



# EDTECH

THE INNOVATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

ISSUE 1



2021  
MUST  
HAVE

Bringing the  
Technology Revolution  
to your Classroom

**AUGUST ISSUE**

# HOW TO PICK THE RIGHT EDTECH TOOLS

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The current pandemic situation has paved the way for a ground test of virtual classrooms as a prominent tool of learning in the current times. The challenges are clear that as educators, we must design and deliver courses that are engaging, interactive, well supported, and responsive to students at all times as the absence of physical infrastructure and face-to-face interactions in online environments places a burden on students' ability to regulate their own learning.

Picking the right Edtech tools are crucial for both lecturers and students in ensuring both parties able to create, develop and improve interaction and integration between each other in online classroom.

Choosing Edtech tools is not as hard as choosing a dinner set but educators need to look on the features of Edtech tools that could help in meeting the overall module learning outcomes. TPACK Model (Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge) highlights the intersection of technology and content knowledge which helps educators to focus on developing students' understanding. Therefore, it is recommended that educators and edutainers to look on the features of the Edtech tools prior to implement and practice in virtual classroom.



This is the kick start where educators can look for tools that could spark the passion and enjoy teaching online while maintaining and improving the quality of teaching and learning. At the same time, choosing the right tools will very much help the educators to improve their management skills for example it can upskill educators to plan lessons and tutorials as well as saving more time once they start to get their hands on using it. On the other hand, Edtech tools can further improve students' achievement and increase students scores with the condition that the right tools are being used in the class. In conclusion, it is part of our responsibilities as educators and edutainers for preparing students for a 21st Century world and exposing them to technology is part of it.



## HIGHLIGHTS

# TOP EDTECH TOOLS FOR EDUCATORS

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Match Programs with Goals

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## 1. Slido

Slido gives you everything you need to engage your students, capture their views and make everyone feel connected – whether you're running a team call, training or an all-company meeting. You can engage your participants with live polls, Q&A, quizzes and word clouds.

There are similar app which has similar features with Slido however, Slido has made the participations way more interesting as it can be used as an add-ons or extension to your PowerPoint, Microsoft Teams, Google Slides , Webex and Youtube. You may sign up for Slido account for free and start using the app within seconds.

Scan to know more about slido.



# Real Time Insights

Interactive slide and Videos, Gamification and activities

Widely known as "all in a single platform", Nearpod make teaching easier with the interactive tools, resources, and content educators need, all in one place. Nearpod features allows to visualize and support students' understanding as it has various forms of formative assessments and dynamic media features to guide your teaching and most importantly improve student outcomes. One of the interactive features that educators can enjoy from Nearpod is creating interactive video whereby educators can create video experiences to check for understanding and students' focus with built-in interactive questions.

**"One platform, multiple ways to teach"**

If educators looking to deepen engagement, there are various activities and gamification like Matching Pairs, Time to Climb quiz game, Collaboration Board, and Draw It tools that will help educators to make the virtual classroom more interactive.

## 2. Nearpod

In other words, you can enjoy amazing features without having to worry about link management involved with sending students around to multiple websites.

Educators can sign up for Nearpod account for free to enjoy basic needs where educators can start building interactive classroom within minutes. It also offers options to upgrade to premium accounts where educators can enjoy using nearpod in big class and more advanced features.

Scan to know more.



nearpod



# 3. Whiteboard .chat

The most feature-rich online  
Whiteboard

Whiteboard.chat allows you to create collaborative whiteboards to use with your students and it is well-known as the most feature-rich online whiteboard that lecturers can start their lessons with one click.

There are two ways to use Whiteboard.chat. The first is to create one whiteboard that you share with all of your students. The second way is to create individual whiteboards for each student to use that you can also observe students taking part by joining the tutorials and accomplish tasks assigned during the scheduled time.

*"Draw, Share and Collaborate"*

Besides the ability to observe students board which is best to apply for tutorial lessons, the platform enable lecturers to join students board and provide live and instant feedback.

Other than that, lecturers able to embed website article and videos while assigning the task to students on the board without having to worry about leaving Whiteboard.chat interface. Clearly , Whiteboard.chat is not a common digital whiteboard that you are using, its features are mind-blowing.

Scan to know more:



# 4. GIMKIT

*Create memorable learning experiences*

Gimkit Live is a classroom game-show platform where students compete by answering questions on their electronic devices. Instead of earning points, students earn virtual currency, which they can "invest" in during the game to boost their score. Games can be played live or can be assigned as independent practice. Students connect via game codes or through a classroom account and can play in a web browser on any internet-connected device. They can compete against each other or collaborate in teams or as a whole class. One of the most interesting features in Gimkit is teachers can view and download detailed student reports after every game.

