

Relaxation, fresh air, alpine atmosphere and affordable prices... One hour from Lausanne by train, Villars is Switzerland's family resort par excellence.

Villars-sur-Ollon has always played the hand of discretion. Far from the glitz of Zermatt and Saint-Moritz, this intimate resort *nestling* above Bas-Valais at an *altitude* of 1,300 m (4,265 ft) deliberately cultivates its peaceful family-friendly reputation. Famous for its international private schools run with *iron* discipline, Villars is also popular with stars (such as Roger Moore or the great chef Guy Savoy) who can find restful anonymity here!

Accessible by train (1hr from Lausanne, 2hr from Geneva) or by motorway, Villars is set on a natural balcony facing due south, from where it is possible to see Lake Geneva in the distance. In

2. Which of these words or expressions mean the same as "resort"?

A. amusement park

B. a place for rest

C. support

D. relaxing

3. Which of these words or expressions mean the same as "nestling"?

A. stopping

B. starting

C. placing

D. situated

4. Which of these words or expressions mean the same as "altitude"?

A. width

B. high

C. tall

D. height

5. Which of these words or expressions mean the same as "iron"?

Or even listening exercise!!

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Hoja de respuestas
Proyecto

Organ Played by Lapping Sea (National Geographic)



Quiz

Click on the image to watch a video and answer to the followin questions

Show questions one by one

1. The Lapping Sea is

A. one of the seas that can be found at Lapland

B. a very well know see in Croatia

C. the sea when producing quiet sounds at the same time it hits gently the shore

D. a sea closed to another all the time

2. How old is the organ construction?

Advantages and disadvantages of using one or another

- Since Web 1.0 is “moderated”, you don’t have to watch what others do. (+)
- Students will only have your English as input (-).
- You are the responsible of all the material used in your website (-).
- More complicated to update. (-)
- Difficult to find a free hosting (-), except your instit.

- Since 2.0 means “sharing”, “bad” content could be read by other student before the teacher. (-)
- Students will be exposed to many *Englishes*.(+)
- Real material from reliable publications (newspapers) could go directly to your students. (+)
- very easy to update (+)
- Hosting included

Thanks for comming!!



María Jordano