

# Facebook, Edmodo or your own personal blog?

Keith Murdiff

Trinity Irish Research Scheme for Teachers  
(TIRST) 2017-18



IRST

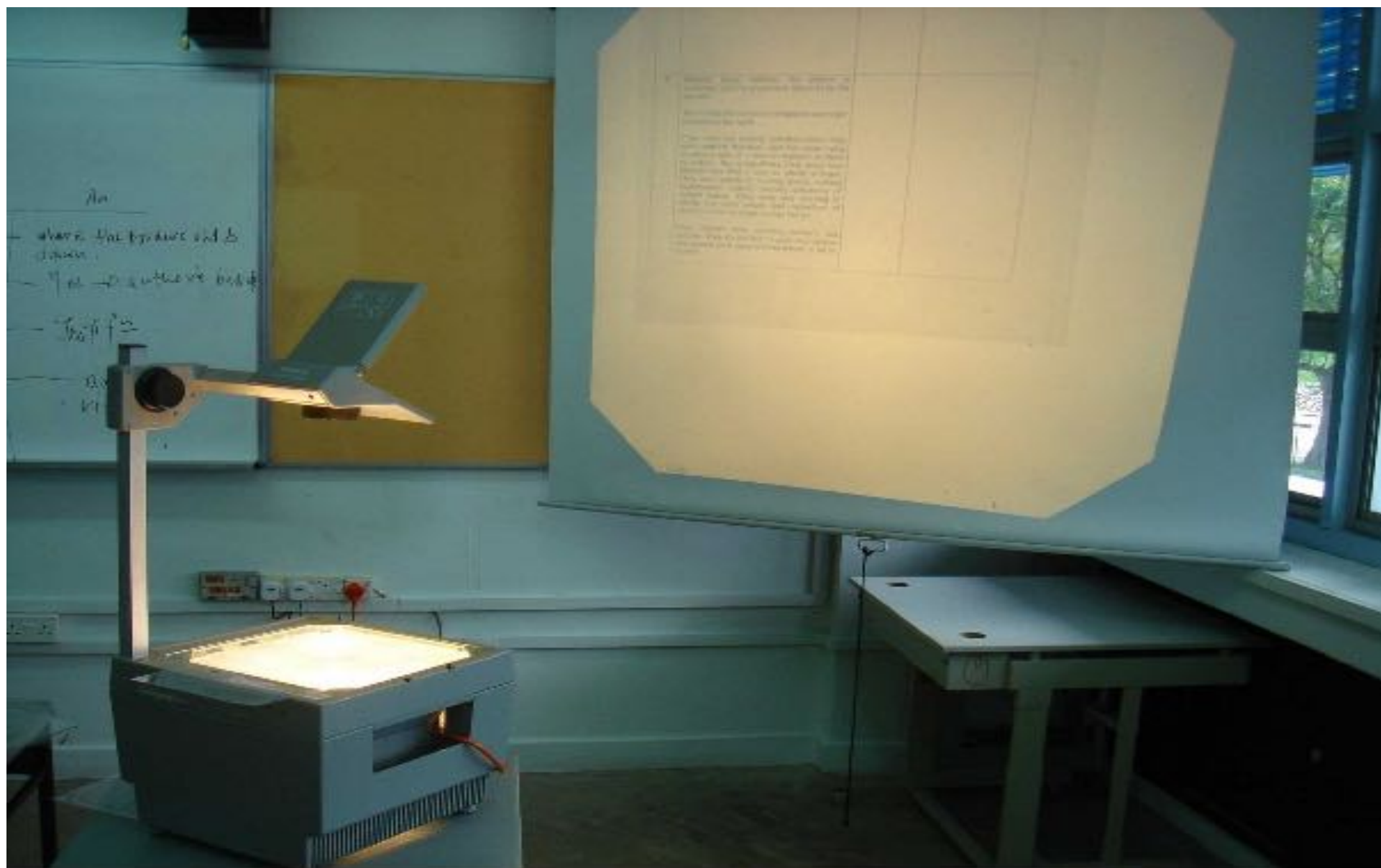
# Irish Research Scheme for Teachers

For further  
information

@IrishRST

*Chris Farrell*

*Ben Beaumont*



# Keith the teacher's blog



MONDAY, 29 MAY 2017

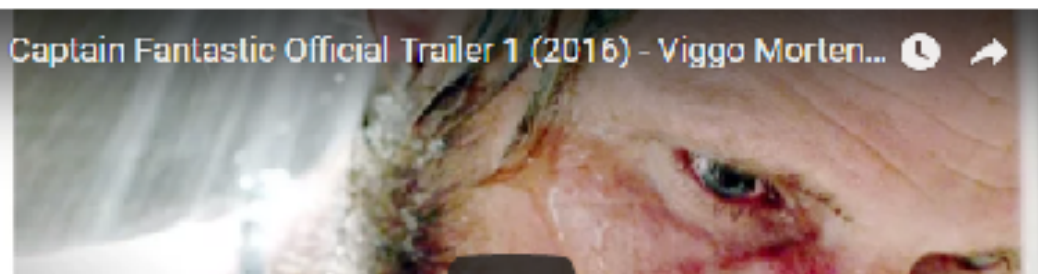
## Films about travellers

Good Afternoon everyone,

### Monday Film Recommendations-

These two films are about travelers. Imagine how they would answer the questions from today's class. They are both enjoyable films too! Watch the trailers below-

Captain Fantastic Official Trailer 1 (2016) - Viggo Morten...  