Gimkit Live features many different game modes, some of which are available only for a limited time. Classic and Team modes are very basic, but others are inspired by popular games such as "The Floor is Lava", "Humans Vs Zombies", and "Trust No One." Gimkit is the cheapest gamification platform made available for educators to demonstrate an excellent understanding of the academic content. You can sign up \$4.99 account to start creating memorable learning experiences with your students. Definitely worth trying!

Scan to know more:



## THANOS MODE

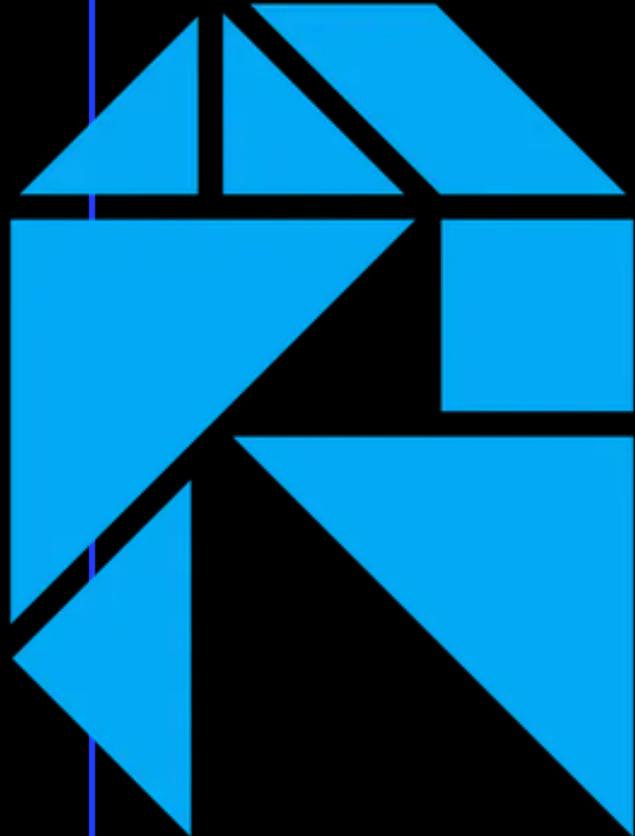
# 5. Actively Learn

## BEST FEATURES TO SUPPORT AND ENGAGE

Using Actively Learn can help you manage and monitor how students engage with what they read. Within the tool, discussions about a text can develop organically, fostering more authentic participation. Reluctant hand-raisers might enjoy the option of responding in the margins and thinking through their remarks. For example, students can rotate the responsibility for adding key questions to a text, and the class can have a self-directed or teacher-led discussion on the student-proposed topics. This process might not come naturally for your students, so be ready to teach and model effective annotation skills and productive discussion practices. Have your students take over and ask questions, annotate, and start discussions to help your classroom develop more student-centered, student-led reading practices. Rely on your own expertise to help students chunk readings, and keep adding questions along the way to help guide the conversation and improve students' understanding.

Actively Learn offers seemingly boundless options for what students can do inside a text: adjust, annotate, edit, share, and collaborate. Students can also view their progress in reading proficiency and vocabulary reports. Throughout, students are engaged both in reading the texts and also in the thinking processes that surround this type of active reading experience. It's the kind of interactive tool that, if used well, can open up some deep, high-quality communication among teachers and students alike.

Students can dive deep into a text by adding questions and reactions too. They can also respond to multiple-choice and open-ended questions from their teachers. Students can check rubrics, data, and teacher feedback instantly.



Scan to know more:



# From the editor



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Hi Educators!

I am Aisyamariam from School of Accounting and Finance. First I would like to thank you for your time joining my first Edtech Tools Session last Friday. I hope you have learned new tools that can help you building interactive classes and turn boring quizzes into engrossing games.

Adapting with Millenials mindset can be hard at times in meeting their demand and expectation in education and high-tech classroom but hey, we are educators, we definitely can find a way to make education interesting again. It is never to late to learn something new and advanced if you have the courage and start digging the information to learn more.

Pandemic has led education in Malaysia going through a fast-paced development. Therefore , we, the educators and edutainers need to get together in building the best teaching and learning and turn it into memorable experiences for the benefits of our students, schools and university as a whole.

Dont forget to catch me on my next sharing session! See ya!

## Upcoming Sharing Session

Intuitive Tutorial Builder  
by using Artificial  
Intelligence > Adobe  
Captive > Gimkit Demo  
> Classcraft

