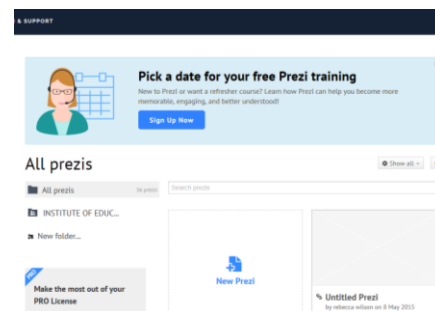


Blended Learning Essentials: Getting Started

Crib Sheet: Prezi



What is Prezi?

[Prezi](https://prezi.com) is an online presentation tool which has a large virtual 'canvas' where you can place text, images and video within 'frames'. You can then create a 'path' (sometimes indicated by arrows) and navigate between these to tell the story of your presentation. This creates a dynamic, effect as you present, zooming between the frames. There are some excellent templates you can use within Prezi. It is really worth taking a few minutes to scroll through the templates to find one that fits conceptually and visually with the content of your presentation. If you prefer you can start with a blank 'canvas' but it's worth sketching out your ideas first. Have a look at some of the examples on the Prezi website to get some inspiration for your own. You can sign up and make a free public presentation or Prezi offers discounts when signing up with a school/educational email address or of course you can pay to get the full functionality.

Where can I find out how to use Prezi?

The best way to find out how to use Prezi is to access the videos, webinars and screen casts at <https://prezi.com>. The website is updated and improved on a regular basis so it's important to keep checking the website regularly. There are also useful [introductory videos](#) on YouTube and if you have a [Lynda.com](#) account there are detailed training videos there as well.

How can Prezi be used in learning and teaching?

Prezi is a very popular presentation tool in education as an alternative to PowerPoint. The range of excellent templates are really useful to explore concepts and ideas in a visually engaging way. It is also very easy to collaborate on Prezi presentations and work together online. You can also access your presentations anywhere if you have internet access. Prezi also has an enormous searchable database of existing presentations which if the presentation creators allow can be reused by others. This creates a vibrant online community with lots of inspiring examples often in an educational context. The open ended nature of the presentation tool also allows for a very creative approach to presenting concepts and information.

Prezi is also a very practical context to explore web 2.0 tools for developing learners' and tutors' critical digital literacy: the online access to presentations, the social network of users sharing their presentations, issues of copyright and the continual updating and changing of resources and content.

Within the Vocational Education and Training sector, possible uses of Prezi that could be adapted to your own educational context are:

- Learners and tutors gradually adding content to a Prezi over the duration of a course, unit or module to develop a useful overview and revision tool;
- Teachers or trainers uploading a PDF to Prezi and use 'Frames' to focus on key aspects;
- Asking learners to revise or break down a topic by creating their own Prezi;
- Art and Design teachers or trainers adding a frame and arrow to zoom in on key details of a complex

- painting, diagram, or map;
- Teachers or trainers embedding YouTube videos in Prezi to create a dynamic visual effect and avoid unwanted commercial or inappropriate content around your video;
- Cross-college or international collaborations between learners studying in different locations;
- Teachers or trainers creating video course trailers by using screen casting tools to record your Prezi playing on your computer screen;
- Trainers or managers creating an online induction by adding frames to a workplace plan in Prezi to highlight key areas the learner will need to access.

Using Prezi in the Vocational Education and Training Sector

All Levels Library Induction

The college librarian wants to create an online induction to the learning spaces and resources within the college library:

- Learners play the Prezi presentation to move through a plan of the library to get an overview of the layout, then zooming into areas such as digital resource areas, book shelves, photocopiers, help desks, IT labs, book issuing stations, silent study areas, group study areas, bookable carrels.
- Learners click on the Prezi to zoom in further for more details (e.g. how to book a study carrel).

Level 4 Marketing

The distance learner teacher or trainer has set up an international collaboration between learners located in different countries comparing national differences in marketing strategies for personal hygiene products:

- In groups of 4, learners research the marketing of personal hygiene products in their own country including identifying brands on sale in supermarkets, their shelf position, amounts of space occupied. advertising campaigns, and sales figures.
- Learners also collect visual data by taking photographs and making videos of products on sale and associated advertisements (e.g. hoardings and posters) with their smartphones.
- The group creates an online presentation of their research results together as a Prezi presentation, using frames to zoom in on the visuals and data presented in graphs.
- Learners take part in a synchronous web conference, where they use Prezi's online presentation function to present their work to the whole group and discuss the implications of their research.

Level 3 Art and Design

The teacher and trainer sets an assignment for learners to create a collaborative Prezi presentation of research on Bauhaus design, to include history, politics, product design, gender, design for living, furniture, architecture fabric designs, influences, contemporary Bauhaus-inspired products:

- In groups of 4, learners collect visual illustrations of the history and influence of Bauhaus design and create a Prezi presentation.
- In class, the groups present to their peers.
- Learners provide peer feedback to each other using a rubric created by the tutor or trainer.