### ABOUT ME



 keetrottdid

I'm from Bray.

[View my complete profile](#)

### BLOG ARCHIVE

▼ 2017 (4)

▼ May (1)

Films about  
travellers

► March (1)

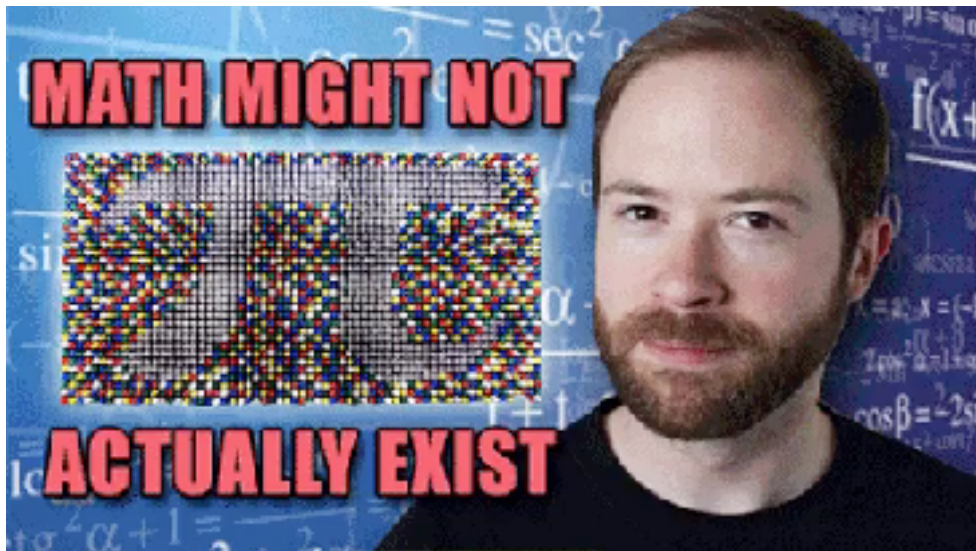
► February (1)

► January (1)

► 2016 (19)

► 2015 (18)





YouTube



# Introduction

“99% of teaching is making students feel interested in the material. 1% is about your methods”

-Chomsky (1988, p 181)

“most students now are digital natives, so social network services engage them by presenting material in a way that is familiar and comfortable for them.”

-Yunus , Salehi & Chenzi (2012)

# Research Aims

The aims of my research were as follows-

- to see which, if any, social networks and online learning sites my students engaged with, and to find out the types of online activity they genuinely enjoyed and which engaged them in the learning process.
- to examine the feasibility of creating a simple, low maintenance group network where active interaction between students and teacher could be facilitated as part of the consolidation process.
- to develop a system of using social media as an extra teaching resource to be used to consolidate and revise my lesson objectives.

# Student and class profile

The students are professional adults, ranging in age from 18-50

The majority are in their 20's, and all are computer, Internet and technology literate.

The demographic is mainly South American.

In my class there were two Koreans, two students from Spain, one from Italy and two from Morocco.

My three classes were three different levels- Elementary (A1-A1+), First Certificate preparation (B1+ - B2) and Advanced (B2+ - C1)



# Planning- possible issues?



The school operates a rolling enrolment policy, every 6 weeks there is a level test week in the school and there are three distinct levels involved in the project.

