Weather or not!

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CARLA Lunch Time Workshop
Current Rank = # 17 COLD
Current 30yr NCDC = 17.7

Coldest Mean Temps in 31 years or Since 1984.
Rank 17th Coldest in 142 years
December through January
Easy Tech Solutions for Online Teaching and Learning

- Another snow day? Learning doesn't have to screech to a stop when the University closes. This workshop will highlight a range of tech tools (GoogleDocs, pencasts, screen captures, lecture captures) that can keep student learning progressing, regardless of the weather! The session will also show easy to replicate examples of active learning tasks that can be used for hybrid learning and flipped classrooms.
So, faced with 3 hours before school closing for 2 days...

- An upcoming chapter assessment
- An unrelenting syllabus
- Students having difficulties with grammatical concepts

- I needed a quick assembly that would at least give learners something to do on a snow day rather than just veg out.
FREN 202: Google Docs to the rescue for pair work

- https://docs.google.com/a/vcu.edu/document/d/19yAepoz06GRSPMdBUvQZptlCEHHtk-JAhCaV6M_1_d8/edit
FREN 201: Explain Everything
YouTube video

- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cZdRaqGJuI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cZdRaqGJuI)
- Like Explain Everything
  - Educreations, etc. on iPad
  - Any screen capture (jing, Voilà, Camtasia)
Pencasting for flipping

- La Voix passive
How to get the learning interactive?

- Setting up pairs or trios using phone, Skype, Google Hangout, Facetime
  - Difficulty?
- Set up time frames for the work.
  - Difficulty?
- Engage in real-time formative assessment.
  - Difficulty?
I don't remember what I wrote following the meeting, but I do want to suggest now that we have some kind of scheduled yet informal discussion around these issues. BOLDD constitutes a community of practice. We are all learning how to do online teaching better and I can learn so much from colleague have have been there/done that. I have 10+ years experience but I don't know much about distance education or what it feels like to teach totally online. I got a lot from Marlene's presentation of her survey. That was interesting and relevant to me. And it made me think that I want MORE of this kind of informal discussion amongst ourselves. I attended several IALLT presentations about online learning and each time I gleaned something useful. Personally, I'd like to have a series of show 'n tell sessions where colleagues give an informal overview of their practices and a discussion about what works...and what doesn't work. Informal discussions are usually more informative because they are more HONEST. People share their failures and that is so important. The backstory. I really appreciated the talk given by the folks from Drake who talked about the institutional pressures that led them to institute online courses (grants, higher administration, etc.). Several years later, the political winds have changed and they have adapted--no more distance learning, now it is hybrid. So Drake seems to be going in a different direction that my institution.

So, bottom line, we can learn so much from each other if we do more sharing.
What wasn’t working well in my examples?

- Lack of time to create good activities on the fly.
- Lack of community to plumb for good, fast ideas.
- Grammar banging
- Lack of interactivity in some
- Use of English and/or a teacherly French.
Some (perhaps) more interactive media/activities…..

- Google Doc reading, Digg, Diigo, or MIT pdf Notabene collaborative reading environment
- VideoNot.es http://www.videonot.es/edit/0B00pURq5HRnzQTJxWUoxVEFKUnM
- Vine/Instagram/twitter blasts (display/read/ demo products with target language packaging around the house).
- Scavenger Hunt (for chapter vocab in target countries): create a voting mechanism for the best of
- Surveys and Psych quizzes like BuzzFeed
Why, ultimately, we need to offer alternative snow day activities....

- http://www.videonot.es/edit/0B00pURq5HRnzaXlacHdMMzRjdU0