

Step – Developing speaking skills outside a lesson

Task

Below are links to three digital tools followed by three descriptions of the tools. Match the tools (1–3) to the descriptions (A–C). Click on the links to visit the sites.

- [Voki](#)
- [Flipgrid](#)
- [Voice Spice](#)

A. Students record themselves talking about an enjoyable trip away to practise using the past simple. They share a link to their recording via their class online chat group and listen to each other's. In the next lesson, they vote for the most enjoyable trip and the teacher gives overall feedback.

B. The teacher creates an avatar and adds their voice, introducing themselves to a new student (a young learner). The student creates their own avatar and introduces themselves to the teacher.

C. The teacher records a video, asking all of their students at an intermediate level to talk about a film they've enjoyed watching recently. The students then record their own videos, completing the speaking task. Despite the fact that each student has one-to-one lessons with the teacher, the students watch the other videos and then tell the teacher which film they heard about that they'd like to see and why. The teacher provides overall feedback on the students' performance.

Answers

1. Voki – B.

The teacher creates an avatar and adds their voice, introducing themselves to a new student (a young learner). The student creates their own avatar and introduces themselves to the teacher.

In this app you create an avatar and add your voice to make it speak. Basic characters are free but learners need to sign up to use it. Free app available.

2. Flipgrid - C.

The teacher records a video, asking all of their students at an intermediate level to talk about a film they've enjoyed watching recently. The students then record their own videos, completing the speaking task. Despite the fact that each student has one-to-one lessons with the teacher, the students watch the other videos and then tell the teacher which film they heard about that they'd like to see and why. The teacher provides overall feedback on the students' performance.

This is a video discussion platform where teachers create a private space for a class, set a speaking task and learners reply with a video. One classroom is free. You can create as many discussions within that classroom as you like and learners don't need to sign up. Free app available.

3. Voice Spice - A.

Students record themselves talking about an enjoyable trip away to practise using the past simple. They share a link to their recording via their class online chat group and listen to each other's. In the next lesson, they vote for the most enjoyable trip and the teacher gives overall feedback.

Learners can record and share audio recordings for free. They simply go to the website, make their recording, save it and then save the link. The recording is stored in the cloud. Students share the link with you and/or classmates to listen to.