Plan-

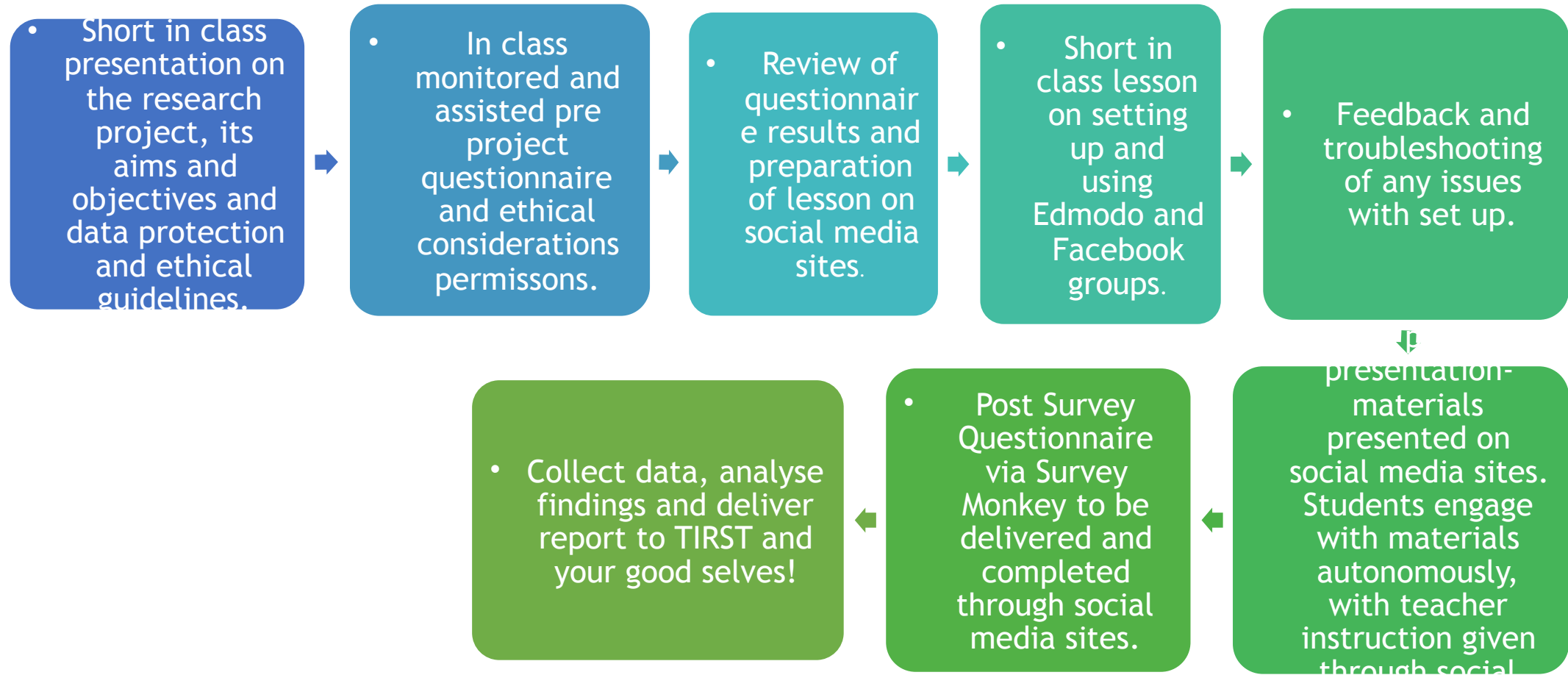
1. implement the research project between level test weeks.
2. develop clear, simple ways to explain the project rationale with students from three different levels of English.
3. Don't panic
4. Don't procrastinate
5. Really don't procrastinate
6. See points 4 and 5

# Why am I doing this?

Action research is “conducted by teacher researchers to gather information about how they teach and how students learn”

“ The information is gathered with the goals of gaining insight, developing reflective practice, effecting positive change in the school environment and on educational practices in general, and improving student outcomes” (Mills 2003/ Hopkins 2008)

# Method

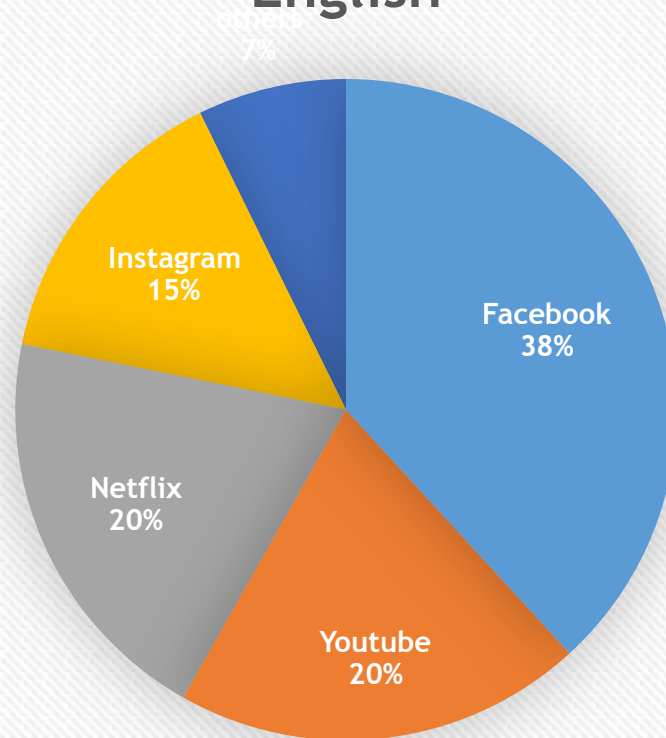


# Questionnaire Feedback

(sample survey 32 students)

