

We blog. What about you?

Belnate Conference

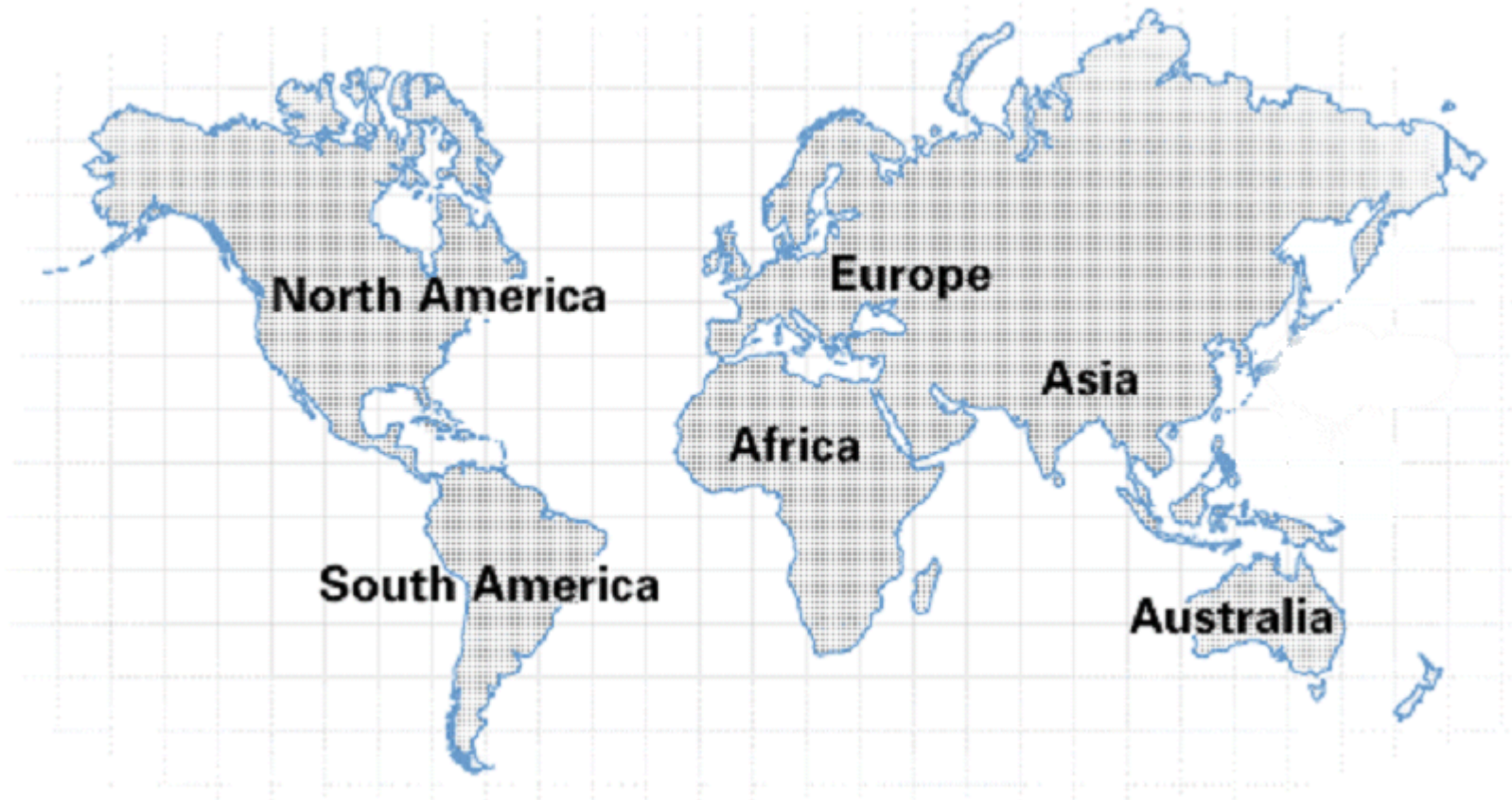
November 2004

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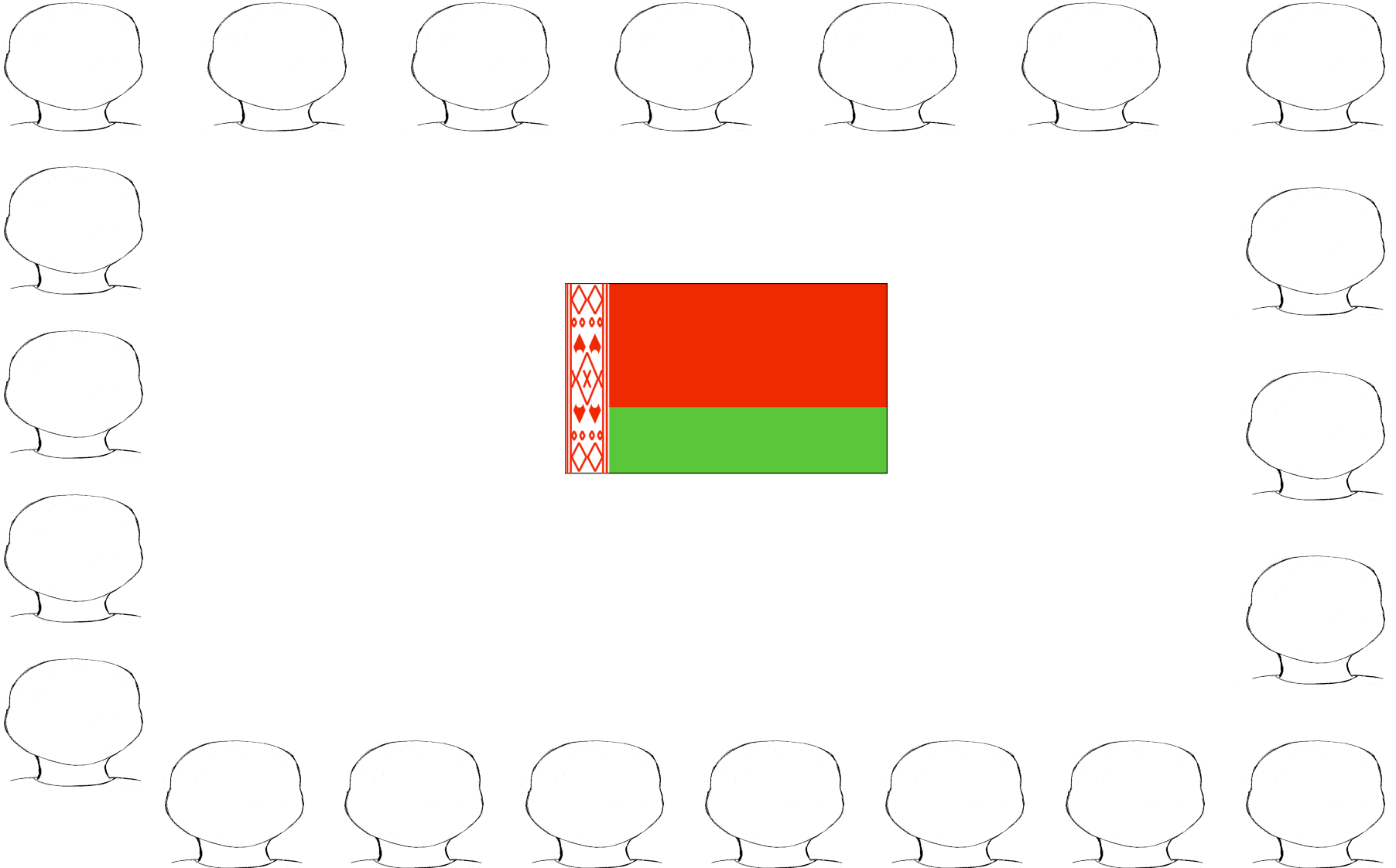
LearningTimes



Where and who are we ?



Who are you?



What is a blog?



- a personal journal online, informal in tone
- a powerful tool allowing you to express, communicate and share ideas online.

Some basic blogging jargon

- to blog = to write messages and post them online
- a blogger = a person who blogs
- blogosphere = the collective world of blogs, the blogging community
- blogroll = a list of links to blogs read and visited regularly

What does it look like?

