Discord

e-lang citizen team

Teacher Sheet

Task

Your students will be given the following task.

> You will create a discussion group (called *server* in Discord) in order to discuss a specific topic with the other members of the group. You will choose the topic (a book club, a study group, a meeting place, a gaming spot) or join an existing *server* (for instance *the Language Zone* ™ or any other group in accordance with your interests). You will create and/or join text and video channels within a server.
>
> To do so, you will join Discord and create or join a server to start producing content and interacting with other members. Once a server is created, you will learn to participate by joining or creating text and video channels.

Website

Discord: https://discord.com/

This is currently available in 17 languages. Simply change the language to use an interface in the language that you prefer after you have logged in. You will also be able to access the help page in the language of your choice: https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us.

Discord is commonly used by students in secondary school or university to create servers where they can discuss items related to their courses.

A Discord server is made up of channels. To better understand how to use a server and channels, please visit the Beginner's Guide to Discord: https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/articles/360045138571-Beginner-s-Guide-to-Discord.

To better understand the Discord interface and functionalities, see here: https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/categories/200404398-Discord-Interface.

Level du CECRL - For A2 level and above

Objectives

Digital citizenship and literacy

	Dimensions covered in task	(Potential) specific objectives
Digital citizenship	Ethical and responsible	Understanding how language is used to influence readers, and the impact that producing content online may have on readers.
	Safe	Reflect on the limits of content sharing online (personal information, consequences of sharing private information, etc.).
Technological literacy		Create/launch a new channel within a server.
Interaction literacy	Multimodal literacy	Understand the various modalities that are offered to engage with peers: voice calls, video calls, text messaging, media and file sharing.

Main language activity

- Written and/or oral comprehension: choosing topics, reading and analysing content.
- Written and/or oral production: create content in a server and a channel.
- Written and/or oral interaction: commenting, informing, approving, sharing, responding, asking questions to obtain information.

Possible steps

- Survey the students to see who is already using Discord, for what purposes.
- Discuss with learners the reasons for using Discord.
- Discuss the pros and cons of Discord (addressing the potential controversies related to open social media apps).
- Assist learners in setting up their account, guiding them to read the rules and regulations as well as other important ethical behaviour. This in itself can constitute a task, as it is an important feature of the learning process.
- Engage in a discussion with learners to help the group decide on what community they would like to join or create. Explain to students that you will not be part of all the conversations in order to let them mediate their own discussions.
- Start using the app on a regular basis.

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Student Sheet

Task

> You are going to create a discussion group (called *server* in Discord) in order to discuss a specific topic with other members of the group. You will choose the topic (a book club, a study group, a meeting place, a gaming spot) or join an existing server (in accordance with your interests).
>
> To do so, you will join Discord, and create or join a server to start producing content and interacting with other members. Once a server is created, you will learn to participate by joining or creating text channels and video channels.

Website

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CEFR level - For A2 level and above

Objectives

Digital citizenship and literacy

While completing this task, you can:

- learn how to interact with other users to communicate effectively;

- learn to use the various features of the platform;

- learn that some messages are better transmitted through one medium or another (video, chat, etc);

- learn the pros and cons of creating/joining a community of users (made up of a large group of users) or creating a private channel;

- think critically about the content produced (such as words and language) to respect other members and also to protect yourself

Hints

Keep in mind who you are addressing

- How to start using Discord: https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us/categories/115000217151.

- How to find help on Discord: https://support.discord.com/hc/en-us.

- How to stay safe and contribute to a safe environment: https://discord.com/safety.

Work on the language-related aspects

If you are using Discord for the first time, take time to see how users interact with each other, how they ask each other questions and how they answer them.

Try to pay particular attention to words and their context. Do you notice words or other forms of expressing a message (through emoticons, videos, recordings, etc.) that are often used to ask questions, answer questions, or make a statement?

Do you notice language differences between private or public channels, between topics or between modalities?

For you to think about

While completing the task, you can reflect on the following:

- Did you notice a change in the way you participated on Discord (decreased or increased participation over time)? If so, how can you explain these changes?

- What do you think of the type of texts or videos that you encountered?

- How did you set up your account (private, public)? Would you change it now?

- Did you notice disruptive behaviour or language? How did you react?

- How would you assess the efficacy of Discord to connect with other members?

- Do you think you will seek or create other Discord groups to connect with members who speak languages that you are learning? Why or why not?