Social media sites regularly used to learn English

## Social media sites regularly used to learn English

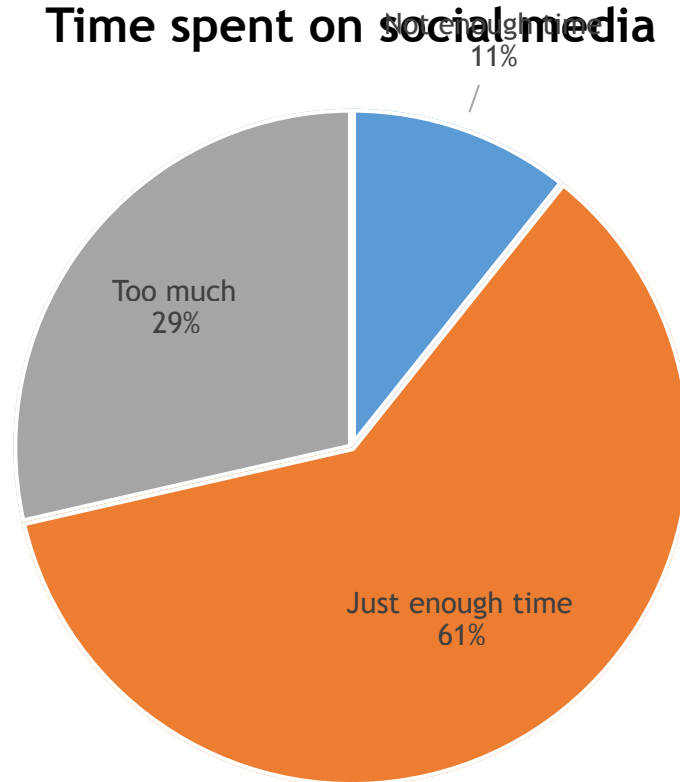


● Facebook ● Youtube ● Netflix ● Instagram ● others

# Questionnaire Feedback

(sample survey 32 students) Time spent on social media

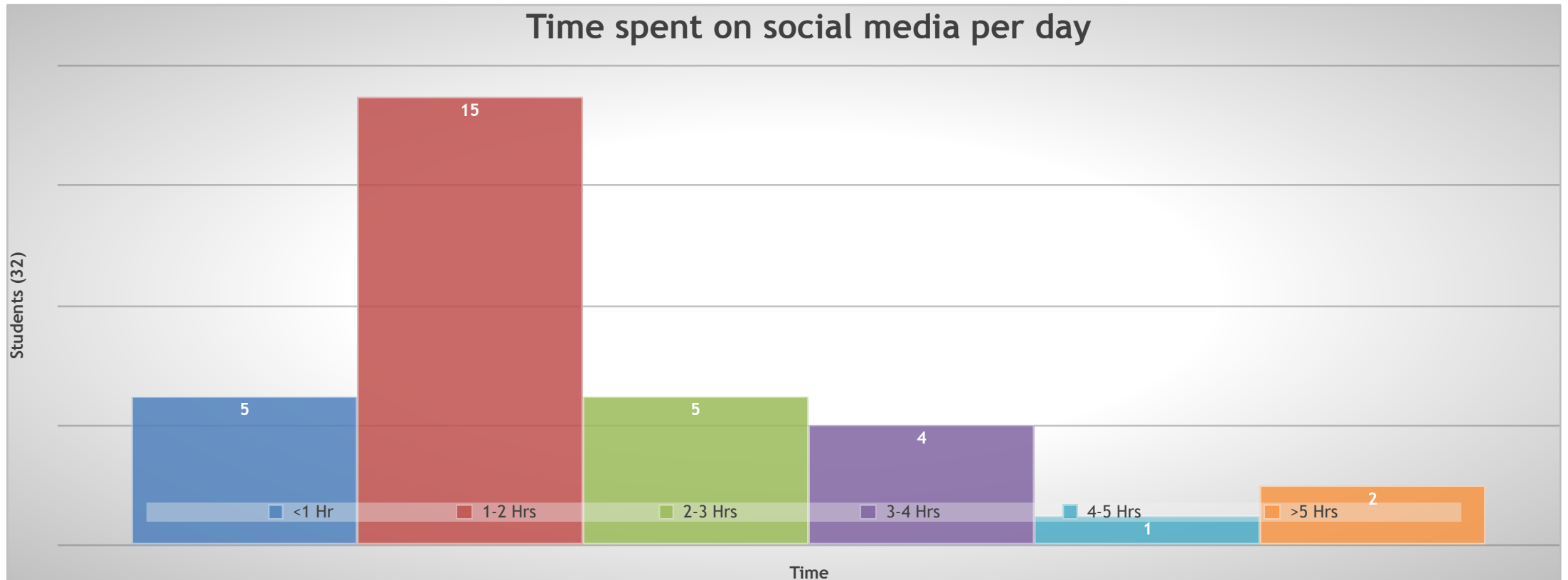
Time spent on social media



● Not enough time ● Just enough time ● Too much

# Questionnaire Feedback

(sample survey 32 students)