WE BLOG. WHAT ABOUT YOU?

A COLLABORATIVE COLLECTIVE SPACE OPENED FOR TEACHERS AT THE OCCASION OF THE 2004 BELNATE CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS AND EXCHANGE IDEAS ON HOW TO USE BLOGS IN THEIR CLASSROOMS.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 05, 2004

A warm "Welcome!" from Portugal

This is Teresa in the greater Lisbon area in Portugal! I will be a co-presenter in this session and I hope that we can "whet your appetite" and lead you into the fabulous and diverse world of blogs: with colleagues, students, family, friends... whatever!

See you in a month... online, of course! ;-)

POSTED BY TERESA AT 4:50 PM 0 COMMENTS 

Welcome to Blogosphere!

Our warm welcome to all participants in this workshop. We hope that you will enjoy it and start blogging with your students right after it :-)

POSTED BY WEBHEADS IN ACTION AT 2:50 PM 0 COMMENTS 

CONTRIBUTORS

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Common features of a blog

- a title and an aim
- dated posts listed in reverse chronological order
- automatic archiving of past posts
- a comment and favourite link area
- possibility to personalise layout (skins/templates)
- syndication of content  

What makes blogs attractive?

- access/immediacy
- interactivity
- flexibility
- accessibility
- simplicity
- personal publishing and feedback
- cost

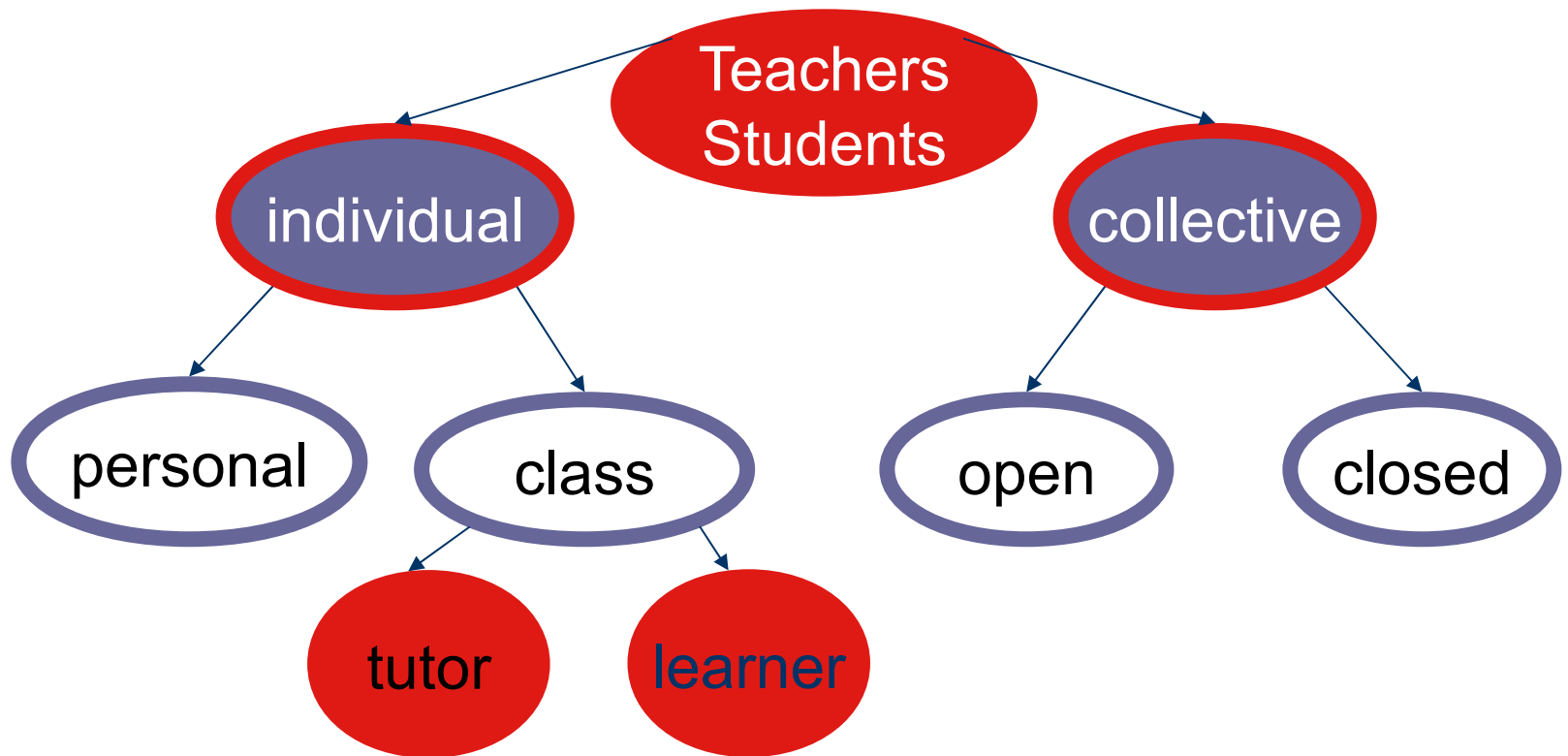
Why are blogs pedagogical tools?