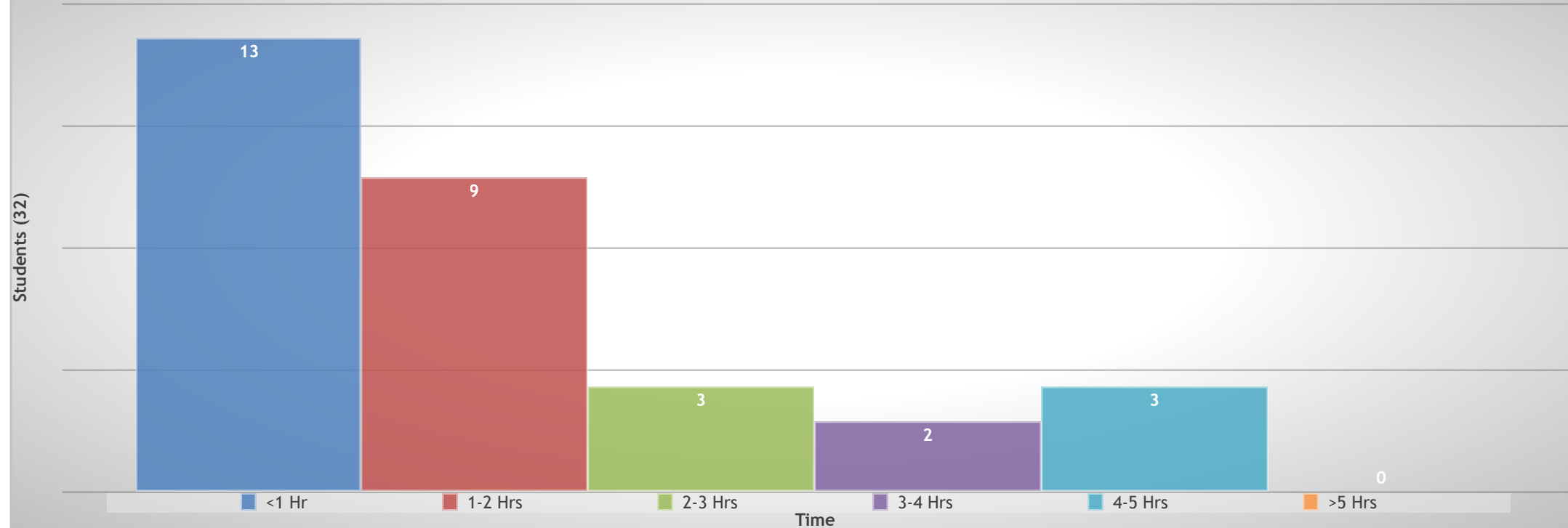




# Questionnaire Feedback

(sample survey 32 students)

Time spent studying English on social media sites per day



# Task planning- Which skill-based tasks work best on each platform?



- Facebook



- Teacher's blog



- Edmodo

# Task planning



- Facebook
- grammar awareness
- speaking
- writing





- Teacher's blog
- listening
- reading
- grammar awareness





- Edmodo
- reading
- writing
- listening
- grammar awareness

# Sample material

Home

Assignments

Progress

Library



Me to IBAT First Certificate Ann class

### Listening Practice 1

Turned In (2)

Due: August 10, 2017 9:00 pm

Play the audio file, open the questions paper, listen and answer the questions, choosing options 1-4. I listen only twice.



1st listening practice.pdf.pdf  
221.6KB  




susanah barker pride and prejudice interview.mp3  


Like • 1 Reply • FollowingAug 15, 2017, 12:47 AM

Piero d.

Hi Keith! it was a bit difficult for me, as you can see, i'll try to give it another shot

Like • Reply • Aug 22, 2017, 2:35 PM

# Sample material

 **OffLiberty**  
evidence of offline life

**OFF**

# Sample material

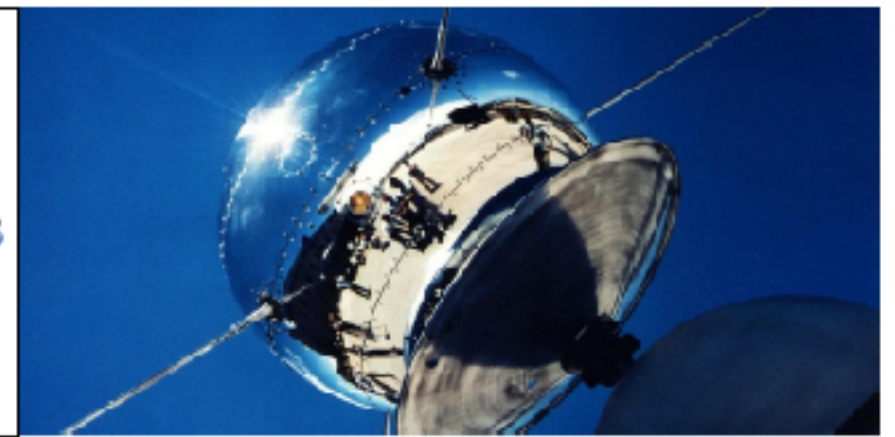




# Sample material

Still in  
orbit-

The world's  
oldest  
satellite.



**Nearly 60 years ago, the US Navy launched Vanguard-1 as a response to the Soviet Sputnik. Six decades on, it's still circling our planet.**

By Richard Hollingham 6 October 2017

From his desk at the European Space Operations Centre in Darmstadt, Germany, space debris analyst Tim Flohrer keeps track of the 23,000 or so catalogued objects currently orbiting the Earth. They range from spacecraft and satellites – some working, most not – to discarded rocket stages and fragmented space hardware. All of them the result of 60 years of space exploration. Using radar data and observations from optical telescopes, Flohrer helps ensure none of this space junk puts operational spacecraft at risk.

Before we speak, I've asked him to check on object 1958-002B, also known as Vanguard. 1) [redacted] "The earlier satellites, such as Sputnik, have all re-entered the atmosphere," says Flohrer. "But I estimate that Vanguard 1 will remain in orbit for several hundred, if not a thousand years."

Conceived by the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) in 1955, Vanguard was to be America's first satellite programme. The Vanguard system consisted of a

# Unexpected Difficulties



What would your difficulties be and how could you plan and endeavour to avoid them?

I created materials based on a coursebook syllabus for a specific level.

My students aced their level tests

The material was defunct because there was no longer syllabus link

I decided to create new materials

# Survey results and Student feedback.

Survey Monkey

3 ranking questions

1 open question

19 respondents to the survey

# SurveyMonkey results

(sample survey 19 students)

Out of the three social media platforms, students preferred *Facebook* to all other social media sites.

-Very good - 47.3%, (9 students)      Excellent 15.7% (3 students)

The majority of students rated *the teacher's blog* as very good to excellent.

-Very good- 42% (8 students)      Excellent 15.79% (3 students)

*Edmodo* was the platform which students were least likely to use at all or engage with.

I didn't use it/NA 48% (9 students)

# Survey Monkey Feedback

“It’s good for extra reading material and writing correction”

“Using social media on a daily basis does help me to improve my English skills”

“For extra study using social media I would recommend challenging ourselves using apps for learning new vocabulary and ways of expressing ourselves in a foreign language, such as cram or quizlet which are also fed by students through social media interaction”

# Survey Monkey Student Feedback

“Perhaps making a deep research about something that you're interested in and try to explain to the class what was your research about”

“(It) Is good as an extra information”

“Your tips are great, Keith. I use a lot of them in my classes. :) Thank you.”

“We must use social media. It's help us to lern.”



# Implications for future practice?

I now set up a Facebook group for all my classes, and use it in lots of different ways-

- giving homework corrections

- doing surveys

- starting conversations and eliciting ideas pre-class

- linking relevant news stories, videos, songs etc

- letting students know about things happening in Dublin and around

- doing scavenger hunts

- giving pronunciation drills



Keith Murriff created a poll

February 1 at 11:55am

What housework do you really hate doing? Choose your options and write your reasons underneath.

- ☒ Doing the ironing
- ☐ Doing the laundry
- ☐ Doing the hoovering
- ☐ Doing the dishes
- ☐ Making the bed

1 More Option...



Cybele Ferrino and Maxime Lecampion

Seen by everyone



Keith Murriff I can't stand doing the ironing because it's really boring!!!

Like · Reply · 2w



Cybele Ferrino Always when I go in the laundry there is a big queue there... That's why I hate go there

Like · Reply · 2w



Keith Murriff There is always a big queue at my launderette too! That's why I hate going there too!

Like · Reply · 2w



Cybele Ferrino Vanessa Gfr Di Sico

Like · Reply · 2w



Write a reply



Keith Murriff created a poll.

November 3, 2017

Should we go to see The Killing of a Sacred Deer today?

+ Add option



Like



Comment



Pedro Muriel and Thaissa Torres

Seen by 15



Keka Vieira Yep 🤔

Like · Reply · 15w



Thaissa Torres Yeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeees!!!!!! 😊

Like · Reply · 15w



Gabriel Godoy



Like · Reply · 15w



Marina Maria Yep

Like · Reply · 15w



Write a comment...