- give "visibility" to student work
- give students "a voice" of their own
- give students a broader and authentic "audience" (from the real world), who may comment on their posts
- can be individual or collaborative, disciplinary or multidisciplinary
- can be used with all age groups
- promote digital literacy and fluency

Why use blogs in ESL/EFL?

- create extra opportunity for reading and writing
- promote personal expression and interaction
- encourage research and student autonomy
- facilitate sharing and exchanging information
- individualize language and content learning
 - ★ motivate students ★

Types of blogs



A blog is what YOU want it to be

Personal blogs can be used

- to evoke moments of your daily life
- to comment on a trip, book, film, song
- to share links, interesting material
- to invite people to react to topical issues
- to create an academic/ professional portfolio
- to reflect on what has happened to you

A blog is what YOU want it to be

Class blogs can be used by learners

- to post their assignments
- to create their own filing cabinet
- to comment on their readings and illustrate them with images and links
- to write using new vocabulary and expressions
- to post additional information and research
- to comment on other posts
- to record their experience in the classroom
- to reflect on their learning process

A blog is what YOU want it to be

Class blogs can be used by tutors

- as a message board to post tips, advice and suggestions
- to share useful material on the content you are developing
- to concentrate on a specific skill
- to bring up specific problems that arise in the classroom
- to interact with your students

A blog is what YOU want it to be

Collective open blogs can be used

- as a meeting place to interact with others after class
- as an exchange plaza during interclass intercultural projects
- for mystery guests/content-area experts to interact with the students
- as an online community of practice with diverse teachers and students helping and learning from each other

A blog is what YOU want it to be

Collective closed blogs can be used

- to establish a meeting /exchange point for interdisciplinary work at school
- to develop a school journal and chronicle the various steps of a common project
- to do collaborative writing and peer review

Recent developments

- **Audioblog**

Adding sound

<http://beeonline2.blogspot.com>

<http://www.malhatlantica.pt/teresadeca/school/fwe5-feb04.htm>

<http://www.malhatlantica.pt/teresadeca/school/fwe5-mar04.htm>

- **Moblog**

<http://123plessis.textamerica.com/?page=4>

Recent developments

- **Photoblog**

<http://vancestevens.buzznet.com/user/?img=2&id=350795>

<http://grankageva-swimminginthesea.buzznet.com/user/?img=4&>

<http://chibau.buzznet.com/user/>

- **Videoblog**

- **Podcasting**

Before giving birth to a blog

1. **THINK ABOUT** your purpose.
2. **THINK ABOUT** a name for it
3. **THINK ABOUT** the content to add
4. **THINK ABOUT** your target readers
5. **THINK ABOUT** your voice as an author

Consider

- WHO: the public you are dealing with
- WHAT: their level, communicative competence
- WHERE: your setting, degree of formality of instruction, access
- WHEN: amount of time you can spend on it, curricular constraints
- HOW: institutional support, technical resources
- WHY: your common needs and objectives

Your comments





Questions and Answers

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Let's Open our Own Blog

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