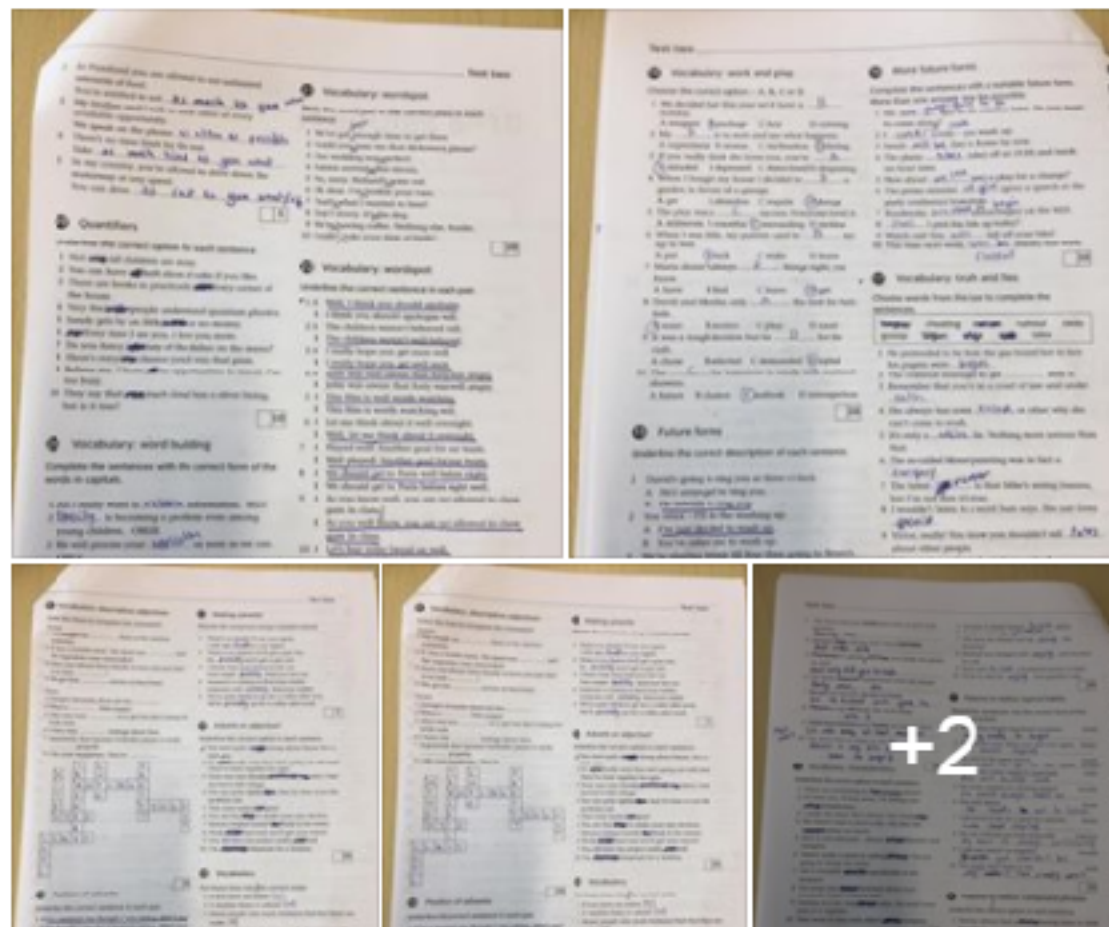




Keith Murdoff

September 15, 2017

Test answers people! Go crazy!



Like



Comment

Seen by 12



Keith Murdoff

October 15, 2017

Hi everyone,

Please be advised that IBAT college is CLOSED tomorrow, Monday 16th October 2017, due to the hurricane warning for Ireland tomorrow. The advice from the Meteorological service is to avoid unnecessary travel and stay indoors if possible. It should all be back to normal by Tuesday. Could you please pass this message on to all the IBAT students you know.

Stay safe everyone and I'll see you on Tuesday. All the best,  
Keith Murdoff



Like



Comment



Pedro Muriel, Marina Nunes and 4 others

Seen by 14



Write a comment...





**Keith Murditt** shared a link.

July 28, 2017

Hi Everybody,

Here's the listening activity we did this morning in class. Can you listen again, and make a sentence using some of the key vocabulary, and also comment on another student's sentence. Thank you!



### BBC Learning English - 6 Minute English / Old tech

Did you ever own a Walkman or a record player? Alice and Neil discuss old tech and why the US Pentagon still uses floppy disks

HRC121UK



Isis Uchimura

Seen by 10



**Keith Murditt** I have a nostalgia for vinyl and record players because it reminds me of my childhood and my father.

Like · Reply · 29w



**Beatriz Carvalho** Me too. Me and my father collect vinyl records until nowadays.

Like · Reply · 29w · Edited



**Keith Murditt** I have a nostalgia for vinyl and record players because it reminds me of my childhood and my father.

Like · Reply · 29w



**Beatriz Carvalho** Me too. Me and my father collect vinyl records until nowadays.

Like · Reply · 29w · Edited



**Keith Murditt** My father has collected records since he was a boy and he has over 1000!!

Like · Reply · 29w



Write a reply...



**Isis Uchimura** When I was a child I had only one vinyl was the singer xuxa

Like · Reply · 29w



**Beatriz Carvalho** I had all the Xuxa's LPs!!!



Like · Reply · 29w



Write a reply...



**Isis Uchimura** I have a nostalgia for VHS cassette because when I was a child I recorded musics in VHS to listening after

Like · Reply · 29w



**Mijares Sauced Ricardo** I had a ferrari car as a reproducor vhs when I was a child I used to use it several times. I had the first ones star wars movies in VHS .It was wonderful to heard the launching of New movies in the following years

Like · Reply · 29w



**Keith Murditt** I used to record my favourite programmes on VHS, Ricky Mijares

Like · Reply · 29w





**Isis Uchimura** I love party retro because it's very funny people dance and they dress with retro clothes and the songs are great for me

Like · Reply · 29w



1



**Keith Murditt** I went to a retro party last New Year and we all dressed like 70's disco dancers. It was a lot of fun.

Like · Reply · 29w



Write a reply...



**Renata Carvalho** I love the resurgence of record players because it became easier to find vinyls again!

Like · Reply · 29w



2



**Ricardo Marzolini** I agree with you. I spent a lot of time looking for a vinyl of Creedence and now I can find it in any music shop.

Like · Reply · 29w



3



**Mijares Saucedo Ricardo** I agree with you Too, but it's a pity that they're going to be so expensive

Like · Reply · 29w



1



View more replies



Write a reply...



**Nathalia Ribeiro** I have nostalgia for floppy disk because when I was a child my father used a lot to work.

When I was a child I had many VHS cassette of the "ratbun castle".... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 29w · Edited



2



**Mijares Saucedo Ricardo** Oh! Those floppy disks a lot of memories about that, although they are no longer exist in common shops 😞 they're difficult to find for



**Nathalia Ribeiro** I have nostalgia for floppy disk because when I was a child my father used a lot to work.

When I was a child I had many VHS cassette of the "ratbun castle".... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 29w · Edited



2



**Mijares Saucedo Ricardo** Oh! Those floppy disks a lot of memories about that, although they are no longer exist in common shops 😞 they're difficult to find for

Like · Reply · 29w



1



**Keith Murditt** Nathalia Ribeiro, you should invite your mother to Dublin to celebrate her 50th birthday- we can have a retro party in the cloc!!

Like · Reply · 29w



1



**Keith Murditt** Ricky Mijares floppy disks are hard to find because the US military have them all- <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-36385839>



US nuclear force still uses floppy disks - BBC News

BBC.COM

Like · Reply · Remove Preview · 29w



1



**Mijares Saucedo Ricardo** Keith Murditt just because they still have an old equipment system for their working it's not fair!

Like · Reply · 29w



1



**Keith Murditt** I know! It's crazy isn't it??

Like · Reply · 29w



**Mijares Saucedo Ricardo** Yes I know

Like · Reply · 29w



Write a reply





**Ricardo Marzolini** I have great memories of the floppy disk's games. My first game that I played was a floppy disk on my old PC.  
In the movie "Saving Private Ryan" appeared a record player at the most nostalgic moment of the movie. And I have a nostalgia for this movie because I saw it with my mum. ... [See More](#)

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 29w



**Mijares Saucedo Ricardo** When I heard in class about the floppy disk I just had a flashback when I was in primary school and the teacher was teaching about how to use Microsoft Office to the class. I really liked that class.  
I was 8 years old and I just wanted to horn my own trumpet to the girl that I liked, showing her my abilities of IT. It did really put me very nostalgic in the morning because right now I'm 24.  
I'd wish to get a floppy disk maybe in a resurgence of floppy disks but obviously with more memory space and not only 64 Mbytes.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 29w



**Keith Murdiffe** blow your own trumpet!!!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 29w



Write a reply...



**Song Ah Choi** When i went to George's Street Arcade, i saw retro clothes shop. Clothes were so gorgeous and colorful. But i couldn't buy them because it wasn't my style.

I first saw a floppy disk when i was in elementary school. At that time, floppy disk was so amazing to me. So, i kept putting it on my computer.

I should make presentation file for TIE exam. I need to compile some information before create a ppt.

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 29w



**Keith Murdiffe** Song Ah Choi, when I was a teenager, we used to go shopping in the retro shops in Georges Street Arcade and Temple bar!!

[Like](#) · [Reply](#) · 29w



Write a comment







**Keith Murdoff**  
November 11, 2017



Like

Comment



Alethéa Maggioni, Beatriz Gilli and 6 others

Seen by 18



**Vitória Campos**  
December 14, 2017 · Dublin

Group selfie with santa claus!



Like

Comment



Thaissa Torres



Seen by 16



**Keith Murdoff** Hooray! One point!!

Like · Reply · 9w

One final thought- it is urgent for intellectual workers to get together. We can't wait for someone else to make the first move, and we can't pay rent with positive vibes alone.



# Questions?

[keithmurdiff@me.com](mailto:keithmurdiff@me.com)

@keithmurdiff

Keith.murdiff.58

[www.keiththeteacher.blogspot.com](http://www.keiththeteacher.blogspot.com)

This project was completed with the cooperation and assistance of IBAT College, Gosia Walczak my project mentor, Adrian Hurley and Anna Dayman of IBAT Temple Bar, Chris Farrell and Ben Beaumont of TIRST.

# Reading

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